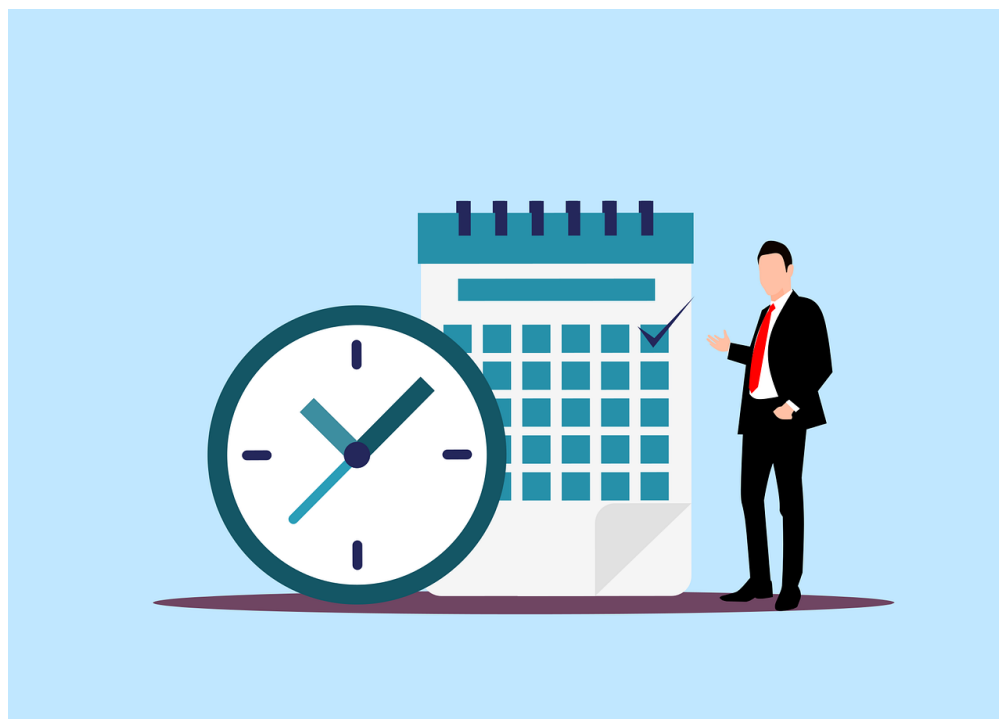


October 2025



Last Chance to Apply for Fall Scholarships

Do you know someone that is in mortuary science school and pursuing funeral service as a career later in life? Second-Career Scholarships offered by the Selected Educational Trust are the perfect way to support the development and growth of the apprentices and funeral assistants on your team. Two \$1,500

scholarships will be awarded this December, thanks to sponsor [Chptr](#). Applications must be received by Friday, October 31.

Apply for a Second-Career Scholarship

Applications for the 2025 Ralph S. Turner Memorial Scholarship are now open. This scholarship will grant one \$5,000 award to a student graduating from mortuary science school in the state of Georgia in 2025 or 2026. Applications must be received by Friday, October 31.

Apply for the Ralph S. Turner Memorial Scholarship



There's Still Time to Double Your Donation

Did you know that [NGL](#) is currently matching all gifts made to the Trust?

Now through October 31, NGL will match dollar-for-dollar, up to a total of \$10,000. It's the best time of year to give, when your contribution will be doubled! Make meaningful impact by supporting scholarships, career development resources, and education that help shape the future of the funeral service profession.

Double My Donation



Are You Ready for National Estate Planning Awareness Week?

Did you know most Americans put off creating their estate plan until much later in life? In fact, 66% of Americans don't have an up-to-date will. National Estate Planning Awareness Week is an awareness week founded by the National Association of Estate Planners & Councils in 2008 with the goal of helping people understand the importance of having a plan in place to protect their assets and loved ones.

It takes place the week of October 20-26, and it's the perfect time for you to review and update your will. Been thinking about making a planned gift to the Trust? Just adding one sentence to your will can help to ensure the future of the independent funeral service profession. Contact [Stefanie Favia](#) to take the first step.

Learn More about Planned Giving

Welcome New Trustees



Cy Hume



Daniel Kochapski



Michael Pierson



Allison Walden



Todd Walton

Introducing the Newest Trustees

The Trust is pleased to announce four new appointees to the Selected Educational Trust Board of Trustees:

- Cy Hume, A.S. Turner & Sons Funeral Home and Crematory, Decatur, GA
- Michael Pierson, Pierson's Funeral Service, Ltd., Calgary, AB, Canada
- Allison Walden, Downing & Lahey Mortuary, Wichita, KS
- G. Todd Walton, Welch & Cornett Walton Funeral Service, Inc., Linton, IN
- Daniel Kochapski, Carmon Community Funeral Homes, Windsor, CT,
Liaison to the Selected Board of Directors

"It is an honor to join the Selected Educational Trust Board of Trustees. I am honored to support the mission of the Trust and I look forward to learning more about how the Trust can help develop the next generation of funeral professionals," said Allison Walden.

"I believe this board serves as a vital ambassador for the funeral service profession and plays a crucial role in safeguarding its future through dedicated efforts," said Todd Walton. "I am inspired by its achievements thus far and remain optimistic about the Trust's continued impact and growth."

Trustees serve 3-year terms and work to guide the programming and fundraising efforts of the Trust. Interested in becoming a Trustee? Contact [Stefanie Favia](#) to learn more.

Thank You to Our Donors

September 1 - 30, 2025

Alhiser-Comer Mortuary, Megan Comer, Escondido, CA
Answering Service for Directors (ASD), Kevin Czachor, Media, PA
Lisa Baue, Baue Family Charitable Fund, Parker, CO
Beecher & Bennett, Inc., Arthur I. Erickson, Hamden, CT
William Bonacorda, Wolniak Funeral Home, New Auburn, WI
Bozell Funeral Homes, Todd Bozell, Lapel, IN
Kelly Browder, Menke Funeral and Cremation Center, Sun City, AZ
Busch Funeral and Crematory Services, James H. Busch, Cleveland, OH (*In memory of Robert Kiley*)
Carlisle-Branson Funeral Service and Crematory, Chris Branson, Mooresville, IN (*In memory of J. Mitchell*)
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Holloway Funeral Home, PA, Johnathan Holloway, Salisbury, MD
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Justen Funeral Home & Crematory, Robert Justen and Nancy Justen, McHenry, IL
Jennifer Kaset, NGL (National Guardian Life Insurance Company), Madison, WI
Daniel J. Kochapski, Carmon Community Funeral Homes, Windsor, CT
J. Sheridan Lee, Bryan-Lee Funeral Home, Garner NC
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Lowe Funeral Home & Crematory, Inc., Burlington, NC
Luce, Luze & Reck Funeral Homes, Tiffany Hofer, Miller, SD
Evelyn D. Lynch, CL Lynch Mortuary Inc, Torrance, CA
Marker Funeral Homes, Michael Marker, Bixby, OK

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 Lia Mazzarella, American Coach Sales, Cleveland, OH
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 Ratterman & Sons Funeral Home, Louisville, KY
 Raymer-Kepner Funeral Home, John and Claudia Kepner, Huntersville, NC
 Reid Funeral Home Limited, Kevin Reid, Leamington, ON, CA
 Risher Mortuary & Cremation Service, Barbara Risher Welch, Montebello, CA
 Robert J. Smith Funeral Homes, Chicago, IL
 Selected Study Group I (*In memory of Karen Lawson*)
 Starks Family Funeral Homes, Thomas Starks, Saint Joseph, MI
 Stewart Baxter Funeral & Memorial Services, Cedar Rapids, IA
 The Groffs Family Funeral & Cremation Services, Lisa Groff, Lancaster, PA
 Thomas McAfee Funeral Homes, Thomas F. McAfee, Greenville, SC (*Ambassador Envoy Gift*)
 Tres Hewell Mortuary, Tres Hewell, Seguin, TX
 Trimble Funeral Home & Crematory, Eric and Barbara Trimble, Moline, IL
 Trimble Funeral Homes, Kyle W. Trimble, Jefferson City, MO
 Harold Waite, Waite & Sons Funeral Homes, Chippewa-on-the-Lake, OH
 Whitney & Murphy Funeral Home, Al Asta, Phoenix, AZ
 Wilks Funeral Homes, Brock Wilks, Chubbuck, ID
 Wilson St. Pierre Funeral Service & Crematory, Paul St. Pierre, Greenwood, IN (*Ambassador Envoy Gift*)
 Wise Funeral Service, David E. Wise, Bucyrus, OH

*Make your gift in memory or in celebration of a loved one, family member, colleague or friend.
 For more information on ways to give, contact [Stefanie](#).*

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