



2023

ANNUAL REPORT

FISCAL YEAR 2023

OCTOBER 1, 2022
THROUGH
JUNE 30, 2023

PREPARED BY THE IALF STAFF

ANNUAL REPORT

A WORD FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear Friends of IALF,

It is my pleasure as Chair of the Board of Directors of the Illinois Agricultural Leadership Foundation to share with you not only the successes of the Foundation and its leadership program, but also the pride I have of the purpose and accomplishments of the program.

Combined, our 600 alums have made and continue to make a difference not only in Illinois agriculture, but US and international organizations. Many graduates say the program was transformational in their lives by expanding their knowledge, communications ability, and being able to see a bigger picture of not only the world of agriculture but realizing the power of one - how they can personally be impactful by being present and speaking up.

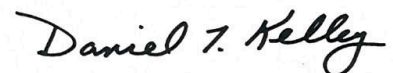
2023 was a successful year for the IALF as we graduated the class of 2023 which was delayed a year due to the pandemic. The class wrapped up their 19 months of seminars with the international seminar visiting Great Britain, France, Belgium, and the Netherlands.

Our staff led by CEO Todd Lowery continue to make our program strong and on a strong financial footing. Program Director Mellisa McMillan, Development and Finances Director Maranda Joos, and Administrative

Director Nicole Solberg have all contributed to our program's success by bringing knowledge, talent, and experience to their roles. My thanks to each of them for their commitment to IALF's success.

My thanks to our investors who have committed financial and in-kind resources to make and keep our finances strong. We are committed to prudent use of your funds to provide leadership training at the highest level while maintaining financial stability. As a non-profit we rely on financial support from the agriculture and food industry to maintain our viability. Thank you!

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. By having articulate people "at the table" we can not only protect our agriculture resources but enhance our opportunities to provide food, fiber, and fuel to a growing world. The challenges are many, the workers are few, so we need the BEST people we have available to represent us. The IALF is committed to providing knowledgeable and effective leaders to become policy and decision makers for the agricultural industry. Thank you for joining us in this mission.



DAN KELLEY
CHAIRMAN

ANNUAL REPORT

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT/CEO

The Illinois Agricultural Leadership Foundation looks back on a successful 2023. Last spring, the IALF graduated 19 future leaders for the agricultural industry. The Illinois Agricultural Leadership Program's Class of 2023 began their leadership journey at the height of the pandemic. Through their perseverance and dedication, they became the 20th class to complete their leadership development through the IALF. In August, the IALF welcomed 26 new participants for our IALP Class of 2025 to begin their leadership journey.

Along with our leadership program, the IALF has many achievements to recognize during the past year. We have strengthened our alumni outreach, both for in-person events and virtually. We also welcomed new members to our Alumni Committee, bringing a fresh

perspective to the needs of our alumni and current class members.

Over the past year, we have seen significant growth in our fundraising and continue to expand our support efforts. This is an important accomplishment to assure the continued longevity of our Foundation and leadership program.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank our corporate and alumni contributors alike for their important investments of funding, volunteerism, and input to make the IALF and our leadership program better.

In closing, the IALF thanks our supporters, participants, Board and staff for their dedication to propel our Foundation and premier agricultural leadership program towards a bright future.

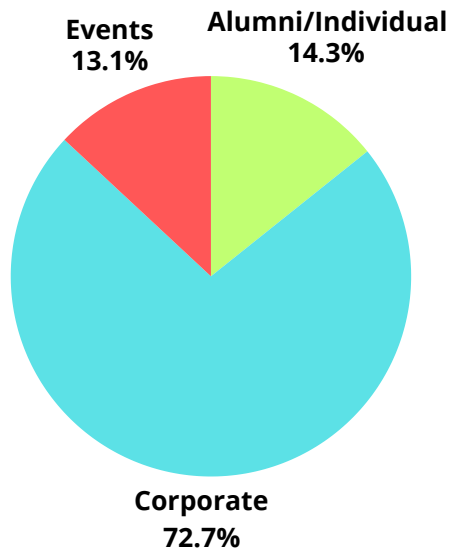


TODD LOWERY
PRESIDENT/CEO

ANNUAL REPORT

2023 ANNUAL FUND CONTRIBUTIONS

\$246,230.27



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.

2023 CORPORATE AND ASSOCIATION INVESTORS

\$20,000 OR ABOVE

COMPEER FINANCIAL
GROWMARK FOUNDATION
COBANK

NATIONWIDE FOUNDATION

\$19,999 - \$15,000

CARGILL

JOHN DEERE

\$14,999-\$10,000

ILLINOIS CORN MARKETING BOARD

ILLINOIS SOYBEAN ASSOC

IL FARM BUREAU

CHS FOUNDATION

\$9,999 - \$2,000

BECKS

IL PORK PRODUCERS ASSOC

MARQUIS GRAIN

GRAIN AND FEED ASSOC

SIEMER MILLING CO

\$1,999 - \$1,000

THE MASCHHOFFS LLC

COOK COUNTY FARM BUREAU

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MY FARM BUSINESS LLC

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CHICAGO FARMERS

CORN BELT ENERGY

MORTON COMMUNITY BANK

THE ANDERSONS

\$999 - \$100

AGRICULTURAL INVESTMENTS ASSOC

AWC LLC

DEKALB CO COMM FDTN

DUPAGE COUNTY FARM BUREAU

EVERGREEN FS

MASON COUNTY FARM BUREAU

MCLEAN COUNTY FARM BUREAU

OGLE COUNTY FARM BUREAU

PAYMENT VIA FORTRESS BANK

PIATT CO FARM BUREAU FDTN

RANDOLPH COUNTY FARM BUREAU

WINNEGABO-BOONE FARM BUREAU

MAPLEHURST FARMS

MARTIN ROANOKE

WASHINGTON COUNTY FARM BUREAU

LASALLE COUNTY FARM BUREAU

LIVINGSTON COUNTY FARM BUREAU

TAZEWELL COUNTY FARM BUREAU

WOODFORD COUNTY FARM BUREAU

ST CLAIR COUNTY FARM BUREAU

STARVED ROCK COUNTRY

MASSAC COUNTY FARM BUREAU

ANNUAL REPORT

2023 ALUMNI & INDIVIDUAL INVESTORS

CLASS OF 1984

CHET BORUFF
JERRY HICKS
DICK JURGENS
DAN KELLEY
RON WARFIELD

CLASS OF 1986

DEAN CAMPBELL
GEORGE DIXON
BOB JOHNSON
PENNY LAURITZEN
LARRY FISCHER
LYNN HISER

CLASS OF 1988

TOM MARTIN
RON REISCHE
STEVE WIRTH
KEVIN MILLER

CLASS OF 1990

FRITZ KUHLMIEIER
DOUG SCHROEDER
BRUCE STIKKERS

CLASS OF 1992

STAN BLUNIER
TOM CHAMBERLAIN
JOHN COTTINGHAM
STEVE SCHNEIDER

CLASS OF 1994

GARY BRUCH
ED COOPER
MIKE DESUTTER
JIM SCHROEDER

CLASS OF 1996

DON COCHRAN
BRIGITTE FRANZEN

CLASS OF 1998

RICK SCHRAMM
JEFF TOWNSEND
JAY TIMMONS
KIM MORTON

CLASS OF 2000

NICK BLOCK
PETE BRUMMEL
DAVID WIRTH
NORM BROWN

CLASS OF 2002

DALE CRAWFORD
BILL LEIGH
DAN MEYER
TIM SEIFERT
BRIAN PUETZ

CLASS OF 2004

JEFF ADKISSON
TROY FISCHER
RON LLOYD
KEN ROPP

CLASS OF 2006

LANE PICKWELL
WILL TIMMONS

CLASS OF 2008

RYAN FRIEDERS
MATT GINDER
BECKY ROPP

CLASS OF 2010

CHUCK CAWLEY
ANDREW GOODRICH
CHRIS GOULD
NATHAN HASHEIDER
BRIAN WADDELL
SHEILA FOWLER

CLASS OF 2012

JODIE BROOKS
DEB SCHULTZ

CLASS OF 2014

ANDY BRANTNER
CHAD BRUSVEEN
LYNDA GOULD
MIKE SHANE
CYNDI PUNKE
LINDSEY RINKENBERGER

CLASS OF 2016

GRANT NOLAND

CLASS OF 2018

BERK BOEHNE
BOB SCHROEDER
JONATHAN SCHNEIDER

CLASS OF 2020

DREW HESKER
JACK POWERS
BRUCE FRANK

CLASS OF 2023

IAN BROOKE
HEATHER THOMPSON

IALF FRIENDS

GARY BAISE
TODD LOWERY
TAMI CRAIG-SCHILLING
DR. ROBERT EASTER
ENID SCHLIPF
JOYCE WATSON

ANNUAL REPORT

Annual Virtual Auction 2023

Through the generosity of our alumni and friends, we were able to raise \$9,560 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:

Allyn Buhrow
Asgrow
Blair Bruns IALP '20
Todd Lowery
Class of 2016
Country Financial
Dekalb
Frederick Travel
Gerry Salzman IALP '92
GROWMARK

Home Depot
Illinois Fertilizer and
Chemical Association
Ken Ropp IALP '04
Kennay Farms
Kim Meier IALP '16
Kim Morton IALP '98
Kirk Liefer IALP '16
Lowes
Lynn Hiser IALP '86

Mike Eiberger
Open Prairie
Prairie Farms
Serenity Med Spa
Sheri Bane IALP '10
Strom Family Farms
Stu Ellis IALP '88
Tractor Supply
Whiskey Acres

Torch of Leadership Awards

The purpose of the Torch of Leadership Award is to recognize alumni or significant friends of the IL Agricultural Leadership Program who have demonstrated exceptional leadership skills through personal commitment and service to agriculture in their occupation, community, government, or education. These contributions can be at a local, state, national or international level. Congratulations to our 2023 Torch of Leadership Award recipients!



Jeff Adkisson
IALP 2004



Allan Worrell
IALP 1988



Randy Sims
IALP 1984

ANNUAL REPORT

2023 Alumni Golf Outing



Thank you to our
title sponsor:



Golf Outing Corporate and Individual Sponsors

AgriGold Hybrids
AHW LLC
Ann Olson IALP '90
Blake Roderick IALP '92
Clocktower Community Bank
BRANDT
Brian Waddell IALP '10
Bruce Frank IALP '20
Chris Salrin IALP '10
Compeer
Dan Kelley IALP '84
Dekalb/ Asgrow
Eckerts Family Farms
Frederick Travel
Gerry Salzman IALP '92
Grain and Feed Association
Grant Noland IALP '16
GROWMARK, Inc
Illinois Farm Bureau
Illinois Fertilizer and
Chemical Association

John Cottingham IALP '92
Julie Wankel IALP '16
Kay and Don Norton
Kevin Nieman IALP '08
Lakefront Futures
Lynn Hiser IALP '86
MARCO NPK
Met Life Agricultural Investments
My Farm Business
North Central Bank
Prairie Farms
Producers Hedge LLC
Rooster Strategic Solutions
Siemer Milling
Springfield Plastics
Steve Pitstick IALP '00
Stewart Farms -
Bob Stewart IALP '06
Tom Jennings IALP '06
UpField Group
Worrell Land Services



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 2023 Fiscal Year of the IALF (Oct 1, 2022-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

Todd Lowery - President & CEO

Maranda Joos - Development & Finances Director

Mellisa McMillan - Program Director

Nicole Solberg - Administrative Director