



UPDATE

Hunter Brooks Watson Memorial Fund
FALL 2021

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 Helped Fund Three Young Entrepreneurs

Emerging technology in live music

Maria Siskova's life is steeped in music. The 24-year-old singer, sound designer, composer, and researcher has an impressive catalog of compositions and has recently turned her sights to the emerging field of "gesturally controlled music" which uses digital instruments to allow musicians to create and control sounds through dance movements. Grant money from Hunter's Fund will allow Siskova to continue her research and expand her work as a produc-

er and performer in the emerging field of gesturally controlled music.

"This concept came from my internal desire to transform my music into a live interactive and immersive performance," Siskova says. "In my new surround performance set-up, the body triggers, controls, and navigates sound around the audience. With the movement of my hand, I can augment, harmonize, distort and manipulate my voice in any possible way you can imagine."



Maria Siskova



Emily Yancey

Start-up Cookie Company

Emily Yancey is a Missouri-based first-year kindergarten teacher who is expanding her recently-launched baking business, Led By Faith Cookie Company. The company started as a passion project to spread love and treats to her neighbors throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, and has since grown to a virtual business with customers across the country.

"Not only was this past year my

first year as a full-time teacher, but it was also my first time ever working with kindergarteners and handling the needs of a pandemic that required maintaining ever-changing protocols, all while balancing a brand new business," Yancey says. "Hunter's Grant will allow me access to resources like additional mixers and a dehydrating system to speed up the baking and decorating process so that I can accept large orders from people in my community."

Educational mental health video series

Carly Danielson is a 24-year-old Penn State Graduate combining her degree in psychology with her background as a voice-over artist to create animated videos that educate young children and teenagers on how to identify and cope with common mental health problems.

"In each video, the main character will be exposed to an event that causes anxiety and will be unsure of what they are feeling, and what

they can do to manage these feelings. The video will briefly outline what can cause feelings of anxiety, and what one can do to lessen their anxiousness and related symptoms," Danielson says. "I want the videos to entertain the viewers, and lead them to realize that knowledge about mental health can be accessible, for individuals of any age. My overall goal is that this can serve as a platform of understanding and insight."



Carly Danielson

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

HUNTER'S FUND UPDATE

FALL 2021

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.

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Meet Your 2021 Hunter Watson Entrepreneurship Award Winners

Each year, the Hunter Brooks Watson Entrepreneurship Awards recognizes entrepreneurial-minded students who are developing start-up ventures. Four awards are presented annually at the Syracuse University Libraries Launchpad Competition, held annually in March. Here's what you need to know about this year's recipients:



Jackson Ensley

A fourth-year marketing student at Syracuse, Ensley took home an award for his platform "ModoSuite,"

a program that hopes to make building and hosting online marketplaces more accessible and affordable for small business owners and start-ups.



Jack Adler

First-year student Jack Adler and twin sister Kate received an award for their fundraising organization, "3 Dollar Challenge." Their grassroots organization is focused on helping nonprofits connect with Gen Z audiences by harnessing the power of viral social media campaigns and \$3 "micro-donations."



Selim Dangoor

A finance and public relations student at Syracuse, Dangoor was granted an Entrepreneurship Award for his soon-to-launch brand "MUNCH Jerky," a new take on traditional beef jerky that uses ethically sourced flank steaks to create artisanal jerky products.



Russel Fearon and Ricardo Sanchez

Fearon and Sanchez are co-founders of "SugEx," a modern medical tech company creating modern products that make diabetes management simple and accessible. Their first device is an affordable, sleek, all-in-one smartwatch that tracks blood sugar levels and reminds users to take blood samples.

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

Inspiration Behind the Hunter Watson Entrepreneurial Awards



Syracuse Dean Liz Liddy

Liz Liddy has spent her life dreaming up innovative, cutting-edge technology and helping others do the same.

She worked as a faculty member at Syracuse's School of Information Studies for more than 20 years before becoming dean of the school in 2008. Over the next 10 years, Liddy made the school a national leader in information science and technology and pioneered advanced programs in social media and data science.

This year, Hunter's Fund spoke with Liddy about the challenges of entrepreneurship and what young people should know before starting their own businesses.

HF: What advice do you have for people who want to become entrepreneurs or pursue a start-up idea but don't know where to start?

Liddy: You have to build on what you are good at, at what you know, and then have a creative idea on top of it... everyone has an idea, but you've got to find ways in which you can extend it. And you don't have to do it all alone.

HF: What are some of the misconceptions that young people have about starting their own business?

Liddy: I think lots of them think they're going to have money tomorrow, and they're not. I think most of them will tell you "this was way more work than I ever thought."

A lot of people start and then give up on their start-up, and then many of them will come back later in life when their situation changes or something new is invented.

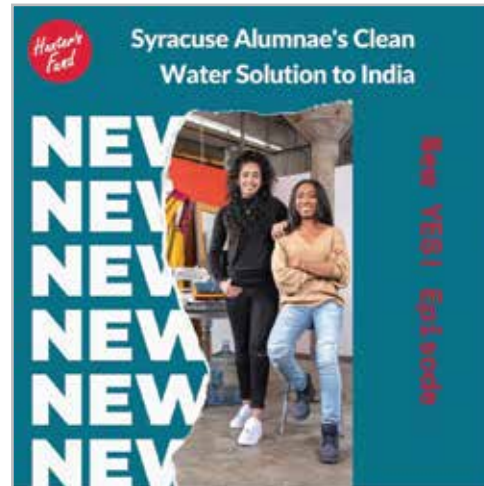
The things that I wanted to invent were very hard to do because the technology wasn't there yet. But then we worked on the technology along with the ideas.

You also need to work with lots of people. You need computer scientists and engineers and people who have good ideas. You can't just say "I'm going to stick with my own type."

HF: Do you have any tips for entrepreneurs preparing to give their first business pitch?

Liddy: Don't be too proud. Don't talk as if you've got the answer to everything in the world — kind of calm that down a bit. It's great when you're excited about what you're doing, but not when you're bragging.

Young Entrepreneur Series Launched on YouTube



YES! Podcast Art

Hunter's Fund has launched a monthly podcast and web series to share the stories of young entrepreneurs and grant winners supported by the fund.

Each episode of the Young Entrepreneur Series (YES!) features interviews with past Hunter's Fund Grant winners and Entrepreneurship Award recipients,

providing a forum to discuss the ins and outs of launching a start-up venture, applying for grants and fundraising, overcoming challenges, and using networking to get ahead.

Hosted by Jacob O'Connor, a former Hunter's Fund Grant Winner and host of the Venture Mentality Podcast, YES! hands the mic to young creatives — from musicians and fashion designers to tech entrepreneurs and inventors — to share their stories while offering advice to a new generation of creative thinkers, problem-solvers, and business owners.

"I wanted to create a space to connect our supporters to get in-depth stories about our grant winners and their aspirations," says Natalie Kwon, previous program manager at Hunter's Fund. "I knew YES! was a good opportunity to update our donors on the projects their donations were funding while inspiring young entrepreneurs who may be following similar paths as our grant winners."

The inaugural episode of YES! features an interview with Fall 2020 grant winners Cassie Leachman and Matthew Farrelly, founders of Syracuse-based music production company, artist management agency, and record label Capricious Productions. In episode one, Leachman and Farrelly share how they leveraged resources at their university to launch their recording company and worked with their professors to develop their business.

"My advice to anyone who wants to get into the music or entertainment industry is to not be deterred by the number of people who are going to tell you it's not plausible," Leachman says in her interview. "I've heard the same pieces of advice so many times that it would be easier to quit and get an office job, but I really recommend that you don't give yourself an out. Go and forge your own path."

Subsequent episodes feature conversations with 17-year-old hip-hop artist Anwar Karim, independent filmmaker Sophie Fazio, global health entrepreneur Brianna Howard, and journalist Jessica Toscano.

Each episode is available wherever you listen to podcasts and can also be found on YouTube and Vimeo. To listen, search for "Hunter's Fund Young Entrepreneur Series" and make sure to subscribe to be the first to know about new episodes.

Mentorship Program Supports and Connects Hunter's Fund Grant Winners



Since 2017, Hunter's Fund has distributed hundreds of thousands of dollars to young entrepreneurs across the globe. But money is

only half of the equation when it comes to developing a start-up business or project — the other half is mentorship.

The Hunter's Fund mentorship program was developed in 2021 by Program Manager Laurel Holmes to create an opportunity for grant winners to receive ongoing, project-based guidance and support after receiving their funds.

"My goal in redeveloping the Mentorship Program is to further the impact of the resources we are providing to our grant recipients," Holmes says. "Not only are we

giving them financial support, but we are also now working to provide them opportunities for education, networking, and professional growth."

The program pairs grant recipients with mentors in their field who can help them strategize timely, attainable goals for their project and use their grant money efficiently. Each pair outlines goals for the year and meets virtually once a month to work through problems and develop a strategic plan for the month.

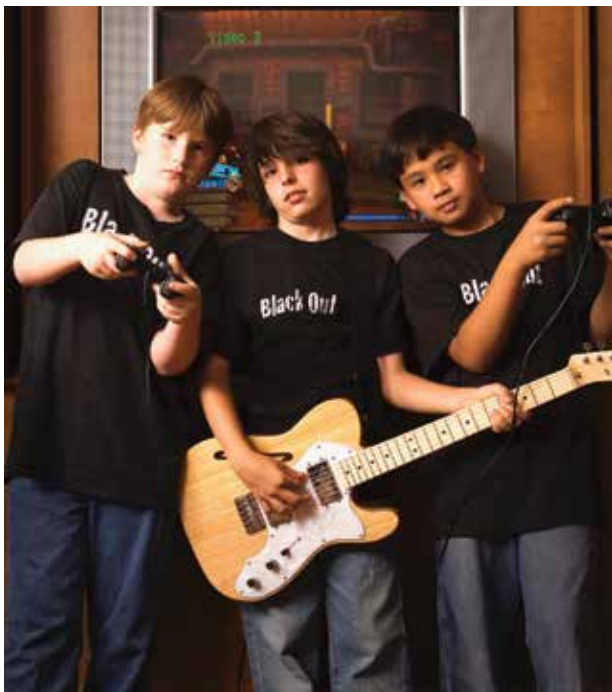
"I hope that both grant winners

and mentors are able to grow from this program, whether that be personally, professionally, or both," Holmes says. "My goal is that the wisdom and advice imparted on our grant winners will be things that they may carry with them throughout the one-year grant project process and then beyond into their careers and lives, as their project continues to grow and flourish."

If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a mentor, email

laurel@hunterwatson.org

Your Support and Hunter's Grants Builds on Gladwell's 10,000 Hour Theory of Success



Hunter's band, Black Out

"We overlook just how large a role we all play--and by 'we' I mean society--in determining who makes it and who doesn't."

That's an excerpt from journalist Malcolm Gladwell's best-selling book *Outliers: The Story of Success*. Throughout *Outliers*, Gladwell argues that the most successful, high-achieving people in the world — from business tycoons and multi-millionaires to Nobel Peace Prize winners and famous artists and athletes — reached the pinnacles

of success not solely through self-will or innate talent, but through a series of outside factors and lucky life circumstances.

One of Gladwell's theories says that it takes 10,000 hours of "deliberate practice" to achieve mastery in any field. According to his theory, anyone who practices a specific skill for 10,000 hours — or 20 hours a week for 10 years — will become world-class in their industry.

But more often than not, young people without strong financial resources and support systems lack the time and energy to devote themselves toward developing their skills and passions — leaving success out of reach despite their innate talent.

"Today many parents are not even able to provide for the education and basic needs of their children. They are hesitant to give a talented son or daughter

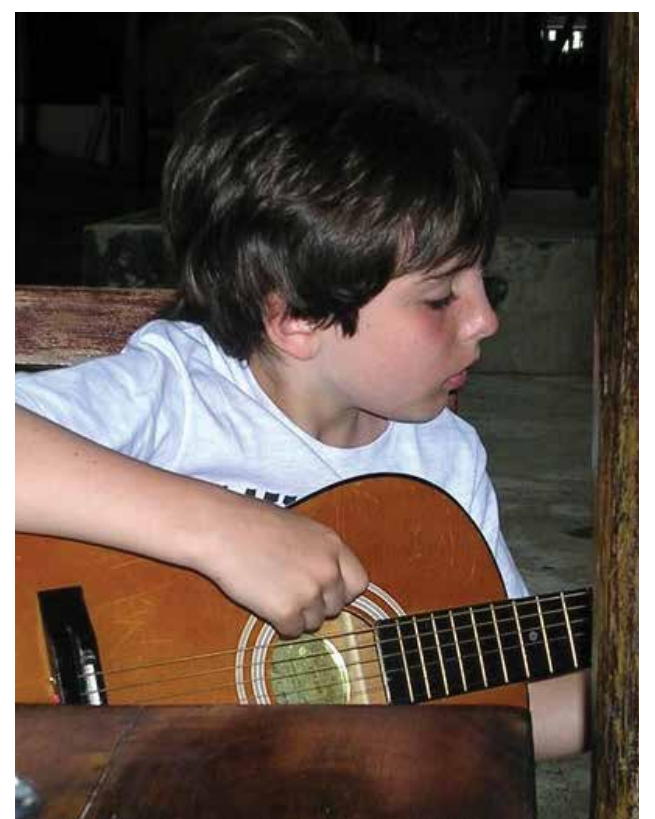
extra help without taking away from the needs of their brother or sisters," says Jerry Watson, co-founder of Hunter's Fund.

Hunter's Fund frequently receives applications from young people seeking funds to purchase the necessary equipment to practice their skills and develop their creative projects. Many of these applicants have dedicated their free time to refine their crafts but found themselves unable to make progress without the right tools.

"One applicant could not afford the cost of a recording studio to make a demo of his songs. We provided him with recording equipment so he could accomplish this on his own schedule and at the same time learn the art of mixing his music," Watson says. "Two years later, he was

awarded a recording contract from Epic Records and is now on tour where thousands are enjoying the music he dreamed of sharing."

Through financial aid and dedicated mentorship, Hunter's Fund is working to empower young people to pursue their intrinsic passions, find fulfillment in their work, and inspire a new generation of creative thinkers.



Hunter practicing guitar

Your Founders

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). Four years later, the organization has received hundreds of applications and funded more than 50 promising young people who could not have explored their passions without financial assistance. The fund has also established Hunter's Pledge to End Distracted on more than 30 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



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Jordan Parent
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Jason Reif
New York, NY



Mark Ramsey
Great Falls, VA



Matt Salutillo
Fairfax, VA



Will Snape
New York, NY



Connor Sweeney
Great Falls, VA



Ted Watson
New York, NY

COMMENTS FROM PLEDGE SIGNERS

We asked students why they want to put an end to distracted driving and what being a safe driver means to them.

"It means saving my life and others lives."

- Juliana W.

"Distracted driving means to me the difference from making it somewhere safely."

- Taylor B.

"It means being responsible towards your safety, and the safety of all other drivers on the road."

- Kyle M.

"Costing lives of other people and something needs to be done about it."

- Garrett K.

"I just want my loved ones safe and to make sure nobody is ever hurt because of something that's so preventable.."

- Ana K.

"It pains me to say that I have lost friends to distracted driving."

- Bryce M.

"To me it means saving lives!"

- Harrison E.

CAMPUS CAMPAIGN MAILBOX

Messages Sent to Campus Volunteers

"Great initiative - keep up the good work!"

- B.F., Basking Ridge, NJ

"What a great cause! Good luck with this fundraising project."

- C. K., Meadville, PA

"Great philanthropy to save lives and make the world a safe place."

- N. F., Basking Ridge, NJ

"Hats off to your fraternity for raising awareness and funds for such a worthy cause!"

- T. D., Sherwood, WI

"Calvin - A great cause. Good luck."

- H. W., Dallas, TX

"Happy to donate for this good cause."

- A. C., Port Washington, NY

Volunteer Opportunity

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

Grant Reviewers - This is a great opportunity to review applications twice a year for our grant awards. Everything is done online. Your help would be tremendous in making sure the best candidates are chosen.

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 Laurel Holmes at laurel@hunterwatson.org

Hunter's Fund Receives Guidestar Platinum Seal 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 25,000 students signing Hunter's Pledge to End Distracted Driving.



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

Campus Restaurants Encourage Customers to Sign Hunter's Pledge



Table tents used at restaurants

A novel initiative by Hunter's Fund encourages restaurant and bar patrons to sign Hunter's Pledge to End Distracted Driving.

Restaurant partnerships, in which nonprofits partner with eating establishments to fundraise and host events, are a popular way for organizations to raise money and reach new audiences. But when the COVID-19 pandemic put an end to mass gatherings, students at Penn

State's Phi Kappa Psi chapter teamed up with Hunter's Fund and dreamed up a new way to engage patrons in the initiative to end distracted driving.

"Table tents" with scannable QR codes were set up at popular bars and restaurants around Penn State University. Patrons could then sign Hunter's Pledge from their smartphones while sitting at their tables by simply pointing their phone camera at the QR code.

Univ of Alabama Students Partner with Local Restaurant to Encourage Students Not to Drive Distracted



Alabama Students encourage distracted driving pledges and donations at entrance to local restaurant.

After COVID-19 restrictions forced the Alabama Alpha Chapter of Phi Kappa Psi to conduct their annual Hunter's Pledge initiative completely virtually, the brothers were excited by the opportunity to host an in-person philanthropy event as pandemic restrictions were lifted around the University of Alabama campus.

Working with the owner of "World of Beer," a restaurant and craft beer destination spot, Philanthropy Chairs Ian Cooney and Shane Allison set up a one-night fundraising and pledge-signing event to bolster support for Hunter's Pledge.

The restaurant generously offered to donate 15% of the proceeds during the four-hour

event to Alabama Alpha's Spring Hunter's Pledge campaign.

The event raised \$320 to support Hunter's Pledge, and the brothers were able to collect more than 100 pledges from University of Alabama students attending the event.



Hunter's Pledge
Saving Lives on
44 Campuses

- Univ of Alabama
- Allegheny College
- Beloit College
- UC Berkeley
- Univ of California, Davis
- Cal State Northridge
- Cal State-San Luis Obispo
- Case Western
- Coe College
- Cornell Univ
- DePaul Univ
- Drexel Univ
- Edinboro Univ
- Elberta High School
- Emporia State Univ
- Fairmont State Univ
- Foley High School
- Univ of Georgia
- Indiana State Univ
- Iowa State Univ
- Univ of Kansas
- Lafayette College
- Univ of Louisiana, Lafayette
- Lycoming College
- Univ of Maryland
- Univ of Minn Duluth
- Univ of Minn Twin Cities
- Univ of Rhode Island
- Northern Illinois Univ
- Penn State Univ
- Potomac School
- Univ of Pennsylvania
- Rochester Institute
- Simpson College
- Southern Illinois Univ
- Stanford Univ
- SUNY Oneonta
- Syracuse Univ
- Univ of Texas
- Texas Tech Univ
- Univ of Toledo
- West Point High School
- Univ of Virginia
- Washington & Jefferson 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.

The Hunter Watson Memorial Fund awards grants and scholarships to promising students and provides programs to improve the safety of our young people. The Hunter Watson Memorial Fund is a Non Profit organization (EIN 83-0574041). Virginia residents may obtain a Financial Statement from the Virginia State Office of Consumer Affairs, Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services P.O. Box 1163, Richmond, VA 23218, 1-804-786-1343. Documents and information submitted under the Maryland Charitable Solicitations are also available, for the cost of postage and copies, from the Maryland Secretary of State, State House, Annapolis, MD 21401, or 1-800-825-4510. New York residents may also obtain a copy of HBW Fund's first Annual Report when filed in 2019 by writing to the Office of Attorney General, Department of Law, Charities Bureau: Registration Section, 120 Broadway, New York, NY 10271. Information about Hunter's Fund for other States can be found at: www.hunterwatson.org/information. REGISTRATION WITH ANY STATE DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT. Florida: A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE, 1-800-435-7352 (800-HELP-FLA) WITHIN THE STATE OR VISITING www.FloridaConsumerHelp.com. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE. Florida Registration number CH487. NORTH CAROLINA: FINANCIAL INFORMATION ABOUT THIS ORGANIZATION AND A COPY OF ITS LICENSE ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE STATE SOLICITATION LICENSING BRANCH AT 1-888-830-4989. THE LICENSE IS NOT AN ENDORSEMENT BY THE STATE. Pennsylvania: The official registration and financial information of AICR may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

My Best Memory of Hunter Bonnaroo Music Festival

- By *Liam Catto*



Bonnaroo Music Festival

"Liam Catto is a recent graduate of the University of Colorado studying Business and Advertising and now working in sales in Denver, CO."

One of my favorite and one of my last memories with Hunter was at Bonnaroo Music Festival in 2016.

Hunter had been to the festival the year before but not all of us had gone, so it was a little overwhelming, to say the least. The entire festival was a massive camp where you pretty much had to survive for 5 nights. Each night we would pack up all the stuff we needed, and enter the festival from the hours of 8 pm to 6 am not knowing what we had gotten ourselves into.

One of the nights, I was put in charge of leading the group and making sure we were all together. All hell broke loose. I pretty much lost everyone, including Hunter. Everyone was extremely dehydrated, and it seemed like our fun was over. I finally was able to rally most of the group and texted everyone to meet at the stage where LCD Soundsystem was performing.

Midway through the show everyone started to feel better and have a great time and out of nowhere Hunter appeared, smiling right next to me, and laughing at how distraught the group looked.

He looked at me and said "I'm really happy you guys all made it, couldn't think of a better way to spend time with my best friends. You guys are my best friends man."

The rest of the festival was great and we headed home to Northern Virginia after it was over.

That was one week before Hunter passed away, and I'm extremely lucky to have had one last memory with my best friend.

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

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.*

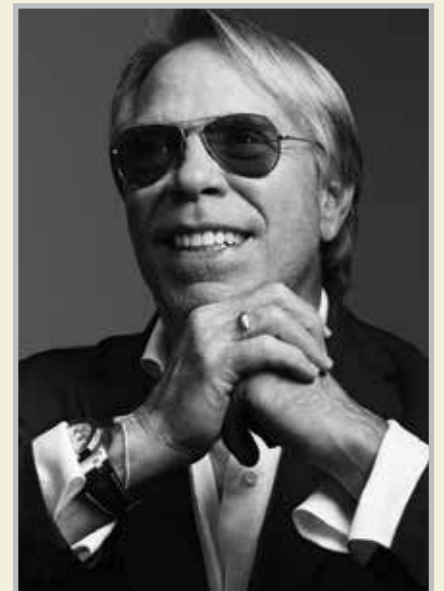
"It Could Save Someone's Life"

TOMMY HILFIGER SUPPORTS HUNTER'S FUND

Tommy Hilfiger came to know Hunter and the Watsons on the island of Mustique where both families went on holiday and their children played as youngsters. Founder of one of the world's premiere luxury lifestyle brands, Tommy Hilfiger is the creative genius behind the label that bears his name. In person, Tommy is soft spoken and down to earth and his genuine warmth and friendliness have endeared him to many. He has been a supporter of Hunter's Fund since its inception.

When my children were still small, we used to join the Watson family for "turtle counting" outings after rainstorms in Mustique. There were no cell phones to snap photos back then, but I can still remember the joy on their faces.

My kids were similar in age to Teddy and Hunter Watson and the kids often spent their days together splashing about in the pool. Those were magical summers for our kids.



Tommy Hilfiger

The news that Hunter had died in a car crash was devastating to our whole family. When I learned that Jerry, Judy and some of Hunter's friends had started a charity to invest in young people, I knew immediately that I wanted to contribute to their efforts.

Losing a child is something no parent should have to face, but it's wonderful to see how the Watsons have created something meaningful out of their tragedy. With grants to young artists and entrepreneurs, and to distracted driving awareness campaigns, Hunter's Fund is making a difference in young people's lives.

Hunter's death was a wakeup call for our family. Of course, each of us knows that we are not invincible, but when something happens to someone you know, it hits home in a different way. I'm proud to support Hunter's Fund to get the message out to more young people that life is too precious to risk with distracted driving. It could save someone's life – and that is worth investing in.