



Illinois Agricultural Leadership Foundation

2024

ANNUAL REPORT

FISCAL YEAR 2024

JULY 1, 2023
THROUGH
JUNE 30, 2024

PREPARED BY THE IALF STAFF

ANNUAL REPORT

A WORD FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear Friends of IALF,

Every day, agriculture continues to face challenges. A growing world population, the need for improved sustainability practices and technology, the development of new markets, and advocating for the work agriculture does to feed the world, play a valuable part in moving our industry forward. To this end, agricultural leaders will continue to play a vital role through the 21st century and beyond.

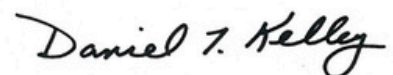
Since its first graduating class in 1984, The Illinois Agricultural Leadership Foundation has continued its mission to develop knowledgeable and effective leaders to become policy and decision makers for the agricultural industry. I was proud to be part of that first class of leaders and take great satisfaction in seeing the tradition continue as we approach the graduation of our Class of 2025.

This year brought about change for the IALF with the resignation of President and CEO, Todd Lowery. Our staff consisting of Development and Finances Director, Maranda Joos, Program Director, Mellisa McMillan, and Administrative Director, Nicole Solberg, have ensured the foundation and the program continue to move forward as we seek a new leader for the IALF. We thank Todd for his

leadership and service to the IALF and our staff for their commitment to the foundation's continued success. My thanks also to our board of directors for their wisdom and guidance. Our board and committee members provide numerous hours of support to IALF because they believe we need knowledgeable leadership to keep Illinois agriculture strong. As the IALF enters the next chapter, you can rest assured that our passion and dedication to leadership remains undeterred.

The IALP has endeavored to maintain the standard of excellence that Joyce Watson established 40 years ago, and we do so without the benefit of state or federal funding. Our investors listed in the pages of this report share our vision to create knowledgeable and effective leaders for the future of agriculture, and we strive to fulfill their expectations. Our class members and alumni demonstrate this commitment through the service they provide to their communities and the agricultural industry as a whole.

Thank you for supporting the Class of 2025 on their leadership journey and be sure to suggest other promising individuals for future classes of the IALP as well. We are pleased to continue the tradition of excellence that is the Illinois Agricultural Leadership Foundation.

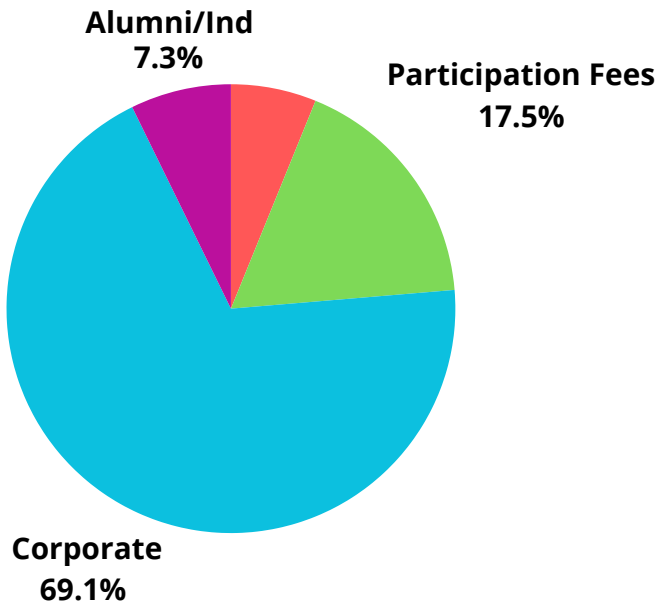


DAN KELLEY
CHAIRMAN

ANNUAL REPORT

2024 ANNUAL FUND CONTRIBUTIONS

- Events **\$499,568.00**
- Participation Fees
- Corporate
- Alumni/Ind



Contributions to the IALF Annual Fund are used for general operational support to fund the activities of the current leadership class. Those contributing to this fund include corporations and associations, as well as individuals such as IALF program graduates and friends of the Foundation. There are many ways to give to the IALF Annual Fund. The most frequent gift is in the form of a cash investment. Some companies and individuals also provide in-kind gifts that help offset expenses associated with leadership program seminars. Still, others support our annual golf outing through a sponsorship, hole sponsorship, or auction item donation. Many companies and individuals contribute at multiple levels in the same year: cash contributions, donating auction items, and providing in-kind gifts.

2024 CORPORATE AND ASSOCIATION INVESTORS

- \$25,000 OR ABOVE**
ILLINOIS SOYBEAN ASSOCIATION
NUTRIEN
COMPEER FINANCIAL
- \$24,999 - \$15,000**
GROWMARK
COBANK ACB
NATIONWIDE FOUNDATION
PRAIRIE FARMS DAIRY
CARGILL
IL CORN MARKETING BOARD
JOHN DEERE US AG
- \$14,999 - \$2,000**
CHS FOUNDATION
IL FARM BUREAU
ILLINOIS PORK PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION
GRAIN AND FEED ASSOCIATION OF IL
MARQUIS GRAIN INC
WYFFELS HYBRIDS
SIEMER MILLING CO
- \$1,999 - \$1,000**
COOK COUNTY FARM BUREAU
CORN BELT ENERGY
KANE COUNTY FARM BUREAU
ARENDS HOGAN WALKER
BIRKEY'S
HAR BRAND
HEARTLAND BANK
MORTON COMMUNITY BANK
THE ANDERSONS INC
THE CHICAGO FARMER SCHOLARSHIP FUND
- \$500 - \$200**
DEKALB COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
EVERGREEN FS
FORTRESS BANK
OGLE COUNTY FARM BUREAU
WINNEBAGO-BOONE FARM BUREAU
MAPLEHURST FARMS
MARTIN EQUIPMENT
WASHINGTON COUNTY FARM BUREAU
LASALLE COUNTY FARM BUREAU
LIVINGSTON COUNTY FARM BUREAU
ST CLAIR COUNTY FARM BUREAU

ANNUAL REPORT

2024 ALUMNI & INDIVIDUAL INVESTORS

CLASS OF 1984

CHET BORUFF
JERRY HICKS
THOMAS JOHNSON
DICK JURGENS
DAN KELLEY
NORBERT SOLTWEDEL
RONALD WARFIELD

CLASS OF 1986

DEAN CAMPBELL
RANDY DESUTTER
GEORGE DIXON
LARRY FISCHER
LYNN HISER

CLASS OF 1988

JAMES WRIGHT
THOMAS MARTIN
PAUL RASMUSSEN
RONALD REISCHE

CLASS OF 1990

MICHAEL EPPERSON
BRUCE STIKKERS

CLASS OF 1992

STANLEY BLUNIER
THOMAS CHAMBERLAIN

DENNIS EPPLIN
GERALD SALZMAN
STEVEN SCHNEIDER
BRADLEY WADE

CLASS OF 1994

GARY BRUCH
EDWARD COOPER
JAMES SCHROEDER

CLASS OF 1996

SUSAN ADAMS
DONALD COCHRAN
BRIGITTE FRANZEN

CLASS OF 1998

PHIL FUHR
KIM MORTON

CLASS OF 2000

NICK BLOCK
PETER BRUMMEL
TIMOTHY HARRIS
STEVE PITSTICK
DAVID WIRTH

CLASS OF 2002

DALE CRAWFORD
DAVID LOGSDON
DANIEL MEYER
TIMOTHY SEIFERT

CLASS OF 2004

JEFF ADKISSON
TROY FISCHER
DOUG MARTIN
SCOTT NEWPORT
KEN ROPP

CLASS OF 2006

BRENT JOHNSON
JODY KETSENBURG
LANE PICKWELL

CLASS OF 2008

MICHAEL ALSTON
RYAN FRIEDERS
MATT GINDER
BECKY ROPP

CLASS OF 2010

CHARLES CAWLEY
ANDREW GOODRICH
NATHAN HASHEIDER
MATT MCCLELLAND

CLASS OF 2012

JUSTIN GREEN
DEB SCHULTZ

CLASS OF 2014

BRYAN BLAU
TADGH DAVIS
MICHAEL SHANE

CLASS OF 2016

GRANT NOLAND
JULIE WANKEL

CLASS OF 2018

BERKELEY BOEHNE
JONATHAN SCHNEIDER

CLASS OF 2020

DREW HESKER
JACK POWERS
BRUCE FRANK

CLASS OF 2023

IAN BROOKE
HEATHER THOMPSON

IALF FRIENDS

GARY BAISE
THE TIMMONS FAMILY
DR. ROBERT EASTER
ENID SCHLIPF
JOYCE WATSON

ANNUAL REPORT

Annual Virtual Auction 2024

Through the generosity of our alumni and friends, we were able to raise \$12,245 to help further our mission of developing knowledgeable and effective leaders to become policy and decision makers for the agricultural industry.

THANK YOU TO OUR AUCTION ITEM DONORS:

Asgrow
Bayer-Tami Craig Schilling
Bruce Frank IALP '20
Chicago Cubs
Class of 2016
Dekalb
Eli's Cheesecake
Epiphany Farms
Gerry Salzman IALP '92
GROWMARK
Illinois Fertilizer and
Chemical Association

Jared Brown IALP '14
Kennay Farms
Rick Kennay IALP '00
John Marcus at Lakefront
Futures
Kim Morton IALP '98
Kirk Liefer IALP '16
Maranda Joos
Mistwood Golf Course
Pioneer
Prairie Farms

Rader Farms
Rob Dob's
Ropp Cheese
Ken & Becky Ropp
Sandwich Fair
Stu Ellis IALP '88
Tadgh Davis IALP '14
Union League Club
Whiskey Acres
Wyffels

Annual Lawn and Garden Raffle



JOHN DEERE

Thank you to John Deere for their continued support of our annual raffle through their in-kind contributions of Lawn and Garden items

ANNUAL REPORT

2024 Alumni Golf Outing

Thank you to our alumni and friends that supported our annual golf outing fundraiser. This year's event was held at the Country Club of Decatur. Through our participants and donors we were able to raise \$18,496 to help fund the Illinois Agricultural Leadership Program.

Golf Outing Corporate and Individual Sponsors

AHW LLC
Ann Olson IALP '90
Blake Roderick IALP '92
Clocktower Community Bank
Brad Smith IALP '04
BRANDT
Brian Waddell IALP '10
Bruce Frank IALP '20
Carl Hermann IALP '20
Compeer
Dan Kelley IALP '84
Dan Vial IALP '92
Eckerts Family Farms
Frederick Travel
Gerry Salzman IALP '92
Grain and Feed Association
Illinois Fertilizer and
Chemical Association
John Cottingham IALP '92

Kay and Don Norton
Kevin Nieman IALP '08
Lakefront Futures
Lynn Hiser IALP '86
MARCO NPK
Met Life Agricultural Investments
North Central Bank
Nutrien
Prairie Farms
Producers Hedge LLC
Rooster Strategic SOLUTIONS
Springfield Plastics
Steve Pitstick IALP '00
Stewart Farms -
Bob Stewart IALP '06
Tadgh David IALP '14
Tom Jennings IALP '06
William Niebur
Worrell Land Services



Thank you to our
title sponsor:



IALF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dan Kelley - Chairman, Retired Chairman of GROWMARK

Chet Boruff - Vice Chairman, Retired CEO of the Association of the Official Seed Certifying Agencies

Kim Morton - Secretary, Retired Head of Agricultural Services, The Northern Trust Co.

Enid Schlipf - Treasurer, President of Schlipf Farms

Gary Baise - Olsson, Frank, Weeda, Terman, and Matz PC.

Nick Block - Director Global Marketing and Sales John Deere Power Systems

Ed L Cooper III - SVP, Director, Food and Beverage at HTLF Specialized Industries

Tami Craig Schilling - Global MD Recommend Lead Bayer Crop Science North America

Robert Easter - Retired President of the University of Illinois System

Heather Thompson - Director of Innovation GROWMARK Inc.

Blair Bruns - Business Development Manager, Rooster

BOARD EMERITUS AND PAST BOARD MEMBERS

Joyce Watson - Retired, President & CEO of IALF

Orion Samuelson - Agribusiness Services Director, WGN Radio

Don McGillivray - Retired Agricultural Consultant (*deceased*)

Porter Martin - Porter Martin Farmland & Cattle Company (*deceased*)

John Huston - Retired Executive Vice President, National Cattleman's Beef Association

Renee Roberts - Vice President of Refined Oil Sales, Archer Daniels Midland Company

Richard Ryan - Retired President and COO of Dekalb Seed for Monsanto

Ron Warfield - Past President of Illinois Farm Bureau

Mak Mirhakimi - Mak Mirhakimi - Vice Chairman, Retired Caterpillar Corporation

A word about accuracy

The Investor Report recognizes contributions to the 2024 Fiscal Year of the IALF (July 1, 2023-June 30, 2023). We have made every effort to present the information in this publication accurately. Occasionally, we discover a name was omitted or listed incorrectly. If you find an error, please accept our sincere apologies. We would appreciate your help in letting us know so the records can be corrected. Thank you.



Illinois Agricultural Leadership Foundation

This is a publication of the Illinois Agricultural Leadership Foundation. The foundation is a not-for-profit organization established in 1981 to provide a leadership development program for agricultural leaders in Illinois.



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leaders@agleadership.org

Maranda Joos - Development & Finances Director

Mellisa McMillan - Program Director

Nicole Solberg - Administrative Director