



# President's Thank You



Dear Friends,

Thank you for your generosity to the Metro State University Foundation. You propel our community forward. Our students come to Metro State with life experience and leave with the confidence to combine their experience and their education to create a more secure future for themselves and their families. However, the impact of your generosity translates into more than personal growth. Metro State alumni are improving our community.

Your gift to Metro State helps to address Minnesota's education gap by supporting aspiring teachers who bring their lived and learned knowledge to the classroom to create generational change. In the face of a global pandemic, your gift to Metro State helps address our community's need for well-trained nurses, nurse practitioners, and dental health professionals. Your generosity creates a community of compassion and healing when students become recovery counselors, social workers, and human service professionals.

You support scientific inquiry through support for students in science and math programs, protect our digital infrastructure through cybersecurity training, and spark innovative thinking for our information service professionals. You make education possible for the professionals who will find solutions to improve our society in business, government, and nonprofit organizations.

You can be proud that we put your gift to work to help students shine. Your gifts help us build a community where everyone can succeed, and small emergencies won't derail progress toward graduation. I am proud of what we have built together, and as a donor to the

Metro State University Foundation, you can be proud to be part of our community. Together we create a university where students can enhance their strengths, gain new knowledge, and confidently create a better community for all of us.

Thank you for your generosity and your belief in Metro State.

With Gratitude,

*Virginia Arthur*

Virginia "Ginny" Arthur, JD

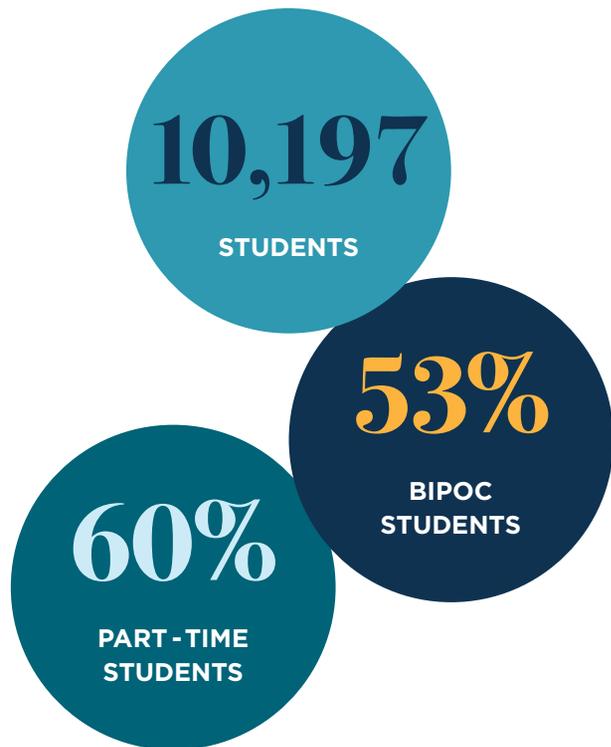
## Cover Photo

Saajine Sathappan '21, recipient of the Sit Scholarship

Photo credit: Tom Roster

# Metro State University by the numbers...

## Who we serve



## How Metro State University Foundation served 2021-22

- 448 scholarships awarded
- \$442,860 in total scholarships awarded
- \$471,517 invested in college and program support
- 38 emergency awards (SAFE fund, Random Acts of Kindness)
- \$33,348 total emergency support

For complete financial information about the Metro State University Foundation, visit [www.metrostate.edu/give](http://www.metrostate.edu/give)

*“I’ve been a single mother of two, attending part-time and full-time (when possible) while working when I can to make ends meet. Needless to say, it’s been a journey, and this extra help is aiding in my ability to finish my last semester and graduate. I’ll be the first one in the family with a bachelor’s degree!*

*So, thank you for your investment in me, the College of Management, and the Metro State Foundation. It means the world to my family and me.”*

**Nichole Meis**, College of Management student  
Recipient of the Fred Manzara Endowed Scholarship

# More Work to Do

By Sarah Guy-Levar

“We’re here! We have arrived!!” said Nikki Rykhus ’22, recipient of the Susan Morrison Endowed Scholarship for Urban Education Undergraduate Students. “Not really,” they said with a smile, “there’s always more work to do.” Nikki shared their unique path to their degree. “I grew up in the small town of Jordan, Minnesota, but I knew the small-town atmosphere was not the best fit for me for high school. I was fortunate that I was able to attend high school in the urban setting of Burnsville, about half an hour away. There I found community in the associated afterschool teen center program, The Garage, an alcohol-free, multi-stage music venue, recording studio, and educational facility. It was there I participated and developed skills in Homework Help, played guitar in a metal band, and solidified my belief that I needed to make spaces for youth, especially LGBTQIA+ youth, to have their voices amplified.”

Upon graduating high school, Nikki enrolled at Minneapolis College but was challenged as they were responsible for funding 100% of their education and living expenses without outside resources. “Every class I took, I had to pay for myself, out-of-pocket. At one point, I was working for the Athletes Committed to Educating Students program from 7 to 9 a.m., tutoring students at the Metcalf Middle School in Burnsville from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and then either attending a night class toward my degree or working a closing shift at a pizza restaurant while also doing homework and working at the restaurant on weekends. It was grueling, but the kids I was tutoring, my scholars, held me accountable while I held them accountable. It was a great way to model higher education’s importance and expectation. Once I turned 24, I could apply for financial aid and student loans. The scholarships I received from the foundation bridged the financial gap for me to attend college full-time and complete my unpaid 14-week student teaching internship.”

“I am truly grateful to donors who see the value of supporting work unique to urban education environments, such as increasing the number of teachers of color, so students can learn from a teacher that looks like them,” said Nikki, “Urban education is special, the diversity of our student body allows us to learn more, do more, and bring people together in a vitally important manner. As a middle school science teacher, I am just planting the seeds, and although I might not be around to see it, I know one day those trees will bear fruit.”





# Making a Gift

There are many ways to make a gift to the Metro State University Foundation. Choose what works best for you.

**Online:** Make a gift online with your credit card at [www.metrostate.edu/give-now](http://www.metrostate.edu/give-now). You can make a one-time contribution or set up a monthly gift.

**Check or EFT:** Send a check for a one-time gift or a voided check to set up a monthly gift via electronic funds transfer (EFT).

**Donor-Advised Funds:** Make a gift through a grant from your donor-advised fund.

**Tribute Gifts:** Pay tribute to a loved one with an honorary or memorial gift in their name online or via check.

**Corporate Matching Gifts:** Check with your employer to see if they offer a matching gift program to double the impact of your contribution!

**Stock:** Your gift of appreciated stock could be a tax-wise way to support Metro State University. Visit [www.metrostate.edu/give/ways-to-give](http://www.metrostate.edu/give/ways-to-give) for more information.

**Qualified Charitable Distribution from your IRA:** If you are 70½ or older, you can make a rollover gift up to \$100,000 directly from your IRA to Metro State University Foundation—known as a qualified charitable distribution (QCD). You may use your QCD from your IRA to satisfy all or part of your required minimum distribution (RMD) which could provide tax savings. To be considered a QCD, the check must come directly from your financial institution to Metropolitan State University Foundation, Founders Hall 142, 700 East Seventh Street, Saint Paul, MN 55106.

## Legacy Giving

You can make sure your family is taken care of while also making the best gift of your lifetime to Metro State University Foundation. To learn more about leaving a legacy, visit <https://metrostate.giftlegacy.com>.

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**MINNESOTA STATE**

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A member of Minnesota State*

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