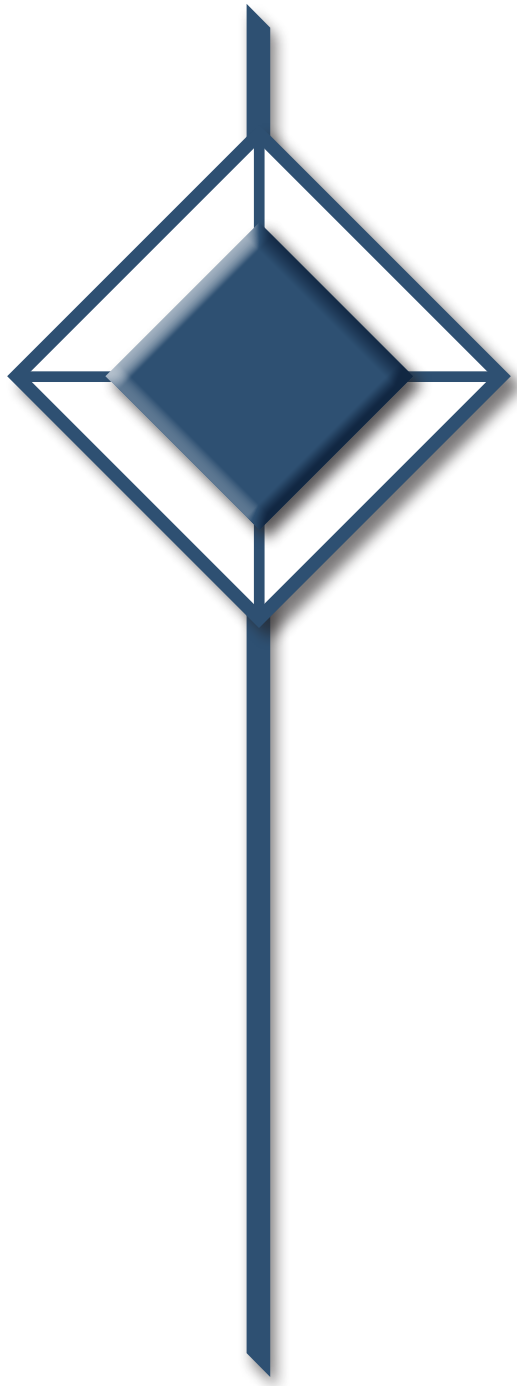




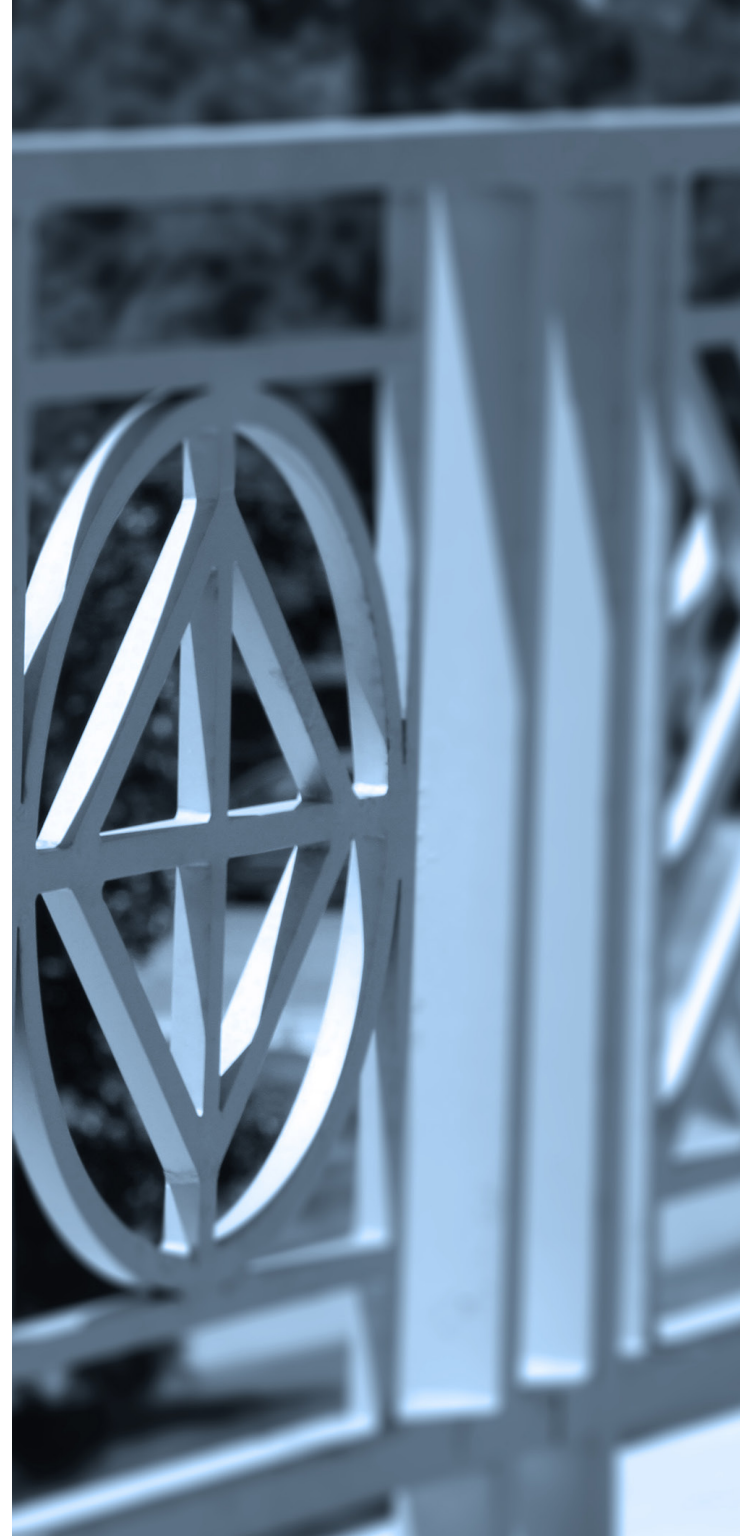
METROPOLITAN • STATE • UNIVERSITY





*“Alone we can do so  
little; together we can  
do so much.”*

— Helen Keller





## Message from Foundation Board chair

It has been a year of accomplishments and new developments for the university and the university foundation. I am pleased to have had the opportunity to lead our foundation board as chair during this past fiscal year of growth and new ideas.

One of the exciting highlights of the year was an opportunity to work with the consulting firm, Gonser Gerber, who conducted an in-depth campaign readiness study to determine if the university and foundation are in a position to launch a comprehensive campaign. The results of the study are available in an executive summary. If you are interested in learning more about the results, please contact University Advancement Vice President Rita Dibble at [rita.dibble@metrostate.edu](mailto:rita.dibble@metrostate.edu) or at 651-793-1805.

As I conclude my tenure this summer as foundation board chair, it gives me great pleasure to transition the leadership of the board to our new chair, Michael Langley.

Michael Langley is the founding CEO of GREATER MSP, the Minneapolis Saint Paul Regional Economic Development Partnership. GREATER MSP leads global promotion, regional strategy, and project management for economic growth and job creation in the Minneapolis Saint Paul region. His experience in leading GREATER MSP will prove invaluable in taking the university foundation to new heights of achievement.

As an alumnus of Metropolitan State University, I will always have a deep affinity to the mission of the university and work of the foundation in raising private funds in support of the university's students. More great adventures lie ahead and I invite you to join me on this journey.

*Samuel O. Verdeja*  
Samuel Ortiz Verdeja '09

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## President's Welcome

As I begin my third year as Metropolitan State's president, it is gratifying to review the past year's achievements, which position us in exciting new ways to serve our students and to tell the university's story.

We recently launched a new, more student-focused website. It is visually striking and highly intuitive for our new and prospective students to navigate. I am especially proud that this outstanding web presence was created in-house, by our own highly-skilled team. I invite you to visit the new site: [www.metrostate.edu](http://www.metrostate.edu).

This year, we celebrated the successes of over 2,300 graduates with a move to the Minneapolis Convention Center's Auditorium, while dividing our large commencement ceremony into two smaller events on one Saturday. Our students and guests enjoyed the comfortable and attractive setting and shorter programs.

New academic programs are addressing the needs of students and professions. We have a new master's degree in urban education, and two new master's programs in individualized studies (our original degree model in the 1970s) have been approved. Our new cybersecurity program has generated interest in the industry and the legislature, and new federal funding. Our programs in social work, urban education, and doctoral-level nursing practice all received reaffirmation of accreditation from their national associations.

Here is another sign of quality and growth: twelve of our resident faculty were recently promoted to associate professor and granted tenure, in addition to four who were promoted to full professor. Our students are fortunate to learn from such gifted educators.

Metropolitan State's ranking by CollegeNET's Social Mobility Index increased again this year. We are now among the top 6% of 1,363 colleges and universities as an agent of students' movement from lower to higher socio-economic levels. Furthermore, retention and graduation rates for our students of color now show no achievement gaps relative to our majority students. It is our ongoing goal to raise these equitable success rates in absolute terms, for all of our students.

We are better positioned than ever to succeed in this core commitment because of the experienced and motivated senior leadership team that we have assembled in the past year. These talented colleagues will continue to make a powerful difference in the year ahead for our deserving students and their communities, supported by the critical work of our foundation, whose rewarding impact report I invite you to enjoy.

Sincerely,

*Virginia Arthur*

Virginia "Ginny" Arthur, JD '17 (Honorary)  
President, Metropolitan State University



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## Donor Profile — Art '80 and Ronnie Siegel

by Emily Seddon

Transitions—an end and a new beginning—can be life's most challenging and most rewarding experiences. Losing a sibling is a difficult transition. But Art Siegel '80 and his wife Ronnie turned their loss into a new beginning with help from Metropolitan State University. In 2010, the Siegels approached Metro State looking for an opportunity to honor Art's brother Joshua, a criminal defense attorney who was deeply committed to social justice and passed away at the young age of 47.

From the Siegel's loss, the Joshua D. Siegel Equal Justice Scholarship was born and has supported 30 students as they begin careers in law enforcement and criminal justice. Both Art and Ronnie describe the experience of providing the scholarship as a gift. They say that they receive tremendous feedback from the university and students. Through letters from scholarship recipients, the Siegels can see a direct impact on the community as students "carry on, like Josh did, to pursue justice."

This year, after funding the scholarship for eight years, the Siegels have created an endowment so that Joshua's memory will live on and help countless more students. The decision to endow the scholarship made sense to the Siegels now that they are in another life transition. Their kids are grown, Ronnie has retired, and the couple is thinking about their legacy.

If you ask them, the Siegels would not call themselves philanthropists. Yet to the foundation and recipients of this scholarship, that is exactly what they are. For the Siegels, investing in Metro State through a scholarship honors both Joshua's life and what they appreciated about the University as students themselves: Metro State trusts the authority of the learner.

Metro State helped launch Art and Ronnie's law and nursing careers in the early 1980s. After training as a potter, Art got a degree from Metro State that enabled him to go on to law school. Ronnie needed just one math course to complete her nursing degree, and she

was able to set it up as an independent study through Metro State. Both Art and Ronnie appreciate that Metro State "takes you as who you are." For them, finding an institution that valued their experiences, and gave them credit for it, was invaluable. The Siegels describe Metro State's growth over the years and continued commitment to student experiences outside the classroom as "inspiring real pride."

Art and Ronnie say that a Metro State experience feels much more intimate than at a university that serves close to 12,000 students. It is still a community that respects individual experiences. Both their experiences as students and as supporters have been personalized. For the Siegels, this personalization has helped them navigate life's transitions more certainly. ♦





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## Continuing the Legacy — Alumnus Rodrigo Sanchez '18

by Emily Seddon

Rodrigo Sanchez '18 says teaching runs in his family and describes the professors and students in Metropolitan State University's Urban Elementary Education department as his extended family. The son of a teacher and grandson of a principal, Sanchez grew up in Chicago, Mexico, and Saint Paul, Minn. During his college search he learned about the variety of education programs at area colleges, but none combined the diversity of students, quality, and flexibility he was looking for. That was, until he visited Metro State.

This year, Sanchez graduated cum laude with his bachelor's degree in Urban Elementary Education. Nominated by one of his professors for his ability to lead diverse classrooms, Sanchez was also a recipient of the University's Outstanding Student Award.

Sanchez credits his professor's real classroom experiences as an important factor in the quality of the Metro State education. The professors embodied what Sanchez learned during his student teaching—that teachers must wear many hats. He described his student teaching experience as having to be himself x10 because he never knew what he would be dealing with.

The required student teaching experience is an important part of any education program. But it is effectively an unpaid internship—a requirement that can be financially stressful for students. Part of why Sanchez had chosen Metro State was because the flexible schedule would allow him to keep his job as a server. The financial pressures of the student teaching requirements felt overwhelming.

Metro State helped Sanchez access critical financial support during this time. Recognizing his leadership potential and commitment to working in low-income schools, Sanchez was awarded a grant that provided a stipend for his student teaching. He has begun to invest in his alma mater already by sending in his first gift to the university as a new alumnus.

Continuing the legacy of his family and professors, Sanchez will be teaching at Garglough Elementary in West St. Paul this fall. ♦

# Defending Our Future — MN Cyber @ Metro State

by Emily Seddon

Your doctor can't access your medical records because a hacker has taken control of their computer system.

Your credit card information is stolen because the retailer was hacked.

Foreign governments influence elections.

City government shuts down because it has been hacked.



Major General Jon A. Jensen, Adjutant General of the Minnesota National Guard

Twenty years ago, these could have been twists in science fiction thrillers. But today, they are our reality.

Across the world, disruptive technological innovation—like smart phones and personal computers—have fundamentally changed the way we live. They have changed how we connect with each other, produce food, run businesses, govern, and more. Technology provides countless opportunities to make our lives easier, healthier, and safer.

But significant threats come with these opportunities. Recent attacks have damaged local government, healthcare systems, retail, and more. The Department of Defense alone gets 36 million emails a day trying to gain access to its systems. As Minnesota National Guard Adjutant General Jon Jensen explained there is reason to be worried, “barriers to entry to attack are low, and the rewards are great.”

But there are not enough cybersecurity professionals to defend the frontline against these new threats. Nationally, there are 1.5 million unfilled cybersecurity jobs, including more than 5,400 within Minnesota. This employment gap will only grow as more people and devices are connected to the internet.

This is a problem that Metropolitan State University can help solve.

Like the disruptive technological innovations that opened the world to these new threats, Metro State has long been a disruptive innovator in

education. The University was founded to serve the needs of non-traditional students, has grown to meet the needs and interests of a diverse student body, and is enhanced by community partnerships. Metro State has disrupted how university administrations think about building programs. Rather than asking students and partners about majors, Metro State President Ginny Arthur asks, “what problem do you want to solve?”

The birth of MN Cyber was an answer to that question. MN Cyber is a unique public-private partnership that is spearheading cybersecurity education in Minnesota. It is helping to address the current workforce needs and attract new business to Minnesota in the future. MN Cyber is led by a partnership of nearly 30 organizations and directed by Metro State Professor Faisal Kaleem.

MN Cyber finding its home at Metro State is no coincidence. Four factors made Metro State the best home for this public-private partnership.

First, the leadership at Metro State was willing to break the academic mold and move from planning to implementation quickly.

Second, given the complexity of cyberthreats, employers are looking to build diverse teams. Metro State's student body is the most diverse in the Minnesota State system.

Right: Metropolitan State President Ginny Arthur and Scott Evers, Vice President, Elbit Systems of America, perform the official ribbon cutting ceremony. Looking on from left to right are Angel Martinez, Director of Product Development for Elbit Systems of America, Kyle Swanson, Dean, College of Sciences, and Faisal Kaleem, professor, Information and Computer Sciences.



# MN CYBER RANGE

Train. Test. Detect. Protect.  
MNCYBER.ORG



# MN CYBER RANGE

Train. Test. Detect. Protect.

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Third, Metro State is a national leader in delivering social mobility for their students—providing affordable education to economically disadvantaged students so they can obtain good paying jobs upon graduation. College of Sciences Dean Kyle Swanson predicts that about 100 students will graduate from the cybersecurity program within the next five years and will enter positions with six-figure starting salaries.

Finally, locating MN Cyber at the university supports research to advance the field of cybersecurity.



Brigadier General Johanna Clyborne, Commissioner and Chief Information Officer for the State of Minnesota

“We do a poor job of preparing for a fight in a time of peace. And when we do prepare, we prepare for the battle we last fought” said Minnesota’s Chief Information Officer Brigadier General Johanna Clyborne at the MN Cyber ribbon cutting in May. The MN Cyber program breaks that dangerous habit with its most notable offering: the MN Cyber Range.

A state-of-the-art testing and training facility, the MN Cyber Range will provide students with the real-life experience they need to combat cyberattacks and stay calm while doing so. State Representative Tony Albright noted at the ribbon cutting, “Cyber security isn’t checking boxes on an insurance form, it’s dynamic.” Live-fire exercises are the best way for students to learn cybersecurity.

Classes utilizing the MN Cyber Range started this summer. But this is just the beginning. As MN Cyber demonstrates success and attracts new investment, it plans to grow. MN Cyber plans to open a fully functional security operations center that will bridge the gap between the academic and real worlds, employing students as entry-level analysts to protect real businesses, nonprofits, and government agencies.

Thanks to technology, the world has changed for the better. Thanks to Metro State and the public-private partnership that created MN Cyber, we will be better prepared to defend these advances from attackers.

Looking to the future, Metro State asks its students, alumni, and partners, “What problem do you want to solve next?” ♦

## MN Cyber Partners

Metropolitan State University  
Minnesota State IT Center of Excellence  
3M Company  
Ameriprise  
Azule Staffing  
Best Buy Inc.  
CHS, Inc.  
Cyber Security Summit  
Deluxe Corporation  
Ecolab  
Elbit Systems of America  
Fairview Health Services  
Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis  
Gartner, Inc.  
General Mills  
Maslon LLP  
Medtronic PLC  
Merrill Corporation  
Open Access Technology International  
Palo Alto Networks  
Protocol 46  
RSM US LLP  
State of Minnesota  
Target Corp.  
Terra Verde  
UnitedHealth Group  
US Bank  
Xcel Energy

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## Endowed Scholarships

Alumni Association Endowed Scholarship  
American Family Insurance Endowed Scholarship  
Marina S. Anderson Endowed Scholarship  
M. Olivia Bradshaw Endowed Scholarship  
John C. Burton Endowed Scholarship  
Ann Holcomb Bushnell Endowed Scholarship  
Marilyn T. Bryant Endowed Scholarship  
Jason Carter Endowment in Science - Recruitment  
Jason Carter Endowment in Science - Retention  
Jason Carter Research Endowment - Research and Travel  
Kathleen E. Chalekian Endowed Scholarship  
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Jerry Cotton Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Endowed Scholarship  
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Library Endowment  
Loen Holistic Nursing Endowed Scholarship  
Carmen Love Endowed Scholarship  
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Roger and Nancy McCabe Endowed Military Fund  
Roger and Nancy McCabe Endowed Scholarship in Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice  
Roger and Nancy McCabe Endowed Scholarship in Nursing  
Roger and Nancy McCabe Endowed Scholarship in Social Work  
Roger and Nancy McCabe Endowed Scholarship in Urban Teaching

Nancy McKillips Endowed Scholarship  
Minnesota Society of Certified Public Accountants Endowed Scholarship  
Susan Morrison Endowed Scholarship in Urban Teaching  
Karl Neid Endowed Scholarship  
Thomas Nelson Memorial Endowed Scholarship  
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Charlie Rounds and Mark Hiemenz Urban Teacher Endowed Scholarship  
Shumer Community Engagement Endowed Fund  
Joshua D. Siegel Equal Justice Endowed Scholarship  
Harry Specht Endowed Community Service Award  
Student Success Endowed Scholarship Fund  
David Sweet Endowment  
Albert and Deera Tychman Endowed Scholarship  
Urban Teacher Endowed Scholarship



# We make it easy for you to give.

## Where to give...

You can designate where your dollars will go.

**Metro Fund.** These dollars fund the university's greatest needs and support special priorities and initiatives.

**Scholarship Funds.** Contributions made to scholarships support students in their academic journey. This is especially critical for students who have exhausted their state and federal funding options and need your help to complete the final stages of their education.

**Program Funds.** We have many innovative programs that welcome your contributions, including art education, nursing and health sciences, law enforcement and criminal justice, business, management, theater and more.

## How to give...

There are many easy ways to make a gift to Metropolitan State University Foundation. Choose the one that best fits you.

**Online Giving** – [www.metrostate.edu/give](http://www.metrostate.edu/give)

**Cash, Credit Card, EFT** – You may send us a check or contribute via credit card through our secure online donation platform. You also may elect to give through Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT). Just provide the requested information on the pledge form, and we'll do the rest.

**Stock** – Giving appreciated stock helps our students and gives you a tax deduction.

**Memorials and Wills** – Honor a loved one by leaving a memorial or adding Metropolitan State University to your will or estate plan.

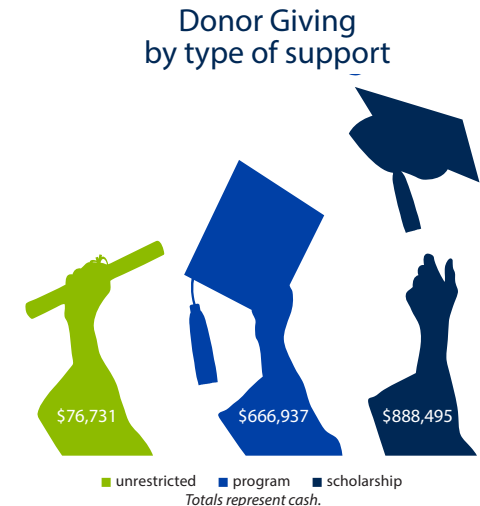
**Corporate Matching Gift Programs** – Many companies offer matching gift programs that can double your contribution. Check with your company or organization to see if it has a matching gift program.

## Consider an endowment or a planned gift.

Endowments provide students scholarship support and professional development assistance to current Metro students. An endowed fund can also ensure the continued growth and success of an academic program.

## We promise to be good stewards of your investment.

We value your contributions to Metropolitan State University and promise to be good stewards of your investment, sharing with you the many ways in which your dollars are making a difference in the lives of our students.



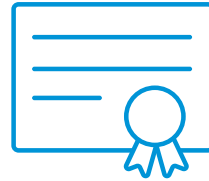
## Numbers to note

Amount of scholarship funds awarded in academic year 2017–2018:  
**\$340,212**




  
Number of Endowed Scholarship Funds  
**53**

**33,326**  
Alumni of record



### Top FIVE Degrees:

- Individualized Studies
- Business Administration
- MANE BSN (Nursing)
- Accounting
- Psychology

 Average tuition (annual undergrad)  
**\$7,556**

**76%**  
percent of alumni living in Minnesota



total number of students **11,375**

number of countries represented by our students **63**

% of students of color **45%**

**615**  
Number of veteran/active duty military students



# Thank you!

The Foundation takes pride in recognizing those who help to preserve the quality education that Metropolitan State University provides. These donors have expressed their belief in our mission and have made an investment in the university's long-term impact on our community. This list recognizes donors who gave gifts between July 1, 2017–June 30, 2018.

## Visionary Society—\$100,000+

Bush Foundation  
The Carter Family Foundation  
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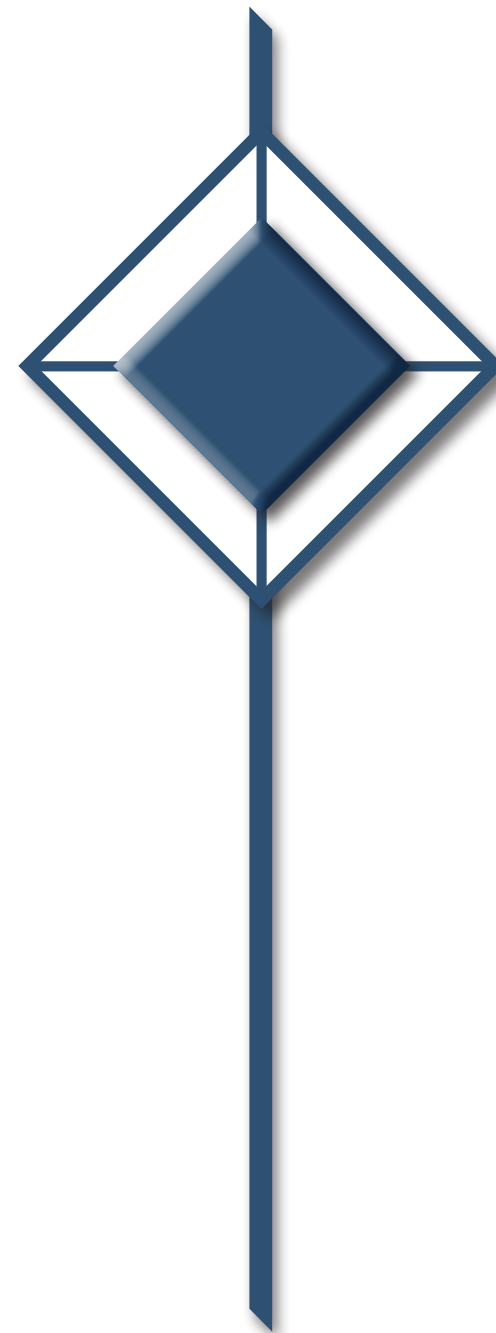
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