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[Aliens](#) ·

Spanning 10 square miles (26 square kilometers) in the Colorado Desert near Blythe, California, the Blythe Intaglios are an extraordinary collection of over 200 ancient geoglyphs.

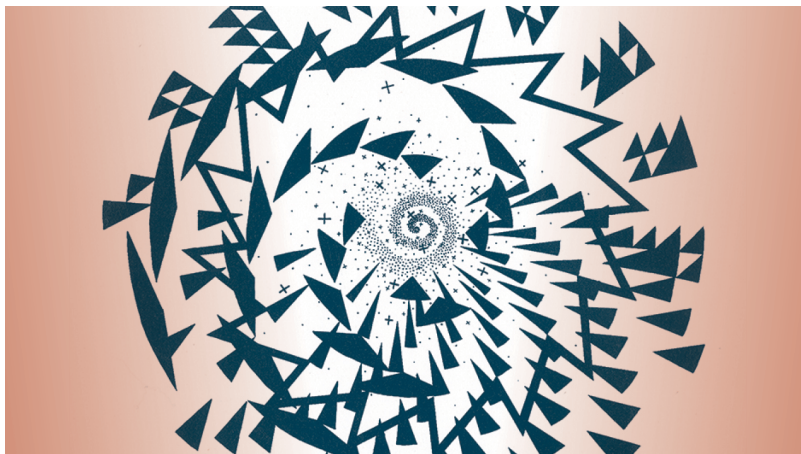
These massive designs feature human figures, animals, and intricate geometric patterns, created by removing the dark surface stones to expose the lighter soil below.

This simple yet enduring technique has preserved the geoglyphs for millennia. Among the most striking is a human figure stretching over 170 feet (52 meters) in length, discernible only from the air.

**Believed to have been crafted by indigenous peoples between 200 BCE and 900 CE, the purpose of these enigmatic figures remains a mystery.**

While archaeologists speculate that they may have served religious or ceremonial roles, no surviving records or oral traditions clarify their significance.

The Blythe Intaglios continue to captivate both researchers and visitors, offering a glimpse into the symbolic and artistic expressions of early desert societies...



## **Threads of Tradition: Community Day**

*Threads of Tradition: Celebrating 25 Years of the Great Basin Native Basketweavers*, a gathering organized by GBNBA and presented at the Nevada Museum of Art, invites the general public to a day of demonstrations, talks and performances related to the traditions of basket weaving. Shop at vendor booths featuring unique Indigenous art, baskets, jewelry and specialty items.

This FREE community event celebrates Indigenous heritage and basket weaving traditions of the Great Basin.

\*If you are a GBNBA Member or part of the Tribal Community and want to register for workshops, learn more about *Threads of Tradition: Tribal Member Day* here.

April 26, 2025

10 am – 4 pm FREE FREE ADMISSION

[Register](#)



**Department of Interior approves federal trust status for site of new Bay Area casino**

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**The best actually real stuff at CES 2025**

From overly fancy TVs to tiny AI supercomputers, here's the best stuff I saw in Vegas.  
By [David Pierce](#), editor-at-large and Vergecast co-host with over a decade of experience covering consumer tech. Previously, at Protocol, The Wall Street Journal, and Wired.  
[https://www.theverge.com/2025/1/12/24340864/ces-2025-tvs-nvidia-ai-gaming-installer?utm\\_source=firefox-newtab-en-us](https://www.theverge.com/2025/1/12/24340864/ces-2025-tvs-nvidia-ai-gaming-installer?utm_source=firefox-newtab-en-us)

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**Hidden "continental-size lake" discovered in Oregon**

An enormous underground water store containing three times the volume of Lake Mead has been discovered hidden underneath the Oregon Cascades.  
Read in Newsweek: [https://apple.news/AcUPcLGKrRpeWE\\_RpCxQ5Hg](https://apple.news/AcUPcLGKrRpeWE_RpCxQ5Hg)

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**Biden opens federal land for AI development**

President Joe Biden on Tuesday signed an executive order that opens federal land for private development of infrastructure and the energy supply needed to create advanced artificial intelligence models in the United States. [Read more...](#)

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**Union Pacific Interns**

Year-round interns are based at Union Pacific Center (UPC) headquarters in Omaha, Nebraska, and can expect to work about 15-20 hours per week during the school year and full-time over the summer. Hybrid interns spend their summer working full-time at UPC and 15-20 hours per week, working remotely from their campus, during the school year. Summer interns spend their summer working full-time at UPC. <https://up.jobs/go/Internships/9301100/>

See Also: [https://up.jobs/job/SPARKS-Track-Laborer-Regional-Driver-Reno%2C-NV-NV-89000/1204591900/?user\\_email=9a01a9f6b5fe3e9c050c44f92ee87498dda5547dfdc058bd2b80d77133b21df5~~~~~](https://up.jobs/job/SPARKS-Track-Laborer-Regional-Driver-Reno%2C-NV-NV-89000/1204591900/?user_email=9a01a9f6b5fe3e9c050c44f92ee87498dda5547dfdc058bd2b80d77133b21df5~~~~~)

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**ICYMI:• Biden admin moves to shield Nevada public lands from mining with support of tribes, local leaders.** The Biden administration on Tuesday announced new protections for nearly 270,000 acres of public land in Nevada from mining and related activities, underscoring a win for local advocates, tribal leaders, and conservationists who argued the move would have caused permanent damage to wildlife and surrounding communities. ([Read more here](#))

**Ed note: This is the last Journal you will be receiving unless you “check in”. Thanks to those that already have. sdc**



Above the Grand Canyon and the Desert View Watchtower, stargazers can look at the night sky to see Jupiter, The Pleiades Star Cluster (upper right of Jupiter), and the bright star Capella (seen above the tower).

Photograph by Babek Tafreshi, Nat Geo Image Collection

## **Everything you need to know about Grand Canyon National Park**

Here's what to see and do when visiting the park millions of years in the making.

Excerpts: *“Leave it as it is,” declared U.S. President Teddy Roosevelt after a 1903 sojourn at the [Grand Canyon](#). “You cannot improve on it. The ages have been at work on it, and man can only mar it.”*

How grand is it? The massive gash in the Earth’s surface stretches 277 miles from east to west, measures 18 miles across at its widest point, and plunges around one mile from the rim to the [Colorado River](#). As the elevation descends, the park transitions from pristine evergreen forest to stark desert landscapes with 1.8 billion years of geology.

Native Americans have lived in and around the canyon for at least 12,000 years and Spanish explorers laid eyes upon the rift in the 16th century.

“Inspired by the building style of the Ancestral Puebloan people, legendary architect Mary Colter designed [Desert View Watchtower](#) in 1932 as a perch for an even higher view down into the canyon. Eighty-five steps lead to an observation deck that sits more than 5,000 feet above the canyon floor, past murals of ancient Native American life rendered by Hopi artist Fred Kabotie.’

“Tucked between viewpoints on Desert View Road is the small but interesting Tusayan Museum with exhibits on local Native American culture. Behind the museum, a short self-guided trail leads to the [Tusayan Ruin](#), the remains of a 12th-century Puebloan village and one of 4,300 archaeological sites so far identified inside the national park.”

“ Located on Native American lands, two spots along the western edge of the south rim offer vastly different Grande Canyon Adventures. Renowned for its waterfalls and aquamarine swimming holes, [Havasu Canyon](#) offers year-round camping and lodging inside the Havasupai Indian Reservation. The [Skywalk at Eagle Point](#) offers the ultimate vertigo experience—a horseshoe-shaped glass walkway on the Hualapai Indian Reservation that hangs 4,000 feet above the canyon.”

### **How to visit the park like a National Geographic Explorer**

Paleobotanist [Paul K. Strother](#) has visited the Grand Canyon numerous times over the past 30 years on a quest for fossil spores that might reveal the early evolution of life on land. Probing the Tonto Group on his first expedition in the mid-1990s, he came across rocks in sediment similar to what he had already studied in Pennsylvania that contained early land plant spores.

“I took those samples back and processed them and found they had microfossils in them,” Strother explains. “These microfossils had never been reported from those sequences in the Grand Canyon. They’re pretty old, around half a billion years. And very small—they can only be seen in a microscope.” Strother hopes his research leads to a better understanding of the transition from water-dwelling algae to the Earth's first land plants.

Strother normally spent a week or two with a small team gathering specimens in the canyon. Just like everyone else, he needed backcountry permits to camp overnight. But unlike hikers, he also needed permission from the Park Service to remove rocks, something that’s normally forbidden. Their biggest challenge to surviving multiple days in the canyon was water. “We had to send someone running down to Phantom Creek every day to collect water.”

The expeditions often took Strother off-trail into parts of the Grand Canyon rarely, if ever, visited by other humans. “I’m most impressed with the idea of walking around in the desert and thinking that no one's ever been there before. Because there's no reason, even for the Anasazi or other original inhabitants. Philosophically, you think about being alone and it being so quiet.”

### **For the whole article (and links to other National Parks):**

[https://www.nationalgeographic.com/travel/national-parks/article/grand-canyon-national-park?rid=C38947501E68571D7AA5496FBC02C266&cmpid=org=ngp::mc=crm-email::src=ngp::cmp=editorial::add=Compass\\_20250111](https://www.nationalgeographic.com/travel/national-parks/article/grand-canyon-national-park?rid=C38947501E68571D7AA5496FBC02C266&cmpid=org=ngp::mc=crm-email::src=ngp::cmp=editorial::add=Compass_20250111)

**Nevada’s Historic Markers** [https://shpo.nv.gov/uploads/documents/Historic\\_Marker\\_Booklet\\_Online\\_Version\\_with\\_Links.pdf](https://shpo.nv.gov/uploads/documents/Historic_Marker_Booklet_Online_Version_with_Links.pdf)

### **Example: 110. Wagon Jack Shelter NATIVE AMERICAN**

This rock shelter was used by Native Americans at least 3,150 years ago. It has been excavated by archaeologists and all that remains is the shelter. 39.302441, -117.883495 [blue

The base of this cliff is the site of Wagon Jack Shelter, excavated in 1958 by Robert F. Heizer and Martin A. Baumhoff through the University of California, Berkeley. The archaeologists named the shelter in honor of Wagon Jack, a Western Shoshone Indian who may have camped here while working at the Eastgate Ranch around 1900. Wagon Jack was purportedly a rabbit boss, leader of communal jackrabbit drives, in neighboring Smith Creek Valley.

A curved wall formerly extended from the cliff face and probably represented the perimeter of a prehistoric brush-covered shelter. A variety of chipped stone projectile point styles were recovered from this site reflecting a succession of prehistoric cultures. Eastgate Series arrow points were first described from these Eastgate archaeological sites. Bones of bighorn sheep dominated the animal remains accompanied by a few deer and pronghorn bones. Four stone tools or fragments of tools were associated with grinding seeds, pinenuts, and other dried foods.

A radiocarbon date from the bottom of this site indicates occupation beginning around 3,150 years ago.

**<https://shpo.nv.gov/nevadas-historical-markers/historical-markers/wagon-jack-shelter>**

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**National Indian Education Association**    <https://www.niea.org> > **native-student-data**

**[Data on Native Students - National Indian Education Association](#)**

Only 7% of NHOPI public-school students attend schools where the majority of the student body is NHOPI; 70% attend schools where less than 10% of students are NHOPI. 6 The high school graduation rate for AI/AN students in public schools was 74% in 2019, 7 up from 67% in 2012. 8

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AP News    <https://apnews.com> > article > school-attendance-native-chronic-absenteeism-85179b9a8d29617661da74e29062faef

**[Native American school attendance shows higher chronic absenteeism | AP ...](#)**

In three states — Alaska, Nebraska, and South Dakota — the majority of Native American and Alaska Native students were chronically absent. In some states, it has continued to worsen, even while improving slightly for other students, as in Arizona, where chronic absenteeism for Native students rose from 22% in 2018-2019 to 45% in 2022-2023.

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**[NATIVE N THE STATE OF EDUCATI - edtrust.org](#)**    *(10 year perspective)*

7 percent of Native students attend BIE schools. The vast majority — 93 percent — attend regular public schools. In fact, Oklahoma, Arizona, and California each educate ... if at least one student took an AP exam in 2009-10. 0 20 40 60 80 100 Asian P percent of Students White Latino African American Native

**<https://edsources.org>** > **[2024](#)** > **[one-out-of-three-native-american-students-in-california-were-chronically-absent-last-year](#)** > **[723211](#)**

### [One-third of Native American students in California were chronically ...](#)

Dec 3, 2024 In Humboldt County, a larger proportion of students are Native American — 8.7% compared to 0.4% statewide — and 55.4% of them were chronically absent last year, compared with 27.3% countywide. ... The boarding schools, operated nationwide for about 150 years up until at least 1969, had a practice of separating Native American children from ...

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[Christian Science Monitor](https://www.csmonitor.com) <https://www.csmonitor.com> > [USA](#) > [2024](#) > [1203](#) > [Indigenous-Native-American-chronic-absenteeism-schools-attendance](#)

### [Why is absenteeism lasting longer among Indigenous students ...](#)

Dec 3, 2024 Out of 34 states with data available for the 2022-2023 school year, half had absenteeism rates for Native American and Alaska Native students that were at least 9

### [Watertown Public Opinion](#)

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<https://www.thepublicopinion.com> > [story](#) > [news](#) > [education](#) > [2024](#) > [12](#) > [12](#) > [culture-economics-factors-in-sd-native-american-student-absenteeism](#) > [76859324007](#)

### [Culture, economics, factors in SD Native American student absenteeism](#)

Dec 12, 2024 Out of 34 states with data available for the 2022-23 school year, half had absenteeism rates for Native American and Alaska Native students that were at least 9 percentage points higher than the ...

### [Record Searchlight](#)

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<https://www.redding.com> > [story](#) > [news](#) > [2020](#) > [12](#) > [03](#) > [chronic-absence-high-native-american-students-shasta-county](#) > [6186914002](#)

### [Why Native students are chronically absent in Shasta County](#)

In Shasta County, where 4% of the student population is **Native** American, some school districts marked as much as 30% of their **Native** student population chronically absent in recent years, said ...

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[Inside Higher Ed](https://www.insidehighered.com) <https://www.insidehighered.com> > [news](#) > [students](#) > [diversity](#) > [2024](#) > [11](#) > [08](#) > [how-end-affirmative-action-affects-native-students](#)

### [How the end of affirmative action affects Native students](#)

Nov 8, 2024 Native American student enrollments had already been falling for at least a decade. Last year's Supreme Court ruling may be making matters worse. This fall, there's been much hand-wringing, data parsing and speculation across higher ed about the fallout of the U.S. preme Court ruling last summer that ended affirmative action.

### [WICHE Supporting the Attainment of Native American Students in Higher ...](#)

outcomes for AI/AN students in higher education. Native American-Serving Nontribal Institutions (NASNTIs) are federally recognized public and . private institutions that enroll an undergraduate population of at least 10 percent American Indian/ Alaska Native students.

urrently there are 37 NASNTIs, which enrolled about 12 percent of the

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### **[A secret weapon in agriculture's climate fight: Ants](#)**

“The ant scurries along on six nimble legs. It catches up to its peers, a line of antennaed bugs roaming the winding surface of a tree, perpetually hunting for food. While doing so, each unknowingly leaves antibiotic microorganisms secreted from its feet. That trail of tiny footprints, indiscernible to the naked eye, is remarkably effective at protecting the tree from pathogens and pests. That makes ants, in the eyes of Ida Cecilie Jensen, a legion of unlikely warriors — one humans should consider enlisting in the fight to grow food in a warming world. “Ants are a Swiss Army knife,” said Jensen, a biologist who studies the symbiotic relationship between ants and agriculture at Aarhus University in Denmark. “Kind of like a multitool for farmers.” Ants also have “so many of the same problems and challenges that we have,” Jensen said. “Luckily for us, they already found a lot of great solutions.” ... ” [Read more from Grist.](#)

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### **[Cadiz turns to tribes to fund project](#)**

“As downtown-based water infrastructure company Cadiz Inc. is well into the third decade of its pursuit of a massive water storage and transfer project in the Mojave Desert, it’s turning to a novel funding source: Native American tribes. In late November, Cadiz obtained a letter of intent from the Santa Rosa-based Lytton Rancheria of California Native American tribe to invest up to \$50 million in the Cadiz project, also known as the Mojave Groundwater Bank. In an interview earlier this month, Cadiz Chief Executive Susan Kennedy said the company is now in talks with about a half-dozen other tribes. The aim, she said, is to obtain financial commitments from these tribes that, in combination with bond sales and other sources of financing, should cover the \$800 million cost of the project. “We are hoping to close on project financing by the end of the first quarter,” Kennedy said. ... ” [Read more from the LA Business Journal.](#)

### **Reclamation announces over \$284 million for long-term conservation projects in the Lower Basin of the Colorado River**

“The Bureau of Reclamation today announced a \$284.8 million investment through President Biden’s Investing in America agenda for long-term conservation projects in collaboration with the Southern Nevada Water Authority, the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, and the Coachella Valley Water District. The projects, funded through the Inflation Reduction Act, will conserve a combined 492,531 acre-feet of Colorado River water to shore up Lake Mead. “These investments through the Lower Colorado Basin System Conservation and Efficiency Program, are yielding hundreds of thousands of acre-feet of water savings,” said Reclamation Commissioner Camille Calimlim Touton. “Thanks to historic resources provided through President Biden’s Investing in America agenda, we are advancing essential water infrastructure projects that mitigate the worst impacts of climate change and safeguard communities in the Colorado River Basin.” ... ” [Read more from the Bureau of Reclamation.](#)

### **Water for Navajo is the latest victim of Colorado River Basin governance**

**dysfunction** “Winters rights are no match for the current dysfunction of Colorado River Basin governance. Shannon Mullane at the Colorado Sun has been on this, and [last week had some useful details](#): “Advocates of a deal to secure reliable water for thousands of tribal members in Arizona raced to win Congressional approval until the final hours of the session in



December. They didn't make it. "We just ran out of time to address all the issues," said Tom Buschatzke, director of the Arizona Department of Water Resources and principal negotiator for the state on Colorado River matters." Part of the catch is the cost. ... " [Continue reading at Inkstain.](#)

Contact:  
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## USDA Invests in Sustainability in Mesquite

### *Matsun Nutrition to Receive \$143,530 Grant*

**CARSON CITY, Jan. 13, 2025** – U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Secretary Tom Vilsack and USDA Rural Development (RD) Nevada State Director Lucas Ingvaldstad today announced that USDA is awarding Matsun Nutrition, a vitamin manufacturer located in Mesquite, Nevada, a \$143,530 grant through the [Rural Energy for America Program \(REAP\)](#).

This award is part of a national announcement that USDA is providing nearly \$180 million through the [Rural Energy for America Program \(REAP\)](#) and the [Higher Blends Infrastructure Incentive Program \(HBIIIP\)](#) with funding from President Biden's [Inflation Reduction Act](#), the nation's largest-ever investment in combatting the climate crisis.

"The Biden-Harris Administration is lowering costs and giving rural Americans the historic opportunity to expand clean energy and build an economy that benefits working families and small businesses," Secretary Vilsack said. "By expanding access to homegrown biofuels and clean energy systems, we are making long-lasting investments that will strengthen our energy independence, address the impacts of climate change and create new market opportunities and revenue streams for American producers while bringing good-paying jobs to rural communities."

"Rural communities should be able to harvest the benefits of the clean energy economy," said State Director Ingvaldstad. "The Biden-Harris Administration has remained committed to ensuring that Nevadans in every part of the state have the infrastructure they need to operate sustainably, lower energy costs, and maintain high quality performance. We're proud to see this investment in Matsun Nutrition take another step towards making the Silver State green."

This Rural Development investment will be used to replace an existing system consisting of a steam boiler, steam tunnel and labeler, which currently produces over 1,600 bottles/hr. as well as steam lost to the atmosphere. With the new system, all steam will be reclaimed and recycled and output will be increased to 8,000 bottles/hr. This will save Matsun Nutrition approximately 59,000 gallons of water per year, as well as lowering energy costs, allowing them to operate at lower costs and increased sustainability.

To date, USDA has invested more than \$1.3 billion from the Inflation Reduction Act for 8,012 clean energy projects through REAP.

REAP is a part of the President's [Justice40 Initiative](#), which aims to ensure 40% of the overall benefits from certain federal climate, clean energy, and other investment areas flow to disadvantaged communities that are marginalized by underinvestment and overburdened by pollution.

## Scholarships with a February 28 Deadline

<a href="#">SAE Engineering Scholarships</a>	\$15,000	February 28, 2025
<a href="#">SAE Women-in-Automotive Scholarship</a>	\$5,000	February 28, 2025
<a href="#">SAE/Ford Partnership for Advanced Studies Scholarship</a>	\$5,000	February 28, 2025
<a href="#">SBB Research Group STEM Scholarship</a>	\$2,500	February 28, 2025
<a href="#">Shared Energy Future Foundation STEM Scholarship</a>	\$1,500	February 28, 2025
<a href="#">Shared Energy Future Foundation Trades Scholarship</a>	\$1,000	February 28, 2025
<a href="#">Spirit Square Center for Arts and Education Scholarship</a>	Varies	February 28, 2025
<a href="#">Stewart Golden Music Scholarship</a>	\$1,000	February 28, 2025
<a href="#">Straight "A" Scholarship</a>	\$5,000	February 28, 2025
<a href="#">SVCF Bobette Bibo Gugliotta Memorial Scholarship for Creative Writing</a>	\$1,000	February 28, 2025
<a href="#">SVCF Crain Scholarship Program</a>	\$5,000	February 28, 2025
<a href="#">SVCF Curry Award for Girls and Young Women</a>	\$1,000	February 28, 2025
<a href="#">SVCF Harold Johnson Law Enforcement Scholarship</a>	\$5,000	February 28, 2025
<a href="#">SVCF Hazel Reed Baumeister Scholarship Program</a>	\$5,000	February 28, 2025
<a href="#">SVCF K.C. Kinch Scholarship</a>	\$5,000	February 28, 2025
<a href="#">SVCF Krishnan-Shah Family Scholarship</a>	\$10,000	February 28, 2025
<a href="#">SVCF Latinos In Technology Scholarship</a>	\$18,000	February 28, 2025
<a href="#">SVCF Leo and Trinidad Sanchez Scholarship</a>	\$4,500	February 28, 2025
<a href="#">SVCF Marie A. Calderilla Scholarship</a>	\$20,000	February 28, 2025
<a href="#">SVCF On Your Own Scholarship</a>	\$16,000	February 28, 2025
<a href="#">SVCF Ralph Hale and Martha L. Ruppert Educational Scholarship</a>	\$10,000	February 28, 2025
<a href="#">SVCF Samsung@First Scholars</a>	\$15,000	February 28, 2025
<a href="#">SVCF Scholarships</a>	Varies	February 28, 2025
<a href="#">Tau Beta Pi/SAE Engineering Scholarship</a>	\$1,500	February 28, 2025
<a href="#">The 431 Exchange Scholarship</a>	\$1,431	February 28, 2025
<a href="#">The Dawna J Colbert &amp; John Fitzpatrick Scholarship</a>	\$10,000	February 28, 2025
<a href="#">The Rezvan Foundation for Excellence Scholarship</a>	\$100,00	February 28, 2025
<a href="#">TLF Scholarships</a>	\$3,750	February 28, 2025
<a href="#">Tri Kappa Beryl Showers Holland Fellowship</a>	\$3,000	February 28, 2025
<a href="#">UMSA Foundation Scholarship</a>	\$3,000	February 28, 2025
<a href="#">Western Reserve Herb Society Scholarship</a>	\$6,000	February 28, 2025
<a href="#">Willard G. Plentl Sr. Aviation Scholarship</a>	\$10,000	February 28, 2025