

Iowa Stater

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE FOR IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

FALL 2022

UNITED BY CARDINAL & GOLD

Whether fostering community, solving big problems, or spreading school spirit, today's Cyclones are making a name for themselves and Iowa State.

GENUINE COMMUNITY

Helping students make connections and find belonging from day one.

HOMEcoming

ISU Alumni share their favorite traditions, memories, and places.

CENTENARIAN CYCLONES

Iowa Staters marking their 100th birthdays share a look back.

Alexandra Abraham
event management



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Erin Lowe
elementary education

A close-up portrait of a young Black man with short dreadlocks, a mustache, and a goatee. He is smiling and looking slightly to the left. He is wearing a white t-shirt under a red, black, and tan plaid shirt, and a gold chain with an Ankh pendant. The background is a solid red color.

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Kaleb Nichols
liberal studies

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Samuel O'Brien
biological systems
engineering



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ON THE COVER: Each of these Iowa Staters appear on a version of our cover (L to R): Alexandra Abraham, a resilient recruiter and connector; Kaleb Nichols, a collaborative and spirited artist; Erin Lowe, a student leader and passionate Cyclone; and Samuel O'Brien, a curious and driven scientist. See them all at www.iowaStater.iastate.edu. Photographs by Dan McClanahan

Iowa Staters, Meet Iowa Stater

While I was preparing this debut issue of Iowa Stater magazine, I kept thinking of one of my favorite Willie Nelson quotes.

"If you really want to get along with somebody, let them be themselves."

We Iowa Staters are a unique bunch. However, during our research for this publication three core attributes surfaced that seem to connect us: innovative, collaborative, and inclusive.

In this inaugural issue of Iowa Stater, we celebrate the cardinal and gold threads that weave together a shared experience while recognizing that each of us wears the resulting garment differently. That's a great thing — each of us makes it fit perfectly.

Not only does Iowa Stater magazine deliver a fresh name and look, the flagship publication is a fresh collaboration and partnership of Iowa State University, the ISU Foundation, and the ISU Alumni Association. A new editorial board of representatives from each organization is working to ensure content keeps you connected and in the know. A new website, www.IowaStater.iastate.edu, will make some content available online, with access to full, members-only content coming a few months following publication.

Like its predecessor, VISIONS, the printed version of Iowa Stater remains a paid-member benefit of the ISU Alumni Association. Membership dues significantly support the ISU Alumni Association's printing and postage expenses. The university, ISU Foundation, and the ISU Alumni Association are partnering on staffing and other kinds of expenses for Iowa Stater.



ABOVE: From 1974 to 2002, The Iowa Stater was a tabloid published by the ISU Alumni Association, Iowa State University, and the ISU Foundation to reach alumni and friends. The Iowa Stater resulted from a merger between the Iowa State Alumnus — an alumni association publication for members — and News of Iowa State, a university publication to inform alumni and parents of students. In 1988, VISIONS magazine was launched as a member benefit by the ISU Alumni Association, ending its nearly 35-year run in 2022.

Iowa Stater magazine is for alumni, yes, but also for those who are friends and fans, students and parents, faculty and staff. This is for you. It's for all of us. Iowa Staters.

MELEA REICKS LICHT ('00 PUBLIC SERVICE AND ADMINISTRATION IN AGRICULTURE, MS '05 AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION AND STUDIES), MREICKS@IASTATE.EDU

Iowa Stater

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— *CBRE*, 2021

RETURN TO IOWA STATER

Gosh, I remember reading the Iowa Stater newspaper cover to cover in the early 1980s. Maybe because it reminded me of the Iowa State Daily? At the ripe age of 70, I find articles on current student life and academics to be unrelatable. Not to say that the advancements and successes aren't grasped and appreciated by me. But when the articles mention buildings that didn't exist, majors and classes that have drastically changed — just the way things generally are on campus, 40 years later — I realize that I could be reading about the Iowa City, or Manhattan, Kansas, or Western Illinois campuses and student life. No doubt those who live within driving distance of Ames and visit at least yearly probably don't have this difficulty.

I look forward to the next chapter of Iowa State publications as the banner returns to Iowa Stater. Whatever the format and function, I know that it will be an excellent publication — and I will find something to draw my interest.

Respectfully,

MEL COLEMAN

('83 MECHANICAL ENGINEERING)

FERNDAL, WASHINGTON

LAND OF ENCHANTMENT

I am sure I am not the first to write, but on page 14 of the current VISIONS, Los Alamos is not in Nevada, but in New Mexico! Nonetheless, does not detract overly from an amazing story.

My father, Harry J. Svec (PhD '50 chemistry), was a young chemistry grad student when Frank Spedding recruited him to work on the secret project during WWII. Harry joined the Atomic Energy Commission at ISU in 1950 after completing his PhD under Spedding. His thesis



CYTINGS

(Left) Patrick ('84 management) and Jane Hansen did a Cyclone Nation takeover at their hotel in Pisac, Peru, on Cy-Hawk football game day. (Right) Mike Steffenson ('59 chemical engineering) shared this photo of his son Doug's ('88 journalism & mass communications, political science) spinnaker racing in the Brotz Regatta in Sheboygan, Wisconsin. [photograph: Jason Bemis]



project? Building the first two mass spectrometers at Iowa State.

KATHY SVEC

('70 ART EDUCATION)

AMES, IOWA

Editor's note: Kathy Svec was indeed not the first, or only, to point out this error, but she may have been the most gracious. Thank you, Kathy, and thanks to all our members who pointed out the error.

MEMBERS ONLY

I'm reading my latest VISIONS magazine and, for the life of me, can't figure out what the *, **, etc. mean behind the names presented in the magazine. My writer, editor, proofreader background has me looking for footnotes to explain, but I'm at a loss for what I'm sure is a simple explanation.

Thank you for answering this silly question and putting my mind at ease!

DEB FRY

('87 ENGLISH)

ANKENY, IOWA

Editor's note: The *, ** in VISIONS honored membership status (annual, life, etc.). Membership recognition of those featured in Iowa Stater can be found on page 47.



Did you work
on campus
as a student?
Tell us
your story!

Email iowastater@iastate.edu

Illustration by Jenny Witte

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WITH US: @ISUALUM



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YELLOW BRICK ROAD TO THE**

cardinal & gold GALA

THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME!

The annual Cardinal & Gold gala has been raising funds for student and alumni programming and first-generation student scholarships for 12 years.

This year, with the student scholarships fully endowed, we're raising support for new graduates to receive a one-year gift membership to the ISU Alumni Association and special programming to help them successfully transition to life after college.

Membership provides a firm foundation for Iowa Staters to launch their professional careers, make meaningful connections in their communities, and be inspired to larger service to and for their alma mater.

It'll take courage, brains, and heart to reach our goal – you can help make it happen!

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Nicole ('09, '13) & Bryan ('08) Schmidt

**For more details and
to register by Feb. 2, visit
www.ISUalum.org/GalaDSM.**



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LESTER CLIFFORD SCHOECH	FRED DENT TURNER
CHARLES HENRY SCHUMACHER	MAURICE WAKEFIELD
FRED ALFRED SELL	FLOYD WAMBEAM
LOWELL LOUIS SHELTON	RALPH ADELBERT WARRINGTON
EARL JOSEPH SLATTERY	FRANK MARION WAUGH
ANTHONY FRANCIS SOUKUP	JOE HORTON WHITE
TRACY LEWIS SPARKS	HEWITT LARRABEE WILLIAMS
JOHN HENRY STINOGEL	JOHN BERNARD WILMES
JOHN DANIEL WINNEY	HORTENSE ELIZABETH WIND
RALPH WILSON WYZER	PERCY EUGENE WOOD
ILO IVINS	PEARL WESLEY YATES
	JOHN HUBERT WOODWARD

MOMENT

Respite and Reflection

Gold Star Hall puts the memorial in Iowa State's Memorial Union, offering a quiet place to rest while surrounded by the names of Iowa Staters who sacrificed their lives in U.S. military service.



CYTown

A VISIONARY COMMUNITY DESTINATION



Scan for a fly
through of CYTown!

More than half a century after the first Iowa State Center building opened, Iowa State unveiled an innovative plan this fall to reimagine its landmark educational, cultural, and athletic complex—a development that will create CYTown, a community destination spot to be built between Jack Trice Stadium and Hilton Coliseum.

CYTown is envisioned to include a medical facility and a mix of retail, office space and 20 luxury suites along the corridor, currently known as “tent row,” between Jack Trice Stadium and the Iowa State Center. It will also feature a plaza and amphitheater.

It is expected that 75% of the funds needed for the \$200 million project will come from land monetization opportunities with the remaining balance coming from fundraising and proceeds from leasing 20 CYTown Suites.

The Iowa Board of Regents approved the university’s request to make improvements to the parking lots between Jack Trice Stadium and the Iowa State Center, which is slated to begin in January. The \$25 million project will include new paving and lighting systems, and installation of a utility infrastructure necessary to support future site development.

HOW TO...

HELP KIDS COPE WHEN THE NEWS IS SCARY.

BY MALISA RADER,
HUMAN SCIENCES SPECIALIST,
ISU EXTENSION AND OUTREACH

KEEP REGULAR ROUTINES.

Children take comfort in predictable daily activities such as dinner at the kitchen table and bedtime rituals.

WATCH YOUR EMOTIONS.

When adults maintain a calm and optimistic attitude, children will also.

TALK IT OVER.

Provide reassurance, clear up misconceptions and point out the helpful people in emergency situations. Young children might also express themselves through drawing or in their play.

LIMIT YOUR TV VIEWING.

Monitor what is on television and for how long. Young children may not understand that scenes repeating on news stations are all the same event.

FIND HEALTHY WAYS TO COPE.

Taking a walk together, reading a favorite book, or playing a board game can be comforting.

TAKE ACTION.

Doing something such as sending a donation or writing a letter can empower your child to feel part of the response.

SEEK PROFESSIONAL ADVICE.

If your child shows symptoms of distress such as a change in appetite or sleep patterns, speak with your child’s physician or a mental health professional. You also can contact ISU Extension and Outreach’s Iowa Concern hotline at 1-800-447-1985.

DID YOU KNOW?

For half a century, Pell Grants have been an important source of financial aid for Iowa Staters. This June, the federal Pell Grant marked its 50th anniversary celebrating more than 80 million low- and moderate-income student recipients. During the 2021-22 academic year at Iowa State, 5,188, or one in five, undergraduates — 74% of them Iowa residents — received a Pell Grant, totaling more than \$23.5 million in student aid. In the last 10 academic years, 28,766 Iowa State students received more than \$255 million in Pell Grant aid.



Lucky Dog

WHEN MOLLIE SUE was brought to the Hixson-Lied Small Animal Hospital Emergency Unit this summer, she was experiencing rapid breathing. Both her hind legs were swollen, and she had fluid on her chest. Three weeks later, the four-month-old Labrador Retriever pranced out of the hospital to the applause of dozens of College of Veterinary Medicine clinicians, technicians, and fourth-year students who provided her care and treatment.

Read more about Mollie online: www.VetMed.iastate.edu/Story/Perfect-Patient

Watch Mollie Sue's special send off.



PROGRESS FOR POLLINATORS

RESEARCHERS AT Iowa State are part of a multi-state effort to map where the federally endangered rusty patched bumble bee lives, identify what habitat it prefers, and collect clues about its overall health. The findings, along with data about the threatened American bumble bee, could help wildlife managers and land stewards reverse their decline and support other pollinators.

"Some people may ask, 'Who cares? It's just one little bee species.' However, both the rusty and the American are large, charismatic species that serve as emblems of a much larger problem — that is, the massive global decline of pollinators," says lead researcher and professor Amy Toth.

A new report by the Iowa Monarch Conservation Consortium shows the state is making steady progress toward goals to establish habitat for monarch butterflies. Over the past six years, more than 430,000 acres of monarch butterfly habitat has been established in the state — that's over half-way to the consortium strategy's low-end goal of 790,000 by 2038.

The Iowa Monarch Conservation Consortium comprises members and partners from 50 organizations, including agricultural and conservation associations, agribusiness and utility companies, universities (including Iowa State), and state and federal agencies.

For more buzz on pollinator research, visit www.iowaStater.iastate.edu.



Sharon Perry Fantini works to educate, inspire, and equip students to become engaged global citizens.



PERSPECTIVE

Commitment to Community

BY SHARON PERRY FANTINI, VICE PRESIDENT FOR DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION

“YOU BELONG HERE.”

I felt the truth of those words when I first arrived at Iowa State University in January 2022. I knew our university leaders fully believe that anyone, from any background or identity, who comes

to Iowa State with the drive to pursue their goals should have the opportunity to reach their full potential.

That defines us as Iowa Staters. That’s our land-grant heritage.

Like many of our students, I knew

immediately that this university was the place for me. But for some, it can be an intimidating journey. Especially for those who know firsthand how fragile a sense of belonging can be.

One of my first tasks at Iowa State was asking members of our campus community to tell me what the words diversity, equity, and inclusion meant to them.

What I heard was a recurring and common theme: Commitment.

Committing to fostering an inclusive learning, working, and living environment is never “one and done.” It’s the everyday work of creating the conditions in which every person has access and opportunity to fully participate.

It begins with welcoming people in such a way that they feel how deeply we mean it. And continues with committing ourselves to do better and make a difference — every day — for this place we love.

One way we’re doing better is with a new \$1.5 million investment in a student success initiative aimed at increasing retention and graduation rates. The initiative focuses on those who can be the most at-risk, including first-generation students, multicultural students, and students whose progress toward a degree has been impacted by the pandemic.

How we educate and support students from many diverse backgrounds and identities sets the stage for their success at Iowa State — and prepares them to enter the workforce and take on the responsibilities of engaged citizens.

For me, the ultimate success will be our ability to instill confidence in our graduates so that, no matter where they end up, they unequivocally can say:

“I BELONG HERE.”

BREAKTHROUGH

FROM THE
GROUND UP

You've heard of 3D printing — the additive manufacturing technology that deposits, molds, or joins material into useful items — but have you heard of 3D printing an entire house?

Pete Evans ('95 BAR, MID '17), assistant professor of industrial design, says this emerging tech could capture Iowa's workforce and help meet the need for affordable housing. Using 3D-printers can lower construction risks, reduce material usage and waste, and allow faster response to natural disasters.

His team in the College of Design is collaborating with Iowa Central Community College, the Iowa Economic Development Authority, and Brunow Contracting to bring the idea to life with a demonstration build in Hamburg, Iowa.

Iowa State earned four grants totaling \$2.15 million to fuel the effort, including \$1.4 million from the Iowa Economic Development Authority to pay for the 3D printers and materials.

Located in the Computation and Construction Lab these construction 3D printers are used for printing models and testing materials. Some large construction 3D printers are 15-by-50-by-8 feet.

Researchers hope to gain insight on the design, affordability, zoning and building codes, community engagement, and training needed to scale up this tech and bring 3D printed homes to the state and nation.

Pete Evans is exploring the use of large-scale 3D printers for building homes. Learn more about 3D printing at www.iowastater.iastate.edu.



Gabe Kalscheur was inspired to serve at Youth and Shelter Services in Ames after an initial NIL gig connected him with the opportunity.

COMPETITOR

Blueprint for Doing Good

STORY AND IMAGES BY MATT VAN WINKLE

For as long as he can remember, Gabe Kalscheur has looked up to one person. “That’s my mom,” he says.

The Iowa State senior majoring in management and entrepreneurship has memories of watching his mom play

“streetball” in downtown Minneapolis. “I remember watching her cook other young women on the concrete,” he recalls. “I was like, ‘wow, she can do that? I kind of want to be in her shoes.’”

Last season, Kalscheur led the



Cyclones to the Sweet 16 of the NCAA Tournament. As the guard’s recognition grew, so did his reputation in the Ames community. This past summer, Kalscheur was asked to become the first ambassador for Youth and Shelter Services (YSS). He works at the local YSS youth shelter and residential treatment facilities, talking with young people, making appearances at fundraisers and events, and even shooting hoops with the kids when he gets a chance.

In 2021, the Supreme Court ruled that NCAA student athletes could profit off their name, image, and likeness (NIL). Kalscheur received some initial compensation for his work with YSS from the We Will Collective, a nonprofit that helps athletes use their NIL to give back to charities and others in need. He was inspired to continue his service without further compensation.

“I know they see me as a basketball player, but I also want them to see me as a person, too,” he says. “I’m here to brighten up their day, because what they’re going through is very isolating.”

Kalscheur hopes he can be someone youth look up to and is using his platform to influence others and leave a blueprint for doing good. “If I can take time in my day to open up and give my time to others that are in need, I feel like I’m living in God’s glory and in God’s word.”



This name tag gained Bristow entrance to the Ivy College of Business Career Fair. He hopes to work in the media entertainment industry following graduation.

Taylor Swift kicks off Bristow's playlist on his drive to the commuter lot each morning.



Pineapple-y fresh!



ANNOTATION

Spill It

Cameron Bristow — a senior in marketing, management, and entrepreneurship — shared the contents of his backpack for Iowa Stater magazine. This summer, he interned in public affairs at NASA, where he worked on strategic communication plans, copywriting, conducting research for news stories and executive rundowns, and shadowed media interviews.

More on Bristow at www.iowaStater.iastate.edu

In addition to in-person courses, Bristow is taking three online classes and works as a teaching assistant helping fellow undergrads tackle marketing challenges and create solutions.



Bristow keeps connected with his family and friends in his hometown of Pleasant Hill, Iowa, via Instagram and other apps.



Bristow suits up to mentor first-year students in the University Honors program several times a week.



Bristow loves a good show, concert, and play. He's been to Saturday Night Live seven times. (His favorite host? Billie Eilish.)

Photographs by Christopher Gannon



“No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.”

—On June 23, 1972, Title IX of the Education Amendments Act was enacted by Congress.

DESPITE HAVING NO MENTION of or reference to sports, Calli Sanders, senior associate director for sports administration at Iowa State, says this seemingly innocuous amendment to the Education Act of 1972 was a watershed moment for girls and women in sports.

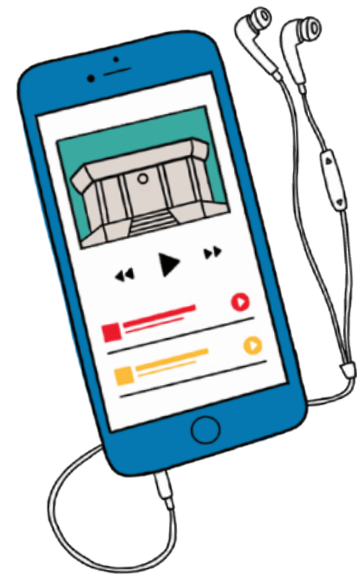
“When the realization was made that this legislation applied to sports, there was significant growth in participation opportunities for girls and women,” Sanders says. “And beyond just the numbers, the opportunities have become more meaningful — the quality of the experience has been improved when you think of scholarships, facilities, operating budgets, quality coaching, and media attention to name a few. We continue to strive for even more and better opportunities but the impact of Title IX over the last 50 years is staggering.”

Read stories about current and former ISU student-athletes, coaches, and administrators in honor of 50 Years of Title IX at www.Forever-TrueISU.WordPress.com.

THE SOUNDTRACK OF HILTON MAGIC

Hilton Magic is not only the roar of Cyclone power; it’s also fueled by the Cyclone Pep Band. Their playlist for Cyclone Basketball includes these favorites:

1. ISU Fights!
2. Everybody’s Everything – Santana
3. Runaway Baby – Bruno Mars
4. Wings – Little Mix
5. Beer Barrel Polka
6. Celebrate – Pfft You Were Gone
7. The Bells of Iowa State
8. Swag Surfin’
9. For I, For S
10. Confident – Demi Lovato



HEARD

“It is very important to know when you’re struggling and when you need help... It is ok to talk to other people... trust me you’ll feel a lot better.”

—ALONDRA MALDONADO, CYCLONE GYMNASTICS, OCTOBER 12, 2022

VIA ISU ATHLETICS VIDEO ON TWITTER –SEE MORE ON SOCIAL MEDIA VIA #BIG12BREAKTHETIGMA



The Cyclone Club spearheads the fundraising efforts for the Iowa State Athletic department and gifts of all sizes. Annual Cyclone Club gifts provide the 450+ ISU student-athletes the opportunity to compete in their sport at the highest level, while preparing them to utilize their Iowa State degree once their athletic careers have concluded.

THANK YOU CYCLONE CLUB MEMBERS!

You are The Heart of the Nation!

CONTACT US FOR MORE INFORMATION

WWW.CYCLONECLUB.ORG | CYCLUB@IASTATE.EDU | 515.294.5022





POSTCARD FROM CAMPUS

A Brisk Walk

If you've made the walk between Curtiss Hall and Beardshear Hall in mid-winter you've certainly earned the title Iowa Stater. This time of year, Central Campus is often strewn with snow sculptures, laced with tracks from midnight snowball fights, and crisscrossed by students scurrying to class.

Photograph by Christopher Gannon





GENUINE COMMUNITY

BY CHELSEA DAVIS
ILLUSTRATION BY ELLICE WEAVER

**Iowa State fosters connections
to help all Cyclones find a sense
of belonging on campus.**





COMMUNITY IS ABOUT BELONGING. Often, it begins with a single connection. A similar interest or identity draws two people together. Then, little by little, they expand their boundaries and welcome others. Iowa State University affords its students myriad opportunities, large and small to make connections and build communities.



BELONGING FROM DAY ONE

Learning communities make it easier for first-year students to find a sense of belonging.

These academic communities create a space for students in the same or similar majors to come together outside of class to talk about what they're learning with each other, their professor, and their peer mentors, who are often alumni of the learning community. Together, they participate in social activities, study groups, and community service projects; explore careers; and sometimes even live together (21 academic communities have an assigned residence hall).

What started in 1995 as 12 learning communities serving 400 students has since expanded to 91 learning communities serving more than 6,000 students. That's nearly 90% of first-year students. And the retention rates for learning community students are higher than non-learning community students.

"We see students' first semester as a pivotal time for setting the groundwork for academic connections and social networks they will need not only that first semester, but throughout their time at Iowa State," says director Jennifer Leptien ('02 child, adult, and family services, MFS '05, PhD '12 human development and family studies).

Leptien transferred to Iowa State at 23 years old, knowing no one and not having had freshman community-building experiences. (Today, several colleges at Iowa State offer learning communities for transfer students.) She eventually earned all three degrees at Iowa State.

"It took me awhile to break the ice," she says. "Had I had a learning community, I would have gotten involved faster. It wasn't until I made a connection with a faculty member on a personal level that I realized I was really, truly a Cyclone and part of a bigger community."

SERVING STUDENTS HOLISTICALLY

"None of us are just one thing," says Susan Harper, director of The Center for LGBTQIA+ Student Success. "If we're going to serve students holistically to get them to persist, they have to be seen for everything that they are."

That's why the Center for LGBTQIA+ Student Success is not the only space for queer students on campus, but it is a great starting point for meeting people.

The Center develops academic and personal success, community, and leadership for lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, queer, intersex, asexual, and allied students. The Center offers a spectrum of activities, from large social events such as bingo to individual activities such as crocheting in a quiet corner of the new space in the Memorial Union.

"Every college community needs a balance between organized fun and organic opportunities, and ideally they bleed into each other," Harper says. "My responsibility as an administrator is to provide a variety of entry points for people."

The Center celebrated 30 years this fall. Harper says its established presence on campus is a sign of the enthusiastic support for LGBTQIA+ students at Iowa State. She aims to maintain that support and encourage new avenues, such as an alumni mentor network.

"What can be a fight on other campuses is baked in the cake here," she says. "We have a visible, out-and-proud community of Cyclones."

CREATING COMMUNITY ECOSYSTEMS

That's also the idea behind the Multicultural Center in the Memorial Union.

On Denise Williams-Klotz's first day working at Iowa State in 2008, she attended the Multicultural Center's dedication. Since then, its use has evolved from a formal space to a center specifically geared toward students of color.

The center's meeting room includes three affinity spaces: for Latinx students; Native American/Indigenous students; and Asian American, Pacific Islander and Desi American students.

"Community-building at its most basic level is putting people in situations where they can find commonalities, says Williams-Klotz ('04 psychology, PhD '15 education), interim director of Multicultural Student Affairs. "In practice, that comes down to creating spaces and offering resources."

But, she says, it's not just putting people in a room. "The other part of community-building is creating a whole ecosystem where communities can flourish."

That happens through studies of campus climate. Through student organizations and clubs, which Williams-Klotz calls the "lifeblood" for students. And through programs such as the Academic Program for Excellence (APEX), a summer program that helps multicultural students transition from high school to college.

Williams-Klotz was part of APEX 22 years ago. It's where she met her best friend and where she first found community with other Iowa Staters of color. Since then, she's seen hundreds of students share that experience in the program.

"The lovely thing about Iowa State is some programs change, evolve or go away, but there is that tradition of consistently being able to bring students of color together," she says. "The university very intentionally creates a space for that community to thrive."



BREAKING BARRIERS

For Rita Case, helping military and veteran students build community in college is personal. After her husband was injured in the Army, they were on the verge of homelessness, as they waited on assistance to come through from Veterans Affairs.

Rather than lose everything, Case enlisted in the Navy, served in active duty, and finished her enlistment in the reserves. She devoted herself to empowering military and veteran students, by helping to coordinate GI bills, recruiting veterans to college, convincing a college to start a veterans center, and serving as director.

Case arrived at Iowa State in 2021 to lead the Veterans Center. Now, it has a new name — the Military-Affiliated Student Center — and a new space in the Memorial Union.

The overhaul was about being more inclusive, Case says, since veterans are not the only ones who are students. So are active-duty military and reserves. At any moment, they may need to leave class for VA appointments or entire semesters when called to active duty for weeks or months. But they're not alone, and their experiences are not monolithic.

"There are lots of vets and active military sitting in classrooms that you wouldn't know," Case says. "Part of community-building is trying to encourage students to embrace their full identity, and to help them understand how their military identity intersects with other identities they carry. They should be their full selves wherever they are."

"If we're going to serve students holistically to get them to persist, they have to be seen for everything that they are."



UNITED BY CARDINAL AND GOLD

BY MIKE KRAPFL PHOTOGRAPHY BY DAN MCCLANAHAN

Whether fostering community,
solving big problems,
or spreading school spirit,
today's Cyclones are making
a name for themselves
and Iowa State.

Hilton Coliseum's center court scoreboard read 4:00 to go. The Iowa State men's basketball team, 70; Iowa, 51.

It was December 9, 2021. The crowd was up and ready to clap to the fight song. Erin Lowe, a Cyclone Alley student-leader, took her place on the walkway around the balcony – actually, for her, the track.

The pep band launched, the bass pounding. The crowd kept the beat. The siren wailed.

*O we will fight, fight, fight for Iowa State,
And may her colors ever fly.*

Lowe raised a huge I-State flag, waved it high, and pivoted to run around the coliseum.

Her parents, Iowa State graduates Mark ('88 community and regional planning) and Linda Lowe ('90 accounting) of West Des Moines, recorded the moment — as well as their own cheers.

"Come on, Erin," yelled her dad. "This is it. You've waited your whole life for this, Erin."

"Wooooo!" shouted her mom as Lowe hit the backstretch.

Right on time, just as the music stopped, Lowe finished her run with a hop and a few over-the-head maneuvers, the center of Hilton Magic, waving Iowa State's cardinal and gold.

That flag represents Cyclone athletics. It also represents all Iowa Staters, especially the university's more than 25,000 undergraduates so full of passion, smarts, resilience, and purpose.

Whether in Hilton Coliseum or around the world, all kinds of students, in their own ways, are waving the university banner. You'll meet four of them here, each doing special things to keep the Iowa State colors flying.

THE TIRELESS LEADER

Lowe figures a really good lap around Hilton Coliseum is 46 seconds – "if I don't run into anyone."

("One time I hit a kid and I felt really bad about it.")

Lowe, a graduate of West Des Moines Valley High School, is from a family of (mostly) Cyclones. She's been telling people since seventh grade that she'd be an Iowa State flag runner one day.

"It has been a lifelong dream," she says.

One dream accomplished, Lowe is a senior and in the final steps of preparing for the next one. She's an elementary education major and the recipient of a federal TEACH Grant, the Forever Scholarship, and the Pike Family Education Scholarship among other aid. She's excited to spend the spring semester as a student teacher.

She figures she's ready. There's all that coursework behind her. She's also spent her entire Iowa State career practicing leadership with the Alumni Association's Student Alumni Leadership Council (SALC), including its First Year Leadership League. She joined Cyclone Alley her sophomore year and has been a co-director.

That has meant lots of committee meetings, organizing, learning students' strengths, building relationships, and showing up early to make sure everything is ready for a SALC event or a big game.

"That gave me a way to better connect to the university," Lowe says. "It has been a once-in-a-lifetime experience to see behind the scenes."

By stepping up and running with the opportunities, Lowe now knows that successfully waving the flag for Iowa State means she needs to be halfway around Hilton when Cyclone fans hit that line and sing, "Ev'ry yard for I.S.U."

IOWA STATER ONLINE EXTRA: To watch Abraham's admissions video, cheer Lowe as she rounds the corner in Hilton, read O'Brien's scientific paper, and experience Nichols' art visit www.iowaStater.iastate.edu.



Erin Lowe — a Cyclone Alley leader, flag-runner, and elementary education major inspires Hilton Magic while gaining valuable experience in the ISU Alumni Association's Student Alumni Leadership Council (SALC).

A close-up portrait of Samuel O'Brien, a young man with light brown hair and eyes, wearing a white lab coat over a light blue collared shirt. He is looking directly at the camera with a slight smile.

THE PROBLEM SOLVER

The research paper lists author No. 1 as Samuel O'Brien, Department of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering, Iowa State University.

The paper, published by the scientific journal *Energies* in September 2020, describes a study of burning up dried distillers grains, a co-product of ethanol production, and using the resulting biochar to fuel ethanol plants.

Would that add value to the dried distillers grains? And would that increase the sustainability and profitability of ethanol production?

O'Brien ('22 biological systems engineering), the son of John ('77 animal science) and Sue O'Brien, started asking those kinds of research questions early in his undergraduate days. He's now completing the master's portion of Iowa State's combination bachelor's/master's program in agricultural and biosystems engineering.

Straight out of Waterloo (Iowa) West High School, O'Brien joined the University Honors Program and started meeting faculty mentors and learning about research opportunities. He earned the President's Award for Competitive Excellence and Cardinal Leadership Scholar Award, among others, to help fund his education.

He found his way into the lab of Jacek Koziel, now a professor emeritus of agricultural and biosystems engineering, and went to work. His first job?

"It wasn't what you'd think — it wasn't cleaning beakers," says O'Brien, gesturing toward the shelves of glassware in Koziel's lab on Sukup Hall's fourth floor.

It was working with a visiting professor from Poland, who was modeling the energy cycle of ethanol production, all with the idea of finding efficiencies. That led to studying the implications of turning dried distillers grains into something like coal. It also led to O'Brien earning the university's Undergraduate Research Award.

But will it work?

Well, it "may be a source of new, more valuable revenues and bring new perspectives to the bioethanol industry to be more sustainable and profitable," O'Brien wrote in the research paper.

What's it like to see that first academic paper published?

"It makes things feel more real. You do all the work, all the analyses, the reviewing, and it culminates in a final product. It's published and it's out there."

Samuel O'Brien ('22 biological systems engineering) puts his curiosity to work with world-renowned researchers investigating the ins and outs of ethanol production.

THE UPLIFTING PROMOTER

“BAM!” shouted the event poster showing comic-style drawings of a singer in the foreground and red paint pouring from a bucket in the background. “Black Art Mecca.”

The poster announced “Volume 2” of a Des Moines summer event designed to showcase and inspire Black youth. Like the first event in 2021, this was a mecca featuring Black visual artists, performers, vendors, and food trucks that attracted 500-plus people.

Helping plan and run the show was Kaleb Nichols, a junior working on a bachelor of liberal studies degree with minors in African and African American studies and sociology. The event was part of a budding business, AKYN (a play on akin — to be related by blood), that Nichols started with a friend from his days at Des Moines’ Hoover High School.

“We want to create different programs for Black youth in Des Moines and beyond — and one of our biggest passions is art,” says Nichols.

The son of Cherrisa and Markeith Nichols is quick with answers and yeah, “BAM!,” he brings energy with him.

He’s at Iowa State with the support of his family, scholarships including the Lois Dale Scholarship, Multicultural Vision Program, a federal Pell Grant, and programs including TRIO (outreach and support for income-eligible and first-generation Americans).

“I wanted to be hands-on,” Nichols says. So, he’s building his own major, with a focus on African American studies. “I want to learn about my culture, my people.”

That knowledge will inform his work to plan and promote more music festivals, Juneteenth celebrations, and art meccas.

Nichols says the opportunities at Iowa State are helping him reach his goals. And they’re big ones.

“I want to leave my mark and create everlasting impacts on Black youth.”



Kaleb Nichols, liberal studies, is creating an engaging portfolio of art and events to build community and celebrate African American culture.



Alexandra Abraham, event management, draws on their own mental-health journey to help prospective students find their place at Iowa State.

THE RESILIENT ADVOCATE

“What’s up, y’all,” says Alexandra Abraham, standing on campus in a gray I-State hoody, the white columns of the Enrollment Services Center in the background.

It’s the opening scene of Abraham’s appearance in the Iowa State episode of “The College Tour,” the Amazon Prime television and web series that visits campuses across the country.

“I knew to be successful in college, I needed a university that focused on more than just education,” Abraham continued in the video. “A happy and healthy environment and a strong support system were really important to me.”

Abraham — a sophomore from Novato, California, who’s studying event management, who meets and tours prospective students for the Office of Admissions, and who uses the singular “they/them” — is open about how they faced a string of college struggles and the resources that helped.

Abraham found Iowa State thanks to a website that matches students’ preferences with schools. Abraham and mother, Deena Cunningham, made a trip to Ames and took the campus tour Abraham now gives.

“I really fell in love with campus and the people,” Abraham says.

A “Disney kid” who loves fairy tales, they enrolled and made the move to Ames in the fall of 2018, with ambitions of helping people plan their perfect weddings.

But there were roommate problems. There were issues with Greek life. There were struggles with time management. The stresses led to physical illnesses.

“It was overwhelming,” Abraham says.

But there was also help at the Thielen Student Health Center and Student Counseling Services. Abraham started therapy and found support from campus health providers to manage their illnesses. They managed to get through

that first year and had a strong start to their sophomore year.

Then the stresses of devastating wildfires back home and college life in Ames hit again. Classwork slipped. Getting out of bed was a challenge. Abraham limped to the end of the semester and decided to head home. COVID hit and that led to more time in California, much of it in lockdown.

But these are brighter days. Abraham is back on campus and managing a full course load. ISU Student Counseling Services helped find quality, affordable off-campus therapy. Focusing on mental health is paramount as they welcome future Cyclones.

For Abraham, their admissions work is a way to help prospective students be healthy and happy.

“I love encouraging people to take care of themselves and it’s cool I get to do that in my job every day. Picking the right college is definitely taking care of yourself.”

After graduating in 2020, LAS Success Grant recipient **REGINE PETERS** returned to Iowa State to work with undergraduates from underrepresented backgrounds who are preparing for graduate school.

MOVE WHAT MATTERS



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When financial stress causes college students to leave school, it leads to the loss of a generation of untapped human potential. Completion and emergency grants enable students to remain at Iowa State – and graduate.

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Cyclones Everywhere

ASK CY p33 IOWA STATER BOOK CLUB p34 FUTURE CYCLONES p35 IF YOU'RE HEADED TO NASHVILLE p35 CYCLONE POWER p48



View From The Top

Bryan Schmidt ('08 construction engineering) and his daughter Mia take in the pre-game Step Show by the Cyclone Football "Varsity" Marching Band at the ISU Alumni Center as part of Homecoming 2022 festivities.

Photograph by
Matt Van Winkle

GREETINGS

A joyful gardener

“If we can begin to think of ourselves as gardeners, as shapers of environments rather than makers of people, perhaps we can allow each separate seed to grow and develop and maybe even flower without demanding that all the seeds do everything at the same time and in the same order. Perhaps, as we grow in our self-understanding and self-confidence, we can begin to perceive that each seed is different and we can seek to enable each to become what it is and not try to force it to become something else. Perhaps we can even come to trust that the seed of strength and creativity, the source of life and health and flowering, does indeed lie deep within each person, and by so trusting we will help provide the nurturing that will call forth the seed. Who knows, in time (its own time, not necessarily ours) it may push itself upward, come into its own, and bear much fruit. What greater joy can a gardener have than to witness the variety and splendor of the living plants that responded to such careful attention?” —UNKNOWN

Dear Members:



My wife Peggy and I had the honor of attending a celebration of life service for Iowa State alumna, former Ames resident, and friend Neala Lawrence Benson ('59 journalism) in September at

Prairie Moon Winery. While Neala died in 2020, this beautiful service brought us together to support her husband Chuck ('58 sociology) and their family.

During the service, one of Neala's grandchildren shared the above quote that illustrated Neala's love for gardening and her views on parenting and relationships.

This quote resonated with me in two ways—my love for gardening, and the role of education and educators.

Just look at the fresh faces of the Iowa Staters featured in our cover story. Each of them is making their own future, shaped by the people, programs, and places they

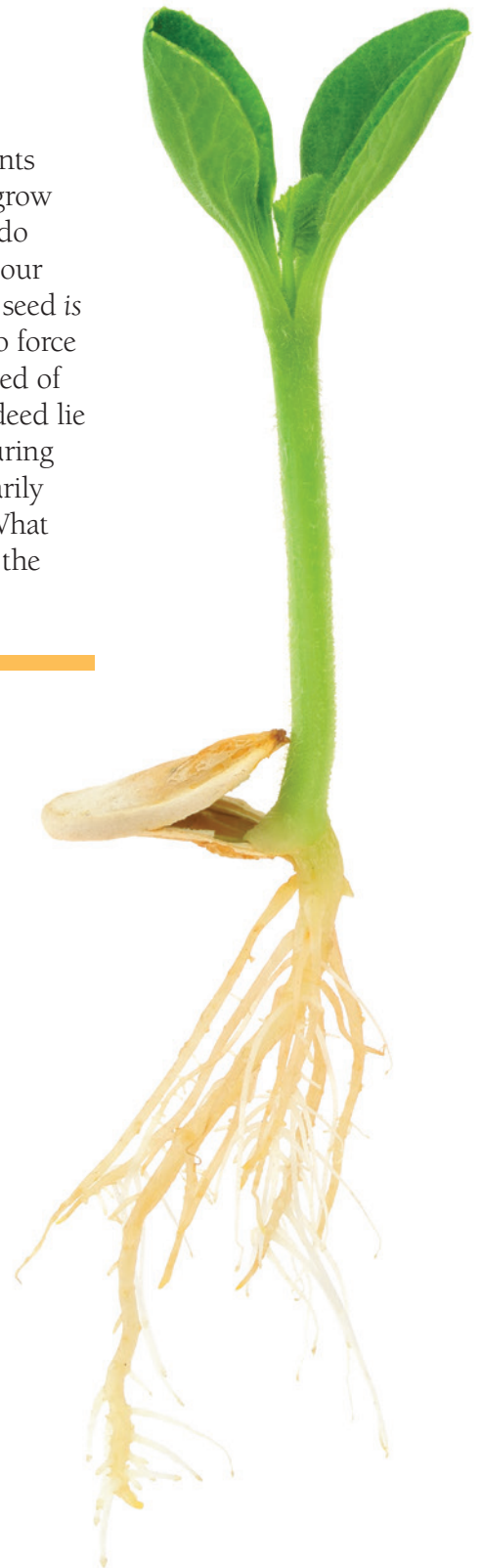
experience thanks to Iowa State.

My journey started here in 1999. Over this time, I've come to know Iowa Staters as many things. The research shows, and I've come to agree, that at our core we are innovative, collaborative, and inclusive—that's surely true for the Iowa Staters in this, our premiere issue, and for most all Iowa Staters I encounter.

As Iowa State has shaped our environments and experiences, we've each borne our own unique fruit. It's with great joy that we bring to you Iowa Stater magazine as a way to celebrate the impressive efforts and meaningful stories of Cyclones everywhere growing, developing, and blooming. I encourage you to keep nurturing our values of innovation, collaboration, and inclusivity.

Indeed, what greater joy?
Yours for Iowa State,

JEFF JOHNSON, PHD '14
TALBOT ENDOWED PRESIDENT AND CEO



3 THINGS YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT...

Amanda Matchett

('08 INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS AND MARKETING), MEMBER OF THE ISU ALUMNI ASSOCIATION'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND SENIOR COUNSEL AT WORKDAY IN MINNEAPOLIS

**What drew you to the legal profession?**

There are a lot of good things about being a lawyer including the diversity of career opportunities — not all lawyers work in a courtroom! I work for a software company negotiating deals, and I love being a woman of color in the technology industry. I also teach courses at two of the law schools in the Twin Cities and enjoy mentoring the next generation of lawyers.

Theater nerd or film buff?

Theater nerd! I have season tickets to the Orpheum Theater where I catch all the touring Broadway musicals—I have seen Hamilton four times! I also have season tickets to the Guthrie Theater. I even took a musical theater course there which helped me realize the audience is exactly where I belong!

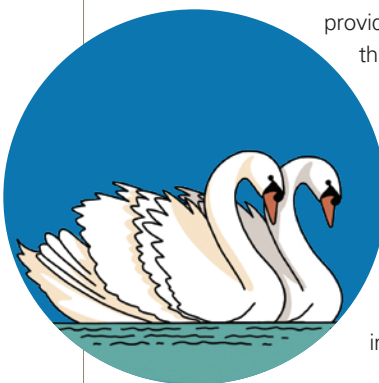
What causes inspire you to serve others and how?

I have done pro-bono work in immigration and criminal law and serve on two volunteer boards of directors in addition to the ISU Alumni Association: the Minnesota Association of Black Lawyers and Blueprint Campaigns which helps those from underrepresented populations run for office. I have chaired the Human Rights Committee of the Minnesota State Bar Association and served on the St. Paul Chamber of Commerce, the Minnesota Black Chamber of Commerce, Institute for Clinical Systems Improvement Patient Advisory Council, and was appointed by the governor of Minnesota to the state's compensation council for public attorneys.

ASK CY

What happens to Iowa State's swans Lancelot and Elaine during the brisk Iowa winter?

A. Lake LaVerne's snow-colored residents are naturally equipped to withstand cold temperatures. But even with that caveat, since 1995, ISU has used an aeration system to keep portions of the lake from freezing so the swans can swim, and provided supplemental feed to nourish them throughout the winter. One of the female swans who made up half of the iconic duo died of natural causes in June 2022 and the other has retired after homecoming this fall taking up residence in a nearby private pond. Faculty, staff, and consultants are carefully studying the lake's condition in preparation for the return of a new pair of swans following any needed improvements.



I have heard so many good things about ISUAA LegaCY Camp. My grandchildren are interested in attending. When is the next one and how do I get my family registered?

A. LegaCY Camp, tailored to children ages 7 to 14 and their grandparents or extended family members, is the perfect way to show your young Cyclone a day in the life of an Iowa State student! Learn about various majors on campus through interactive tours, hands-on activities, and field trips with ISU faculty, staff, and students. LegaCY Camp 2023 will be July 20–21 and registration is available at: www.ISUalum.org/LegacyCamp.

Illustration by Jenny Witte

Have a question for Cy?

Share it on social @isualum or email iowastater@iastate.edu.

IOWA STATER BOOK CLUB

**Ball Boy**

PAUL SHIRLEY

('00 MECHANICAL ENGINEERING)
FORMER CYCLONE BASKETBALL
AND NBA PLAYER

Ball Boy follows the adventures of Gray Taylor, a 14-year-old who discovers basketball when his mother moves them from Los Angeles to Beaudelaire, a small town in Kansas. Taylor uses basketball to become someone people notice and later to save the town. Ball Boy is a book about growing up, about the importance of community, and about the power of finding the thing that makes you feel special.

About the Author

Shirley is the author of two humor memoirs, a novel, and a how-to book. He has written for ESPN.com, Slate, Esquire, The Wall Street Journal, and www.FlipCollective.com, a website for writers he founded.

Virtual discussion date:

February 2, 7 p.m. CT.

Sign up at

www.ISUalum.org/bookclub

CYCLONE STORIES: TOM HALL AND PIERRE AKA

Brothers in Arms

Enlisting in the military wasn't on Tom Hall's radar until his best friend became a Green Beret.

"I was really mad," Hall ('15 political science) remembers. "I went down to the recruiting office with my friend to talk him out of it. I walked out, and I had enlisted, too. It was during the surge in Iraq, and Afghanistan was heating up. I couldn't let my best friend go off to war on his own."

Now a senior program manager at Veritas Technologies in Minnesota, Hall started training as an Army Ranger in January 2008. He was deployed to Afghanistan twice before being honorably discharged in 2012.

That year, Hall — a diehard Hawkeye fan — shocked his family when he chose to attend Iowa State.

His first year, he joined the football team as a defensive end — becoming one of only three veterans in the country at the time to play at the NCAA Division I level. He recalls fondly

sharing stories with his teammates about his time in the military.

"Many football players want to go do something that's perceived as really bad ass," Hall says. "Physically, you're going to get pushed in a completely different way in the military than you are in football. Mentally, you might break."

Due to injuries and classwork, he would end up only playing one season, but those stories would forever change the life of one Cyclone.

Teammate Pierre Aka ('16 liberal studies) would go on to don a Green Beret just as Hall's best friend had years before. Hall flew out to Fort Bragg to show support for his now brother-in-arms during Aka's graduation this summer.

"He went down one of the hardest, most challenging routes," Hall says. "It just made sense to go see him."

—MATT VAN WINKLE





1. Jaxon: Submitted by Alexander Thomason
2. Jaira and Bishop: Submitted by Ra Shaan ('06 management) and Jodi Long
3. Elizabetta: Submitted by Jay Olson
4. Tyson: Submitted by Sean Davis and Jaici Lueders
5. Easton: Submitted by Lauren Wood
6. Piper and Parker, posing with Cyclone Football safety Anthony Johnson Jr.: Submitted by Candice ('06 meteorology) and Drew Liljedahl

Future Cyclones

These little Iowa Staters are showing off their true colors!

Parents, grandparents, aunts, and uncles who are members of the ISUAA can enroll their little Cyclone in the LegaCY club to receive age-appropriate gifts from time of enrollment until age 18 for a one-time fee of \$35. Email legacy-club@iastate.edu for details or visit www.ISUalum.org/Legacy.

To submit a photo of future Cyclones for Iowa Stater magazine visit www.ISUalum.org/ShareCycloneStories

IF YOU'RE HEADED TO...

Nashville, TN

NASHVILLE TRANSPLANT AMY STARK ('19 GENETICS) OFFERS HER TOP SEVEN THINGS TO DO IN MUSIC CITY.



- For the quintessential Nashville, spend a few hours enjoying live music and drinks at the Broadway Honky Tonks. They're a party by day, a crazier party by night.
- Walk across the pedestrian bridge toward Nissan Stadium for the best skyline photo-opp.
- Stop by Assembly Food Hall to find some of the best local restaurants in the city. Prince's Hot Chicken is my pick (but may be spicier than you expect)!
- Grab coffee at Three Brothers and head across the street to explore Centennial Park, site of Nashville's full-scale replica of the Greek Parthenon built for the 1897 Tennessee Centennial and International Exposition.
- Enjoy brunch at Frothy Monkey on 12 South, or hit Pancake Pantry or Fido in Hillsboro Village followed by boutique shopping. Don't miss the murals here and in the Gulch!
- Catch a show at the Ryman Auditorium, the Grand Ole Opry, or both!
- For an easy-going night out, check out our local brewery scene. My favorites are Bearded Iris, Southern Grist, Diskin Cider, and Jackalope.



HOMEC

STUDENT-POWERED, TIME-HONORED TRADITIONS KEEP

HOMEC



COMING ALUMNI COMING BACK. LIVING

BY MELEA REICKS LICHT PHOTOGRAPHS BY MATT VAN WINKLE



IT'S THE EVE OF THE HOMECOMING PEP RALLY.

The stage is set. Top performers from the week's competitions and VIP alumni speakers are ready to take the mic. Outdoor games and activities and spirit-boosting cardinal and gold pompoms and light wands are at the ready.

Bradleigh Schaefer and Drew Moine co-chair this signature Friday night event at the ISU Alumni Center. Together they and their crew have dreamed, prepped, and planned for months, crafting the outdoor celebration to attract hundreds to thousands of Iowa Staters.

"People love to be a part of the Pep Rally, so the planning has been simple," Schaefer says. "The hard part came when we saw the weather forecast this week."

A low of 37 degrees and 100% chance of rain.

They put out the call to students, staff, and the Ames community for tents, patio heaters, and sandbags and sourced hundreds of ponchos and hand-warmers to keep their guests comfortable. They revised and rewrote plans. If worse came to worse and lightning appeared, they would move the event inside and provide a livestream.

"We learned a lot about working together as a team, relying on each



Homecoming co-director Ian Johnson (below), teamed up with Bradleigh Schaefer and Drew Moine (far left), Claire Franciskato and Shay Sargent (center), and more than 55 other undergrads in the Student Alumni Leadership Council to plan and host ISU Homecoming activities.



other, our plans, and our leadership abilities," says Schaefer, a junior in agricultural communications and journalism and mass communications from Cambridge, Illinois, and a member of Alpha Delta Pi.

Moine is a senior in management of information systems from Nashua, Iowa. Both say friendships and the opportunity to celebrate Iowa State motivated them to become a part of Homecoming Central.

Thirty-five students make up Homecoming Central, a committee of the ISU Alumni Association's Student Alumni Leadership Council (SALC – formerly the Student Alumni Association). Homecoming subcommittee members, or Cy Squad, total 26. Together, they plan and implement most aspects of Iowa State's 110-year-old tradition.

Moine says he gained a good foundation in leadership via the ISU Alumni Association's First Year Leadership League (a program SALC launched in 2019). He had so much fun, he signed up for Homecoming Central to stay involved.

"Homecoming is more than just a football game," he says. "It's a great opportunity for current students and alumni to come together and celebrate what Iowa State has done for them and people they've met here. People are invested in each other and want the entire week, not

just their event, to be successful — for each other but also for Iowa State."

Initial plans for Homecoming 2022 started a year prior. Students log five to 10 hours of committee work, planning, and communication each week for months leading up to the event.

Lauren Snyder and Ian Johnson are Homecoming Central co-directors. Snyder is a senior in event management and public relations from Carroll, Iowa. Johnson is a junior in animal science from Marysville, Ohio, and a member of Alpha Gamma Rho.

The duo keeps Homecoming Central on track by coordinating with the university and alumni association and checking in regularly with subcommittees and event chairs.

Snyder joined Homecoming Central after learning about the event in her dorm as a freshman.

"I wish students knew you didn't have to be in a fraternity or sorority to be in homecoming — that's just the points competition. So many events aren't point-related. Yell Like Hell and most all our events are open to all," she says.

Snyder's grown a lot this year. She's learned to navigate bureaucracy, communicate with university and city officials, and address problems head on. She admits she's also gotten better about keeping her cool.



Homecoming co-director Lauren Snyder, Emily Moffit, Kasey Krieger, Grace Wegner (above), and John Mortimer (center) were just a few of the many Food on Campus volunteers who served more than 7,000 meals during ISU Homecoming week. Calissa Weers and Katie Carlson (far right) helped snag photos and run social media on the public relations committee.



“I’m less impulsive about responding when I get fired up and stressed,” Snyder says. “Now I can take a step back, think, then respond.”

Kaley Severn is manager of student programs for the ISU Alumni Association. She’s watched Snyder’s growth firsthand, and that of many students in Homecoming Central.

Running meetings, bringing a group to consensus, troubleshooting event management issues, creating a budget, landing and keeping sponsors, sales and marketing, and risk management are all examples of the type of career-ready skills students hone while planning and hosting one of Iowa State’s most beloved traditions.

“When students run into a problem,

they know it’s their responsibility to solve it, but not at the risk of their personal safety,” Severn says. “I encourage them to use all the resources available, including their peers, to see if they can solve it themselves. Then, if they’re still struggling, I’m there for them.”

Severn (’21 event management), was involved in homecoming as a student. She was a painted participant in Yell Like Hell among other events.

While the weather turned taxing for this year’s team, she says they rose to the challenge and drew crowds of Iowa Staters at events throughout the week. They served more than 7,000 Food on Campus meals and even the rain couldn’t dampen Cyclone spirit at the Pep Rally.

“Whether it be working with a group, overcoming roadblocks, or their own insecurities, there were several moments this week when I saw students dig deep and overcome. The new kick-off event is a perfect example. Those students had to keep adjusting their plans because of factors outside their control. Starting with the 5K that morning, the kick-off event, and tournaments, Sunday was a 15-hour-day, and they all still loved each other at the end!”

Homecoming is funded by ISU Student Government, the ISU Alumni Association, and the Julie Larson Student Leadership Programs Endowment with support from exclusive homecoming housing sponsor Campustown.

3 WAYS HOMECOMING HELPED IN 2022

On top of celebrating Cyclone pride, Homecoming Central also plans service activities to benefit the Ames community.



225+

handwritten cards sent to nursing home residents in Ames



2,068

5k participants raised \$21,147 for Lutheran Services of Iowa



16,670

16,670 pounds of canned food and hygiene items were collected for United Way

CYCLONE SWEETHEARTS

"Want a hand?"

It was like a scene from a rom-com.

"I was knee-deep in garbage. It was 6 a.m. on a Sunday, and I was dragging loaded plastic bags of garbage out of my dorm, Linden Hall, toward the dumpster when he showed up," says Cheryl Stritzel McCarthy.

Cheryl had landed this part-time, week-end custodian job a few months earlier and had been delighted by the extra cash. But now it was early winter 1979, cold and blustery.

"I heard Bob say, 'Want a hand with those?' as he grabbed a bag from the dozens piled around me. He helped me toss every last one over the rim, smiling a smile that could melt the ice under our feet. Then he held out his hand and asked me to breakfast. I said yes, and tucked my hand into his," she says.

The two had gone on a date the week prior, but it was the impromptu garbage toss that Cheryl remembers as the moment Bob won her heart. They've been holding hands ever since.

Cheryl ('81 journalism and mass communications) and Bob ('81 electrical engineering) returned to Ames to marry at St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church in 1983 and held their reception in the Great Hall of the Memorial Union.

Since then, they've shared 39 years of marriage, a dozen job-related moves (some international), three daughters, three sons-in-law, three grandchildren (and counting), and "many, many episodes of taking out the garbage together."

The McCartys were named 2022 Homecoming Cyclone Sweethearts and honored at the Homecoming Pep Rally on Nov. 4.



Photograph by Matt Van Winkle

SUPERSTAR CYCLONE

“Well, Earle, we’re the varsity band”

Randy Dop ('81 computer engineering) is not only part of the first class to complete his degree program, but he was also part of the first ISU Alumni Band in 1981.

Including his time as an undergrad and alum, 2022 marks his 44th performance. The only year missing? 2020—the year the ISU Alumni Band did not perform due to COVID-19 precautions.

“The Alumni Band is definitely my biggest tie to Iowa State. At first it was the idea of getting to march after graduation, but then it became about the people and the friendships,” Dop says.

Dop settled in Bloomington, Minnesota, following graduation and spent his career in tech helping people navigate change — from hard disc drives the size of a small washing machine to the implementation of email.

His list of band stories is long, but his clear favorite is how the marching band came to be known as the Cyclone Football “Varsity” Marching Band.

“We used to clean up the stadium after performances to help earn money, and it was dirty business,” Dop says. “One year our director gave us permission to use the locker rooms to get cleaned up, but the message didn’t make it to Head Coach Earle Bruce. It was late—like early morning late—by the time we were done, and he came busting into the locker room in his boxers and sock garters demanding to know what we were doing in the varsity locker room. My best friend Tim Jensen ('85 political science, MPA '86) replied, ‘Well, Earle, we’re the varsity band.’”

A legend was born.

Dop says the level of excellence of the Cyclone Football “Varsity” Marching Band continues to rise. He and his family are proud to invest in its future by supporting two students in the marching band each year via the Dop Family Scholarship.

Photograph by Christopher Gannon



91st Annual Honors & Awards

Presented Nov. 4, 2022, CY Stephens Auditorium

Dessert reception sponsored by the Tahira and Labh Hira ISUAA Honors & Awards Fund.

MEMORIAL UNION AWARD Harold Pride Service Medallion

Kevin Drury

('83 AGRICULTURAL BUSINESS)
owner and president
Hedlin Ag Enterprises
Ankeny, IA

COLLEGE AWARDS AGRICULTURE & LIFE SCIENCES

Floyd Andre Award

Robert Rust

professor emeritus and meat
science extension specialist
Iowa State University
Ames, IA

George Washington Carver Distinguished Service Award

Christopher Nelson

president and chief executive
officer, Kemin Industries
Cumming, IA

Henry A. Wallace Award

Bill Northey

('81 AGRICULTURAL BUSINESS)
chief executive officer
Agribusiness Association of Iowa
Urbandale, IA

Outstanding Young Professional Award

Amanda (Taylor) De Jong

('02 AGRICULTURAL BUSINESS)
head of government affairs and
policy engagement
Pivot Bio, Rhodes, IA

IVY COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Citation of Achievement

Christi Shaw

('88 MARKETING)
chief executive officer
Kite Pharma, Santa Monica, CA

Citation of Achievement

Jill Klindt

('98 ACCOUNTING)
chief financial officer, senior
vice president, chief accounting
officer, Workiva, Ames, IA

John D. DeVries Service Award

Doug Lenhart

('15 MBA)
vice president, global sourcing
Chevron Renewable Energy
Group, Ames, IA

Outstanding Young Alumni Award

Jake Van Diest

('12 ECONOMICS, FINANCE, '14 MBA)
president and chief execu-
tive officer, Van Diest Supply
Company, Webster City, IA

Russ & Ann Gerdin Award

Rick Dark

emeritus associate professor
Iowa State University
Colorado Springs, CO

DESIGN

Christian Petersen

Design Award

Kevin W. Monson

('73 ARCHITECTURE)
retired principal and board chair
Neumann Monson Architects
Iowa City, IA

Deb Pulver and the late Bob Pulver

DEB ('81 INTERIOR DESIGN)
founder
Strands of Strength
West Des Moines, IA

Design Achievement Award

Tobin Tracey

('85 ARCHITECTURE; '86 BARCH)
director, Office of Cultural
Heritage, U.S. Department
of State Bureau of Overseas
Building Operations
Alexandria, VA

Outstanding Young Professional Award

Caroline Freese

('16 BFA INTEGRATED STUDIO ARTS)
owner
Caroline Freese Designs LLC
Indianola, IA

Bethany Jordan

('11 BARCH)
project architect, Martin
Gardner Architecture
Marion, IA

ENGINEERING

Anson Marston Medal

Max Porter

('65 CIVIL ENGINEERING, MS '68 STRUC-
TURAL ENGINEERING, PHD '74)
university professor emeritus
Iowa State University
Ames, IA

Mark Lashier

('85 CHEMICAL ENGINEERING, PHD '89)
president and chief executive
officer, Phillips 66
The Woodlands, TX

Professional Achievement Citation in Engineering

Laura Brooks Maxwell

('89 INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING)
senior vice president of supply
chain, PepsiCo Foods North
America, Dallas, TX

Professional Achievement Citation in Engineering

Chris Ellison

('00 CHEMICAL ENGINEERING)
Zsolt Rummy Innovation Chair
of Chemical Engineering and
Materials Science
University of Minnesota
Minneapolis, MN

Young Alumni Award

Samarjit Das

(PHD '10 ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING)
principal researcher/senior
manager, Bosch Research
Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA

HUMAN SCIENCES

Alumni Achievement Award

Michael Benitez, Jr.

(PHD '15 EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP &
POLICY STUDIES)
vice president of diversity and
inclusion, Metropolitan State
University of Denver
Denver, CO

Laura Brannen West

(MFS '10 FAMILY FINANCIAL PLANNING)
founder and managing partner
West Financial Advisors, LLC
West Des Moines, IA

Helen LeBaron Hilton Award

Jacquelyn E. (Jacque) Andrew

('74 HOME ECONOMICS JOURNALISM)
retired director of community
relations, Greene County
Medical Center
Jefferson, IA

Virgil S. Lagomarcino Laureate Award

Laura Doering

(MS '99 EDUCATION)
associate vice president for
enrollment management
Iowa State University
Ankeny, IA

Outstanding Young Professional Award

Michael Montgomery

('16 ATHLETIC TRAINING)
assistant athletic trainer
New Orleans Pelicans
Metairie, LA

LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCES

Citation of Merit Award

Dr. Dan Fulton

('04 BIOLOGY)
infectious disease physician
McFarland Clinic, Ames, IA

Distinguished Service Award

Mary Greeley Medical Center and McFarland Clinic

Ames, IA

Carrie Chapman Catt Public Engagement Award

Dr. Lauren S. Hughes

('02 ZOOLOGY AND SPANISH)
state policy director
Farley Health Policy Center,
University of Colorado
Aurora, CO

Young Alumni Award

Zach Johnson

('09 JOURNALISM & MASS COMMUNICATION)
senior communications specialist, The Walt Disney Company
Los Angeles, CA

Maggie Luttrell Roby

('09 HISTORY, WOMEN'S STUDIES, '11 EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP & POLICY STUDIES)
lead, Cargill Animal Nutrition North America SAP Process Implementation and Management associate program manager, Cargill Nutrition & Health, Overland Park, KS

Tom Schenk Jr.

('07 ECONOMICS)
managing director, KPMG
Chicago, IL

VETERINARY MEDICINE

Outstanding Young Alumni Award

Dr. Aubrey Cordray

(DVM '14)
owner and veterinarian
Humboldt Veterinary Clinic
Humboldt, IA

Lorraine J. Hoffman Graduate Alumni Award

Dr. Howard Hill

(MS '73 MICROBIOLOGY, PHD '74)
livestock producer and veterinarian
Breeze Hill Farm, LLC
Cambridge, IA

William P. Switzer Award in Veterinary Medicine

Dr. Liz Wagstrom

(DVM '99, MS '00 PREVENTIVE MEDICINE)
retired chief veterinarian
National Pork Producers Council
Faribault, MN

Stange Award for Meritorious Service

Dr. Amy Baker

(MS '97 GENETICS, MS '02 ANIMAL SCIENCE, DVM '02, PHD '04 IMMUNOBIOLOGY)
research veterinary medical officer, USDA-ARS National Disease Center, Huxley, IA

Dr. Jim Roth

(DVM '75, MS '79 IMMUNOBIOLOGY, PHD '81)
Clarence Hartley Covault Distinguished Professor
ISU College of Veterinary Medicine, Ames, IA

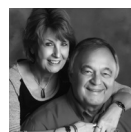
Dr. Frederick Douglass Patterson

(1923 DVM, 1927 MS)
Posthumously

Only ISU degrees are listed.

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AWARDS

Alumni Medal



Mick and Judy Guttai

MICK ('69 FARM OPERATIONS), CHAIR OF THE BOARD
JUDY ('68 HOME ECONOMICS EDUCATION)
SECRETARY OF THE BOARD
TS Banking Group
Treyner, IA



Thea (Ted) Oberlander

('77 INDUSTRIAL ADMINISTRATION - ACCOUNTING)
retired certified public accountant
Des Moines, IA

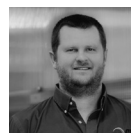
Alumni Humanitarian Award



Guor Mading Maker

('11 CHEMISTRY)
Colorado Springs, CO

Outstanding Young Alumni Award



Martin Gross

('11 BIOLOGY, MS '13 FOOD SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY, PHD '15 AGRICULTURAL & BIOSYSTEMS ENGINEERING, FOOD SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY)
chief executive officer
Gross-Wen Technologies
Boone, IA



Cristobal Salinas Jr.

(MED '12 HIGHER EDUCATION & STUDENT AFFAIRS, PHD '15 EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP)
associate professor
Florida Atlantic University
Fort Lauderdale, FL

James A. Hopson Alumni Service Award



Nicole Schmidt

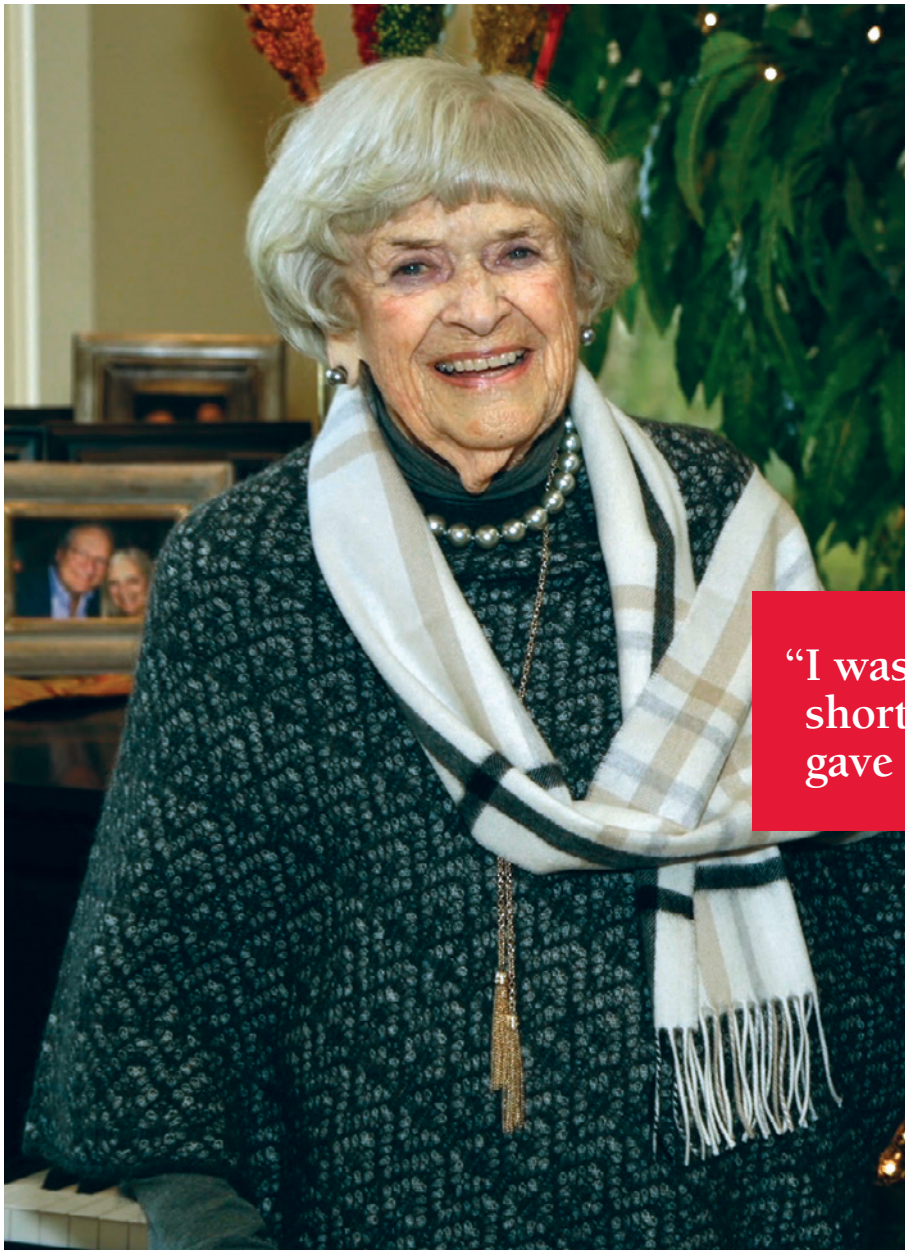
('09 CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING, MS '13 CIVIL ENGINEERING)
senior project manager
Turner Construction
Ankeny, IA

Alumni Service Award



Dr. Wendell L. Davis

(DVM '75)
retired senior project manager, research and development
Bayer Animal Health
Overland Park, KS



Robert Wilson ('42 animal science) who served four years in the war following graduation.

"I wasn't particularly bookish," she admits. "There was so much going on."

While she didn't end up finishing her degree, she has maintained a strong connection to Cyclone nation.

"I was only at Iowa State a short time, but Iowa State gave me lifelong friends."

Wilson turned 100 earlier this year and considers her health and "lovely homelife" her greatest successes. She and Robert have five children, 13 grandchildren, 23 great-grandchildren, and three great-great-grandchildren.

"I was only at Iowa State a short time, but Iowa State gave me lifelong friends."

"My longevity has been a long-time investment in happiness, true happiness—not just this and that that's fun. My husband was a strong force. He was really quite a catch."

Though she didn't graduate, Wilson and her husband remained connected to Iowa State through the Traveling Cyclones, which was like a classroom of sorts opening the world to them in their later years.

"Traveling with Iowa State was so broadening education-wise and pleasurable. We passed up very few trips. They were lovely, well run, and always the best of class," she says.

A former football season ticket holder, Wilson now keeps up with the Cyclones via television and says, "hopefully they can keep their name on the map!"

"I am quite honored to be a part of Iowa State," says Wilson, a life member of the ISU Alumni Association. "It's been a lovely ride." —MELEA REICKS LICHT

CYCLONE STORIES: VIOLA WILSON / OVERLAND PARK, KANSAS

Lifelong Connections

Iowa State in the 1940s was full of big band music, dances, picnics, and parties. Yet looming over all of it was WWII, and the knowledge that service awaited every man following graduation.

Such was the case for Viola Wilson, who studied home economics. She fondly remembers picnics by College Creek, her connections with fellow Pi Phis and being nominated as a military queen by her soon-to-be husband

The Right Decisions

It's been 81 years since Verne Harms ('49 chemical engineering) showed up at Iowa State one day in 1941, sight unseen, hoping to attend classes. This was long before entrance exams — and application processes were laxer. All he knew was ISU was the place he wanted to be.

"Iowa State was considered among the best in the nation," Harms says. "It

had a distillation tower and a complete soybean oil extraction plant. Other schools didn't have that."

He had to have his high school records special delivered, but Harms got in. Shortly after, he enlisted in the Navy and WWII called. He left ISU to serve as an electronics technician at sea and to teach at Oklahoma A&M, where he met his wife, Clee.

"There wasn't anything electronic I

couldn't repair," Harms says. "I relished going to work every day. They sent me to teacher's training, and I enjoyed training many people."

After the war, he returned to Iowa State, and completed his degree on the GI Bill.

Harms fondly remembers his Ames apartment—119 North Hyland Ave.—where he and his roommates liked to play football on the lawn. They were pretty good at it too, winning the house football championship, "beating those SAEs" (he was a member of Delta Chi).

"Iowa State opened my life to a greater career than I ever thought possible," he says.

That career spanned decades working with Standard Oil of Indiana and Amoco Chemical, and allowed Harms and Clee to move around the country, before putting down roots in Houston in 1971 — where they have lived ever since. They have two daughters, two grandchildren, and 10-great-grandchildren.

This year, Harms turned 100, and he credits many of the decisions he's made over the years for his longevity.

"I never smoked in my life. I drank alcohol extremely minorly. I never liked booze. Though we did make our own beer during the depression," Harms says. "I ran 1,000 steps in place every day before work. I was always biking. I played baseball until I was 39 years old."

"I married a fabulous wife — we've been married 77 years. She's been an absolutely joy to live with. Of all things, that was the best deal I've ever made."

—MELEA REICKS LIGHT



2021–2022 Year in Review

Number cruncher?
Find more financial
info about your ISU
Alumni Association.



254

New and upgraded life
members who joined
during the first-ever
January Flash Sale

117

New members who joined
during the Inaugural Join
in July

4,601

Students who became FAN (Future
Alumni Network) members

3,069

New members who joined in
2021–2022

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Iowa State
University enrolled participants from

71 Iowa cities

34 Iowa counties, and

23 additional states



ISUAA presents
Cyclones IN THE CITY



A spotlight on
Kansas City

Launched Cyclones in the City
with the first event in Kansas
City this June



327

TRAVELING
CYCLONES

(compared to 18 in 2020–2021) with 203 people attend-
ing the Travel Preview event at the Alumni Center

ISU Alumni live in

99

Iowa counties

50

states and

153

countries

representing Cyclones Everywhere



Increased social
media engagement
by 47% hitting
5.8 million social
media impressions



ALUMNI CENTER GATHERINGS & CELEBRATIONS

2021–2022

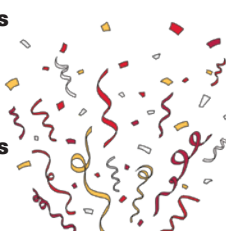
298 reservations

8 weddings

2020–2021

178 reservations

4 weddings



Donor gifts to
the ISU Alumni
Association
totaled
\$2,696,101 to
support alumni
outreach, pro-
gramming, and
events, as well
as student lead-
ership programs



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Illustrations by Jenny Witte



Photo credit: Ruth Sweet Photography



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ALUMNI
ISU ALUMNI CENTER

www.ISUalum.org/Weddings

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Breece Hall

Fueled by determination

Breece Hall, two-time All-American running back, set a new NCAA record while playing at Iowa State from 2019–2021, becoming the first player to rush for a touchdown in 24 consecutive games. Now, the Wichita, Kansas, native is playing for the New York Jets — and came out as an early season team leader in carries and rushing yards. Sidelined by an ACL tear in week seven, Hall hopes to return next season.

When things get tough, where do you draw strength?

For me, I'm self motivated. I've always wanted to be the best. When stuff gets hard, if I'm tired or if I'm hurting, I just talk to myself and I say, 'Do you want to be great?'

How do you define success?

I find success being internally happy with what I'm doing and where I'm at. I always want to

be the best at what I do. If I'm happy and my family's good — then I'm always going to be good regardless of the situation.

What does being an Iowa Stater mean to you?

Coach Campbell asked me during the recruiting process, 'Do you want to come here to be someone, or do you want to come here to do something?' I felt like me coming to Iowa State showed a Cyclone could be someone who never gives up, somebody who doesn't have to have all the means, but somebody who is willing to get the job done, doing it any way they can. Coach Campbell and I always said we have a five-star culture. That culture is big on just being there for each other, being a family, never backing down, and just showing up every day and doing your part in the work.

—MATT VAN WINKLE

For more from Breece Hall visit
www.iowaStater.iastate.edu.

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