



UPDATE

Hunter Brooks Watson Memorial Fund
SPRING 2023

Hunter's Fund

P.O. Box 326, McLean, VA 22101

(703) 448-0436

This publication paid for with a gift from the Watson family

OUR VISION

YOU MAKE THE POWER OF YOUNG IDEAS POSSIBLE



Hunter Watson

Where will the next great ideas come from? Who will provide the insight, inspiration and hard work to create a better tomorrow? Hunter's Fund believes young people hold the answers to these questions. Young people are using their talents and passions to find ways to improve the world. Their dreams are of things yet to be seen. While we don't know what tomorrow will bring, we do know that today's youth and their ideas will be propelling the changes to come.

Hunter's Fund invests in young people who have shown talent, experience and passion. The grants you make possible reward innovation and reflect the talents and passions that Hunter Watson brought to his life. They honor his legacy, and provide support for young people who also approach life with powerful ideas. We hope these grants will carry on what Hunter inspired.

OUR COMMITMENT TO YOU

We are deeply honored that you have placed your trust in Hunter's Fund's work. We work hard to make the most of every dollar you donate by using volunteers and keeping overhead costs low. When you give to the Fund, you can give with confidence, knowing that most of your gift will propel young people's dreams and help end distracted driving.

You Made Three New Grants Possible



Will Devito - Comedy Production

25-year-old filmmaker Will Devito has spent the last 18 months helping small businesses across New York City connect with new audiences by temporarily transforming them into pop-up comedy clubs.

In doing so, his organization "Underground Overground Comedy" (UO) has raised \$60,000 for businesses throughout the city.

While Devito and his partners have thrown comedy shows at some of "the most unlikely places around town," their dream has been to throw a show in the city's oldest deli—the legendary pastrami destination Katz's Delicatessen.

As DeVito explains, transforming a deli into a comedy club is no simple task.

"Our team has just under one hour to transform the deli into a theater for 250 audience members," Devito says. "As a partner of the show and the director of this project, I aim to document the night with a genre-bending documentary and comedy special that will help broaden the scale of Underground Overground."

DeVito hopes the film will stand as "proof of concept" for a larger, multi-part series and expand UO's capacity to partner with more businesses.

Will's grant from Hunter's Fund will be used to purchase equipment and pay staff to produce the Katz's Deli special.

Oshakie Gittens - Video Game Development Studio

In 2022, video games were a \$200 billion dollar global industry.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines native Oshakie Gittens wants to bring a piece of the pie to North Union, his home village on the island.

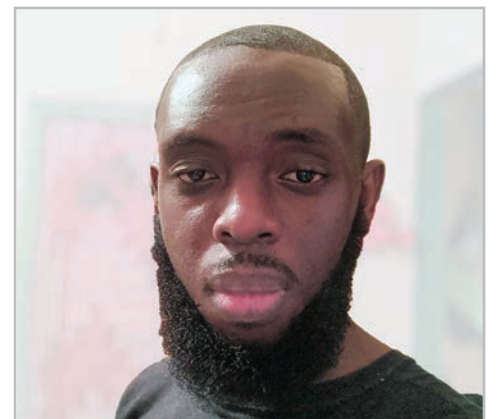
Gittens has spent the last nine years honing his game design and coding skills as a self-taught computer programmer. Now, with a track record of successful launches behind him, Gittens is preparing for a venture of his own: an independent gaming studio called Vincitech.

"A gaming studio in St. Vincent and the Grenadines provides an opportunity for young creators and individuals to bring their ideas to life through electronic art," Gittens says.

The games created by Vincitech will be free to play—accessed through smartphone apps or hosted on social media. The studio also intends to explore emerging forms of media—including 3D, virtual reality, and augmented reality games.

"A gaming studio will ultimately provide an opportunity for us to showcase these ideas and concepts to the world, creating more recognition for our little nation," Gittens says.

Oshakie's grant from Hunter's Fund will fund new computer equipment and software assets for Vincitech.



Grants awarded to entrepreneurs in St. Vincent and the Grenadines are funded by generous donors from that area and restricted to these young people.



Louis Cardozo - Flying Piano Music Video and EP Launch

Three years ago, UK-based musician Louis Cardozo was awarded a grant from Hunter's Fund to help finance their on-the-go music recording studio.

Their concept, a mobile recording booth housed inside a van, was created to make professional recording more accessible to young musicians.

Now, Cardozo is working on his own music, having spent the last year developing an out-of-this-world music video concept to promote his upcoming extended-play release (EP).

With the help of his uncle, an aeronautical engineer, Cardozo engineered a flying piano that will be the focal point of his new music video.

With a bit of engineering ingenuity and a large parachute, Cardozo can play the piano as it gently glides through the air—a novel concept that he hopes will create a viral music video moment—and help more people connect to his music.

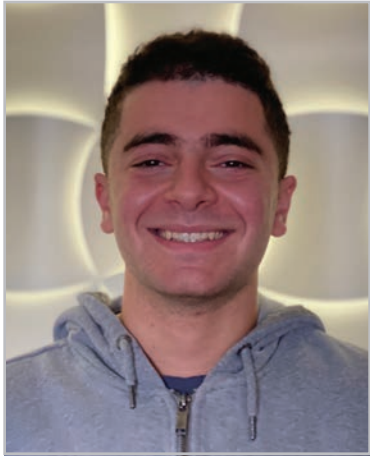
The piano will be specifically used to promote his new song Fly, which is about Cardozo's experience of healing from depression.

"It's a song about triumph despite our lowest moments," Cardozo says. "It will be a song you can listen to when everything else has gone wrong."

Cardozo's grant from Hunter's Fund will purchase production equipment for his music video and upcoming EP.

You can support these Young Entrepreneurs and Safe Driving Campaigns at: www.hunterwatson.org/donate

Meet Your 2022 Spirit of Entrepreneurship Award Winners



Justin Gluska - School Bus Tracking Software

Justin Gluska is a Computer Science student at Syracuse University. He is passionate about finding innovative solutions to issues through working with the software.

Gluska's funding request was to help him prototype his "Bus Point" web application to make it easy for school districts to track their buses in a streamlined, cost-effective way. He expressed that school districts need help cutting parent call volume if buses are delayed and that being able to track the buses would do just that if parents could have a way to answer bus-related questions for themselves through a technological tracking solution. He also plans to make this solution affordable for schools through a tiered pricing system with no contracts.

Gluska's goal is to use the funding provided by the HBW Fund grant to finish prototyping the Bus Point web application by the end of the summer. So far, it

has had over 80,000 uses, has impacted over 440 school buses and has up to 5,000 current maximum users per day, according to the website. In 2023, he plans to implement pilots and collect data; in 2024 he plans to improve software and scale to new districts.

Gluska's tracking software is intended to make students' lives easier and stress-free regarding transportation issues.

"Let's fix this for 26 million of them."



Kelly Davis - Women-centric Communities

Kelly Davis is a dual major student studying Television Radio & Film and Entrepreneurship & Emerging Enterprises at Syracuse University. Throughout her life, she has observed a lack of opportunities for women to come together and empower one another as a community.

Davis hoped in her funding request to gain the financial support to create a platform centered around hosting women-driven communities and fostering important dialogue surrounding networking, mentorship, resources and more.

She believes that what makes "Wo-manly" unique as a platform is its multi-interest approach and its focus on connecting young women seeking empowerment and communities, as well as inviting men into the space to be part of the conversation.

Using the HBW Fund grant, Davis' goal has been to build the beta for testing within the first three to six months. Her plans are to acquire more development talent, address fees and formulate a marketing budget. During the Spring, she planned to host bi-weekly empowerment events, and by July, she hopes to bring together 1000 women to be part of her online community and finish developing her application by November. She wants other women to know that she has felt the widespread lack of empowerment and community and wants to do something about this issue.

"Why me? Because I've been there."



Damaris (Koi) Munyua - Sustainability for the Wig Industry

Damaris (Koi) Munyua recently earned a master's in Entrepreneurship and Emerging Enterprises at Syracuse University. She is working to innovate traditional wig caps to encompass eco-friendliness, durability, and color variety to match different skin tones and comfort — elements that are not typically included in generic nylon wig caps. She wants to provide consumers with a quality, at-home option for installing wigs if people do not want to go the route of purchasing a pricey installation by a professional hairstylist.

In her funding request, she hoped to cover various costs for her startup "Slaystainable," such as the design patent, legal fees, trademark, materials and other starting costs to get ready for her product to enter the market.

Munyua plans to launch her sustainable wig caps later this summer to provide consumers with environmentally sound, comfortable alternatives to the limited and eco-harmful wig cap options currently on the market.

Her website tells customers that her product includes "colors that match your skin tone. So you can slay, every single day!"



Zebedayo Masongo - Mecca for Black Excellence

Zebedayo Masongo is a law student at Syracuse University interested in curating a digital space inspired by Tulsa's "Black Wall Street" in the 1900s. Through the creation of his platform "Grnwood," named in honor of the Oklahoma community, Masongo hopes to be a hub to showcase "people of color who are doing amazing things," as he wrote on his website.

Between posting cultural content and streamlining talent, Masongo is tapping into different subject matter such as music, style, business, Black Legacy and more to consolidate diverse media on the Grnwood platform.

Using the funding reward, Masongo plans to launch video media through a YouTube channel, launch Grnwood Africa and Grnwood U.K. over the next two years, settle acquisitions for infrastructure, and increase market share by 2025. Masongo plans to make Grnwood an international platform with roots across the globe to expand his reach in different markets and continue to give current and future generations access to success through the "Black lens," encouraging users to explore and empower themselves.

"We're jumping from site to site in order to stitch together all of the beautiful aspects of Black culture. One company can control the market if it's done the right way."

HUNTER'S FUND UPDATE

SPRING 2023

OUR VISION

To live in a world where our youth may follow their hearts.

OUR MISSION

Hunter's Fund has dual missions in support of young adults. The first is to provide resources to help advance the dreams of passionate, curious young people.

The second is to reduce deaths and injuries from distracted driving by increasing awareness among young drivers and gaining their commitment to change.

BOARD MEMBERS

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Hunter Piland

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Kathy Ward, CFRE

What are grant winners up to now?

Your donations help fund grants that permanently change lives and kickstart impactful careers. This spring, we caught up with Hunter's Fund grant and award winners to learn about what they've been up to since receiving their grants.

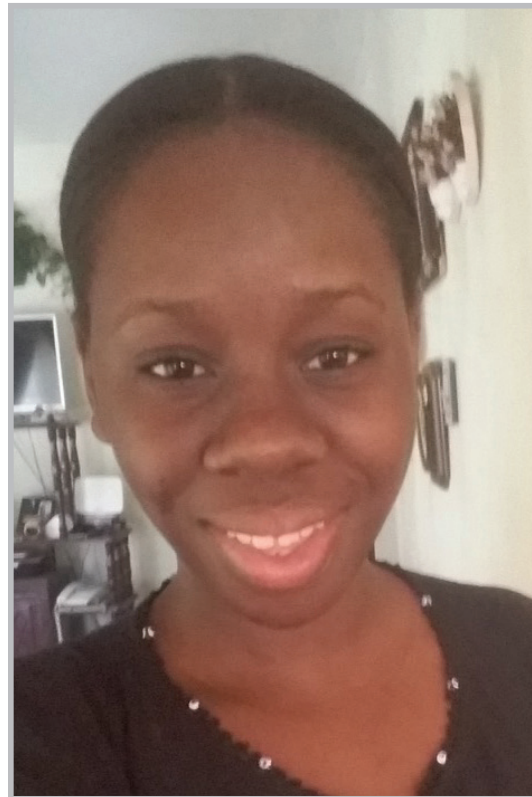


Calum Smeaton

Passionate about audio engineering, UVA graduate Calum Smeaton received a Hunter's Fund grant in the fall of 2018 to help him purchase equipment to upgrade his home audio-recording business. The new equipment helped him land a job producing audio tours at the Smithsonian Institute in Washington DC.

After spending part of the pandemic taking architectural acoustics

classes, Callum was inspired to reinvest in a new idea—developing and patenting an acoustic systems for homeowners that he designed himself. He is hopeful that the funds from his invention will help him open up a new recording studio.



Dumona Charles

St. Vincent and the Grenadines native Dumona Charles has always wanted to be a doctor. In high school, she began selling baked goods to help her pay for extra schooling to make that dream a reality. And in the spring of 2018, she received a grant from Hunter's Fund to help her find an online company selling import goods that are not usually available on the islands.

The company allowed her to begin and continue her medical education—and now she's almost reached her goal. Now an intern at the Milton Cato Memorial Hospital in St Vincent she will be rotating through General Medicine, Surgery, Gynecology, and Pediatrics for the next year before becoming a doctor.



Julonna Peterson

In the Spring of 2021, St. Vincent native Julonna Peterson received a grant from Hunter's Fund to support her company the PERFECT Project, which aimed to provide specialized educational resources for children living with mental disabilities.

While the COVID-19 pandemic forced her to pivot and put the PERFECT project on hold, Julonna is still hard at work serving the youth

and working towards a Master's degree in Autism Spectrum Disorders. She is currently working as a teacher's aide with autism students in the UK and developing her Master's thesis, which will focus on the influence of extracurricular activities on language skills.

GRANT MENTORSHIP PROGRAM FORGES MEANINGFUL BONDS



Navigating the entrepreneurial journey can be a challenge for those starting new ventures. A mentor who provides valuable industry insight and support is crucial for ensuring success.

The Hunter's Fund Mentorship Program recognizes this and aims to create strong mentor-mentee relationships to help grant winners thrive.

Semesha Corea, a 2020 grant recipient who is now a mentor, finds the experience to be both fun and enlightening. She was able to offer the same support she received

as a mentee to 2022 grant winner Hudson Adams, who founded DeliverCo, a local food delivery platform in St. Vincent and the Grenadines. With limited access to on-demand delivery services in the area, Corea's marketing skills proved to be a valuable asset to Adams, as she helped him with branding his venture

Adams, who was grateful for the guidance, noted the positive impact of having a mentor who could "motivate, cheer and provide tips and tricks to get the business out there."

Safe Driving Week Sets Records

Sarah Dolgin



Syracuse Safe Driving Week Pledging Table

Syracuse University's colorful foliage decorated the quad this fall, welcoming back the Phi Kappa Psi fraternity as they set up for the seventh annual Safe Driving Week in honor of their brother Hunter Brooks Watson. While the campaign's past years consisted of the same tables of determined fraternity volunteers urging their peers to sign the Pledge Not to Drive Distracted and spreading the word to donate, the vibrant energy of this year's campaign gave way to record donations, record pledge signatures and a first-time collaboration with the Tri Delt sorority that the Phi Kappa Psi brothers believe helped them boost their success.

With nearly \$40,000 in donations and 4,450 students signing pledges, Hunter's Fund exceeded both last year's donations and pledges by almost 40%. This year's donations more than doubled from 2020's campaign, and had two times the signatures from the same year. Volunteers were determined to bounce back with the highest numbers yet following the pandemic's campaign limitations. One silver lining introduced to the campaign during 2020 was the implementation of QR-codes to allow students to scan and sign the pledge online. Future campaigns will continue to accommodate students that wish to participate online to supplement in-person tabling.

APRIL IS DISTRACTED DRIVING AWARENESS MONTH

In recognition of April as Distracted Driving Month, Hunter's Fund will dedicate the first week of the month to raising awareness and support for its Safe Driving Weeks initiative. To date, Hunter's Fund has funded over 100 Safe Driving Weeks on college and university campuses across the United States, with the goal of promoting safe and responsible driving practices. During this special week, we encourage all drivers to commit to staying focused and attentive behind the wheel, in order to prevent accidents and save lives.

Founding Committee

Each member of the Founders Committee was a close friend of Hunter Watson. Their encouragement led the Watson family to establish the Hunter Watson Memorial Fund (Hunter's Fund). Six years later, the organization has received hundreds of applications and funded more than 70 promising young people who could not have explored their passions without financial assistance. The fund has also established Hunter's Pledge to End Distracted Driving on nearly 60 campuses.



Luigi Ambrosi
Milan, Italy



Abigail Breslin
Hollywood, CA



Madeleine Bunbury
Gillingham Dorset, UK



Liam Catto
Boulder, CO



Forrest Crane
Manhattan Beach, CA



Chris Dale
Washington, DC



Matt Kimm
Manhattan Beach, CA



Yannick Della Shavia
Santa Monica, CA



Ilana Dunn
New York, NY



Zack Green
New York, NY



Hanna Horvath
New York, NY



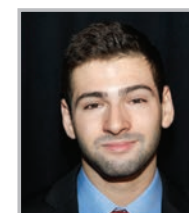
Hannah Kliot
New York, NY



Matthieu Menand
Dublin, CA



Jordan Parent
Arlington, VA



Jason Reif
New York, NY



Mark Ramsey
Great Falls, VA



Matt Salutillo
Fairfax, VA



Will Snape
New York, NY



Connor Sweeney
Denver, CO



Ted Watson
New York, NY

Can you Volunteer to Help?

You can help Hunter's Fund get our mission accomplished.

Grant Mentors – This is a great opportunity to work with bright young people in helping them meet their goals. Monthly update calls from a mentor with experience in the area of the grant gives them the confidence to be successful.

Safe Driving Partners – As a volunteer partner, you would look for opportunities to encourage members of your community to sign Hunter's Pledge Not to Drive Distracted. Your club or church group are great places to start. Some of our supporters ask local restaurants to set up our tabletop displays so their customers can scan and sign a pledge online while waiting for their meal to be served.

If you are interested in any of these opportunities, contact Hunter Piland at hunter.piland@hunterwatson.org

Phi Kappa Psi and Tri Delta Set Safe Driving Week Records

Sarah Dolgin



Tri Delta member shouting for pledge signers.

For the first time in Safe Driving Week history, Phi Kappa Psi fraternity partnered with the Tri Delta sorority to expand outreach and build awareness.

Philanthropy Chair Drew Nobile believes that working with Tri Delta is what enabled them to surpass expectations this year.

“They definitely played a huge role in spreading the word — whether it was tabling or posting messages on social media, I think that was a big help that sent us over the edge from last year, to the point where I think next year, we could even continue to break that record from this year,” he said.

Tri Delta Sorority Chair Sarah Lufkin said she and her sisters enjoyed working on the campaign and had fun creating competition to see who get the most pledges.

“They were very inclusive about making it a Tri Delta and Phi Psi event, and made the girls feel welcome in something that’s their own philanthropy,” she said, “and we were just so excited to be part of something that is so meaningful.”

Both Nobile and Lufkin expressed excitement that fraternities at other schools were following suit in partnering with sororities for their campaigns, and look forward to continuing the tradition.

Memorial and Honor gifts are a special way to keep our loved one’s memory and legacy alive and to recognize those who have special meaning to us. These gifts might help young people achieve their dreams.

In Memory of,

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| Gabriel Aitonje | Robert Haber | Jacks Ramza’s Grandparents |
| Dan Armstrong | Gale Jackler | Evelyn Reed |
| Alfredo Atencio | Kholifa Kabia | David Reisman |
| Carlos Ayala | Nicholas King | Marie Romfh |
| Paul & Margaret Bangasser | Susan Smith Klein | Beryl Rose-Hadaway |
| Terri Bennett | Lilyon Liu | Rich and Susan Shaw |
| Jeff Best | Carl Love | Brittney Stark |
| John Breford | Carolyn A Lynch | Richard Stivelman |
| Jaylen Brown | Krista Maloney | Noah Swift |
| Bill Burleson | Mary Masson | Jojon Tamir |
| Audra and Patrick Cavanaugh | Nancy McNerney | Paul G. Thomas |
| Jodi Chu | Manette Mennella | Frank B. Thomas |
| Elizabeth Clark | Lorilee Mills | Dr. Paul G. Thomas |
| Dyland Clark | Kevin Morris | Connor Thomson |
| Carmelita Davis | Lisa Murray | Doug Troupe |
| Brigitte Delaporte | Rickie Ortego | Paul Troupe |
| Michael Diaz | Eugenia O’Shea | Ted Viator |
| Court Dunn | Renee Pack | Levi Ward |
| Sydney Favre | George and Sandra Poarch | Hunter Watson |
| Sharon Ferlic | Joseph Powers | Jack Watson |
| Deborah L Foulk | Uncle Steve Raacke | Noel Whiteside |
| Ruth Bader Ginsburg | Emerson Ralston | Michele Zalewski |
| | John Ramsey | |

In Honor of,

- | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Samuel Aboud | Jason and Fran Freshman | Dennis May |
| Oscar Allen | Janet Gardiner | Sam Muhleman |
| Will Barclay | My Maternal Grandfather | Sam Murray |
| Virginia Biggie | Tom Goss | Ron Nuxoll |
| Brigitte Branconnier | Miles Hambaugh | Taylor Orr |
| Jesse Brown | Matt Hamilton | Noel Ouellette |
| Aaron Burchette | Jackson Hirsh | Jack Ramza |
| Wes Campbell | William Kavanaugh | Susan Rees |
| Greg Clunies | Debra Loria | Carmina Renedo |
| Deb Cunningham | Ned and Mollie Mandel | Christopher Richards |
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Hunter’s Grants

Rewarding Imagination!

Apply at
www.hunterwatson.org

Your support will help at
www.hunterwatson.org/donate

Remembering Levi Ashton Ward, Victim of Impaired Driver



Shawn, Levi Ashton and Jill Ward

My son Levi had a bright and promising future. From the age of ten, he was fascinated with weather. He created his own YouTube channel, Weather Pursuit and at the age of 17 years old, he was contracted by the ABC affiliate, KAKE news as an on-air first alert storm tracker.

The world will never know how far Levi's talents would have carried him because he was killed by a drunk driver in a hit and run accident when he was just 20 years old. In one single instant, his bright light was extinguished

forever.

Levi's father, Shawn Ward (*Phi Psi Kansas Alpha '87*) and I spent countless hours during the investigation learning the details of what led up to the deadly crash and advocating for justice for our son.

Shawn and I were extremely touched when the Hunter Watson Fund and Levi's fraternity Phi Kappa Psi decided to honor Levi during their fall safe driving campaign at the University of Kansas. The Hunter's Pledge campaign encourages young people to sign a pledge, making a commitment

to not drive distracted. Studies show that signing a pledge really does change future behavior.

I had a chance to speak to active members at their chapter meeting and explain to them that in an instant, you can take a life. Whether you are driving intoxicated, texting while driving or simply not giving 100% of your attention to the road, you can take a life. My message to the actives that evening was do the next right thing. And that includes everything in life. Doing the next right thing keeps you on the right path in several areas of your life.

We are grateful to the Hunter Watson Fund for helping to keep Levi's memory alive and for their important work across the country. Their Safe Driving Pledge campaigns on college campuses help save lives by reminding young people of the awesome responsibility involved with driving a car.

Jill, Levi's mom lives in Wichita, Kansas where she continues to work to create something positive from her son's legacy. Jill and Shawn (Levi's dad, phi psi alum at ku) are supporting causes that were important to their son including his fraternity and bible study group at the University of Kansas.

Safe Driving Week Launched at University of Kentucky

Sarah Dolgin



University of Kentucky Safe Driving Week

When the Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity wanted to reestablish themselves on the campus of the University of Kentucky, the members knew they had to prove themselves to the rest of the campus.

Angelo Giordani, an advisor to the fraternity, felt that participating in Safe Driving Week with Hunter's Fund would be a great way to hit the ground running.

As a student at California State

University Northridge, Giordani's fraternity chapter was involved in the campaign and had a positive experience. After connecting the UK students with Hunter's Fund, they became part of the same campaign he fondly remembered.

Isaac Martin, vice president of UK's Phi Kappa Psi colony, said it was a great experience to partner with the sorority Gamma Phi Beta and "make a splash" into their new presence through philanthropy.

The two were able to get most the pledge cards they were given signed with signatures and raised about \$4,000 to make sure the campaign would be able to continue for years to come.

"I think we did a lot of good work. It really meant something, because I know, on this campus especially, there are problems with distracted driving," Martin said.

Partaking in the campaign, Phi Psi hoped to make the world "a little bit better than we found it."



Hunter's Pledge
Saving Lives on
Campuses

- University of Alabama
- Allegheny College
- Beloit College
- UC Berkeley
- Brandeis University
- Univ. of California Davis
- Cal State Northridge
- Cal State-San Luis Obispo
- Capital University
- University of Colorado
- Cornell University
- University of Dayton
- DePaul University
- Drexel University
- Edinboro University
- University of Georgia
- Indiana State University
- Iowa State University
- University of Kansas
- University of Kentucky
- Lafayette College
- University of Louisiana-Lafayette
- Lycoming College
- University of Maryland
- Miami University of Ohio
- University of Minnesota Duluth
- University of Minnesota Twin Cities
- University of Nebraska
- Northern Illinois University
- Oregon State University
- University of Oregon
- Penn State University
- University of Pennsylvania
- University of Rhode Island
- Saint Joseph's University
- Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville
- Stanford University
- Stephen F. Austin State University
- SUNY Oneonta
- Syracuse University
- University of Texas
- Texas Tech University
- University of Toledo
- Towson University
- University of Utah
- University of Virginia
- Washington & Jefferson College
- University of Valparaiso
- York College

You Can Make A Lasting Difference

You can help provide for the future of the Hunter's Fund Grants Program by leaving a gift in your will to the Fund. We recommend that you consult with your attorney when drafting a new will, changing an existing will or when creating a living revocable trust, if you wish to include a gift for the Hunter's Fund Grants Program and Safe Driving Program.

Hunter's Fund official name: **The Hunter Brooks Watson Memorial Fund**

Hunter's Fund mailing address: **P.O. Box 326, McLean, VA 22101**

Hunter's Fund telephone number: **(703) 448-0436**

Hunter's Fund identification: **A not-for-profit organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code**

Hunter's Fund tax-exempt number: **EIN 83-0574041**

Sample Language

"I give, devise and bequeath to the Hunter Watson Memorial Fund for its general purposes [state fraction or percentage of the rest, residue and remainder] or [the sum of \$_____] in my estate, both, real or personal"

For additional information, please contact:

Kathy Ward, Volunteer Development Director,
Hunter's Fund, P.O. Box 326, McLean, VA 22101,
Phone: 1-703-448-0436



Your gift can be mailed to: **HUNTER'S FUND**

P.O. BOX 326 • MCLEAN, VA 22101

Please make check payable to Hunter's Fund.
Contributions are tax deductible.



**YOU CAN HELP BY DONATING ON-LINE AT OUR
SECURE DONATION WEB SITE:
<https://www.hunterwatson.org/donate>**

Other Ways You Can Give

1. Retirement Fund Gifts - Beneficiary designations - Name the Hunter Watson Memorial Fund or any charity you choose to support as an ultimate beneficiary of your IRA, 401(K) or other qualified plan.

2. IRA - Did you know if you are 70 1/2 or older there is a provision that allows you to make cash gifts from your IRA to the Hunter Watson Memorial Fund or any charity you wish without having to pay any taxes that would otherwise be due.

3. Securities - Donating appreciated stock or Mutual Funds is quick and simple and may provide you with significant tax benefits.

4. Donor-Advised Funds - Manage your charitable giving through this convenient, flexible, and most effective alternative to establishing a private foundation.

For additional information, please contact:

Kathy Ward, Volunteer Development Director, Hunter's Fund
at 1-703-448-0436.

Hunter's Fund Recognized with Candid's Highest Level of Transparency

GuideStar, the world's largest source of nonprofit information, has awarded Hunter's Fund their Platinum Nonprofit Seal of Transparency, their highest level of recognition.

Founded in 2017, Hunter's Fund has provided more than 60 grants to promising young people and, with the support of more than 1,000 volunteers, funded safe driving campaigns on 38 campuses resulting in nearly 50,000 students signing Hunter's Pledge to End Distracted Driving..



Survivors of Distracted Driving Accident Inspire Alabama Safe Driving Week

Sarah Dolgin

The Berry brothers, Peter and Aaron, suffered devastating injuries in a car accident caused by a distracted driver in 2011. They lost their parents and became paralyzed, but turned tragedy into advocacy through their nonprofit, OLIE (One Life is Enough).

At the University of Alabama's Safe Driving Week, the brothers spoke to raise awareness about the dangers of distracted driving.

Peter said that their mission aligns with that of Hunter's Fund and that their story resonates emotionally with students, highlighting the emotional, physical, and mental impact of losing their parents and mobility.

They've traveled throughout the country to share their story with "thousands of people," according to Peter. While continuing their passionate fight against distracted driving, the brothers can also be found competing in Division 1 Wheelchair Basketball and have led their Alabama team to win National Championships.

The brothers spend their time competing in Division 1 wheelchair basketball at school but continue to fight distracted driving.



Peter Berry defends for the Alabama Wheelchair Basketball Team

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Save you taxes**

**Reduce your medicare premiums
Reduce your social security payments.**

Find out how at:

www.hunterwatson.org/IRA

Many Interests – One of a Kind



At Hunter's Fund you are supporting young men and women of diverse interests and talents, so they can let their passions shine.

The inspiration and our mission come from Hunter himself. He was a young man of extremely diverse talents and interests. Wherever he went, whatever he did, he brought a spark and a smile and a contagious energy that inspired those around him.

And while his life was too short, and the hurt that those who loved him feel will never fully heal, there is a peace that comes from knowing that Hunter succeeded in *getting the most out of every day he lived*:

As a boy and a young man ... Hunter lit up the lives of his mother, Judy, his father, Jerry, his older brother, Teddy, and all his extended family.

As a friend ... Hunter cultivated deep and lasting relationships and will never be forgotten by those who knew him best.

As an athlete ... Hunter loved baseball, soccer, football and wrestling, excelling as an individual while always striving to lift up his teammates.

As a musician ... Hunter formed his first band at age 10 and never stopped loving, playing and performing music. (You can watch a video of Hunter's Black Out Band playing their song "Video Games" on YouTube.)

As a student ... Hunter graduated from Potomac School, enrolled at Syracuse University and joined Phi Kappa Psi, learning and growing and making new friends each year — while never forgetting his old ones.

As an entrepreneur ... Hunter worked with area nightclubs to encourage teens-only, no-alcohol nights which he then managed and promoted. He was also beginning work on his own technology-based business.

As a person ... there will never be another Hunter. While he had many interests, he was one-of-a-kind. Thank you for supporting Hunter's Fund, so that young men and women with talent, energy and passion can have a chance to follow their dreams ... *just as Hunter did every day.*

ARE BIKE PATHS SAFE?

EDITORIAL BY JERRY WATSON



During the holidays on a visit to New York City I decided to go for a walk in the park.

As I waited patiently for the pedestrian signal to turn green, I never could have anticipated the danger that lay ahead. Suddenly, an electric scooter appeared out of nowhere, driving in the bike path that I had not noticed. Before I could react, I was struck by the scooter, the impact pushing me on the ground. The suddenness and force of the collision left me stunned and injured, struggling to process what had just happened.

After several days of recovery from the injuries I regained enough confidence to go out again. I stood and watched as dozens of bicyclist and electric scooters zoomed along the bike path without even noticing the upcoming cross walks.

I initially thought that my experience was just a case of bad luck, but after sharing my story with a few cab drivers, I realized that there were many others who had suffered similar experiences. These drivers were just as concerned as I was and told me that there were far more cases than I expected.

According to the cab drivers I spoke with, not only were electric scooter riders disregarding crosswalks, but they were also frequently riding in the wrong direction on one-way streets. This made it impossible for them to see the red traffic lights at intersections, and they would often ride straight through them. This reckless behavior put both the riders and other road users at risk of accidents.

It makes me wonder if the time has come when we should require cyclist to obey the traffic laws just like motorist?

Also, should we encourage cities to consider installing warning signs to alert cyclist, and even pedestrians, of crosswalks when they are adding bicycle paths?

What's Your Opinion?

We would like to hear the opinions of our readers on this issue and invite you to participate in a brief survey on our website. Simply visit www.hunterwatson.org/survey to cast your vote and share your thoughts. Your participation is greatly appreciated.