

The Rhapsody

2019-2021

Biennial Report of the Tau Beta Sigma Alumni Association



Tau Beta Sigma Alumni Association
Est. 2007

The *RHAPSODY* is a publication of the TBSAA, a non-profit organization.

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...even in the face of Great Trial! 2019-2021

Dear Sisters,

What a biennium it has been! When we left the last National Convention in Stillwater, we had no idea what kind of trials and tribulations we would face during the next two years. Despite the rocky seas we have faced, it has been a blessing to be a member of Tau Beta Sigma during these trying times, as we have been able to rely on our Eight Essential Factors and Five Qualities to guide us!

The Tau Beta Sigma Alumni Association has continued to grow and thrive during the past two years. Our membership numbers have continued to increase annually, breaking membership records, including initial numbers for 2021-2022. This biennium saw the first membership year with more than 500 paid membership (in addition to the free year of members given to new Life Members). This outstanding level of participation is allowing the Association to provide more scholarship & grant funding to our members, and look toward the next steps in our growth moving forward.

During this biennium, we welcomed five new local alumni associations! Welcome to the Epsilon Ome-

ga AA in Baltimore, Brave Spirit AA in Lorman, MS, Gamma Eta AA in Itta Beta MS, Tuscaloosa Area AA, and welcome back to the Delta Theta AA in Montgomery, AL! We have also received current interest in the formation of twelve other new LAAs. We appreciate your dedication to creating a worthwhile alumni experience and hope to be able to form more LAAs across the country in the coming years.

This biennium also saw record numbers of Association member participating in TBSAA programming. The number of TBSAA Grant and Graduate School scholarship applications continue to increase each year, and thanks to the continued growth of our Gold Star Club program, we are set to continue increasing our scholarship funding in the coming years.

Additionally, this biennium, the TBSAA introduced our new Growth & Professional Development Program, which has been a way for alumni of all ages to come together to discuss ways to explore personal and professional growth. The program utilizes guest speakers, panel discussions, and discussion boards to engage alumni on a different topic each month. We hope that the



**The TBSAA Executive Council
2019-2021**

program continues to grow and it will be a resource for our members in the years to come.

Finally, we send our sincere appreciation to the leaders of our local alumni associations (LAAs) who went above and beyond during the pandemic, pivoting to virtual activities, and finding creative ways to keep their members connected. We also specially thank our district-based LAAs for their amazing work at moving to virtual district conventions with short notice in 2020. You were awesome!

It has been an honor and privilege to serve the TBSAA and we thank you for entrusting the future of the Association to us during the 2019-2021 biennium. Tau Beta Sigma for Greater Bands!

In the Bond,
The Executive Council
Chris, Dave, Tyra, Marissa, Thea & Jess

TBSAA Programs 2019-2021



This biennium saw increased participation in all of the TBS Alumni Association's national programs!

One TBSAA program that was perfectly suited for the pandemic was the For Greater Bands Virtual

5K! Two virtual 5Ks were hosted during the biennium, on April 25, 2020 and May 1, 2021. Thanks to the greater participation, the Association was able to donate \$4,500 to the Mr. Holland's Opus Foundation to support secondary instrumental music education programs across the country. Thank you to everyone who participated or donated!

In 2020, TBSAA also launched a new Growth & Professional Development Program. The GDPD is the next evolution of our one-to-one mentorship program, and focuses on group activities with a different focus every month. The program brings in guest speakers, hosts group discussions, and other engagement projects to share best practices and strategies related to both personal and professional develop-

ment. Contact tbsaa-programs@tbsigma.org with any questions.

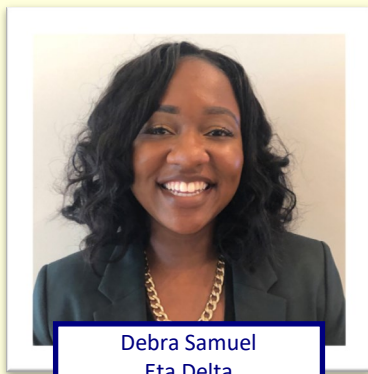
The 2019-21 biennium also saw the largest participation to date in the TBSAA Grant Program and TBSAA National Scholarship for Graduate Studies. Thanks to previous membership growth, the number of scholarships was doubled this biennium and further increases are expected as the Association continues to grow.

The 2021 TBSAA Grant applications are due on September 1, 2021. All members are encouraged to take advantage of this program to provide funding for your professional development.

Thank you to all TBSAA members who have taken advantage of all Association programs during the biennium!



Graduate School Scholarship Recipients



Debra Samuel
Eta Delta



Kat Grant
Rho



Christopher Lukasik
Delta Delta



Mia Grant
Theta Mu

TBSAA Grant Recipients



Allison Leeman
Eta Gamma



To Be Announced
Fall 2021

A Special Opportunity on our Anniversary

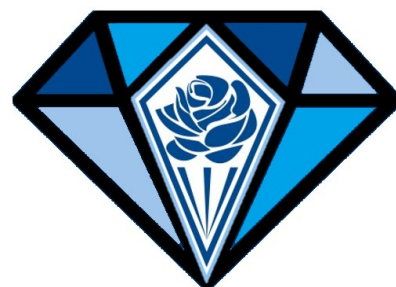
The past biennium featured a historic moment for the Sorority: the 75th anniversary of our incorporation. To commemorate this important milestone, the TBSAA offered a special membership tier: Diamond Anniversary Membership. This special membership option for the 2020-21 year included all the benefits and status of the Gold Star Club, but with additional recognition.

Diamond Anniversary Members received a commemorative certificate of appreciation, designed in a similar style to membership shingles, and an addition-

al member gift, a diamond pen, to go with the Gold Star Club exclusive gift, TBSAA branded Post-It notes.

Also, our Diamond Anniversary members were acknowledged in *The Podium*, and *The Rhapsody*, and their names will be commemorated in an artistic display at National Headquarters. A pre-Ritual reception was held for Diamond Anniversary members at the 2021 National Convention in Grand Rapids.

We thank the 226 people who signed up to be Diamond Anniversary Members! Their high participation pushed TBSAA



to its largest membership year to date in 2020-21 and we hope to have you with us for many years to come.

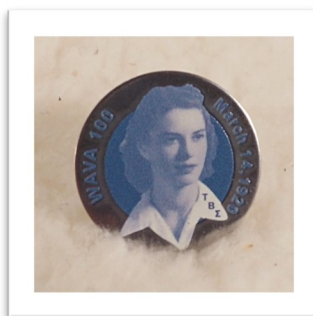
Celebrating a Biennium of Swag

One of the great parts of serving on the TBSAA Executive Council is planning out new alumni merchandise and swag. During the 2019-21 biennium, the TBSAA created several member gifts and hosted four fundraisers which introduced new items into our growing history of merchandise.

During the biennium, standard members received a TBSAA lanyard and a TBSAA luggage tag. Gold Star Club members received a coaster, and a set of

Post-It notes. Finally, Diamond Anniversary members in 2020-21 received a diamond ballpoint pen,

This biennium also saw the most productive fundraisers in the history of the Association. The TBSAA sold Wava100 pins in honor of our Founder's 100th birthday, as well as two t-shirts and a travel mug. Thank you to all the members who contributed to our fundraisers, and thank you to our members who sent in great ideas for swag!



Record-Breaking Membership in 2019-2021

TAU BETA SIGMA



ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

This biennium saw continued increases in Alumni Association membership, including increased participation in our premium membership tiers.

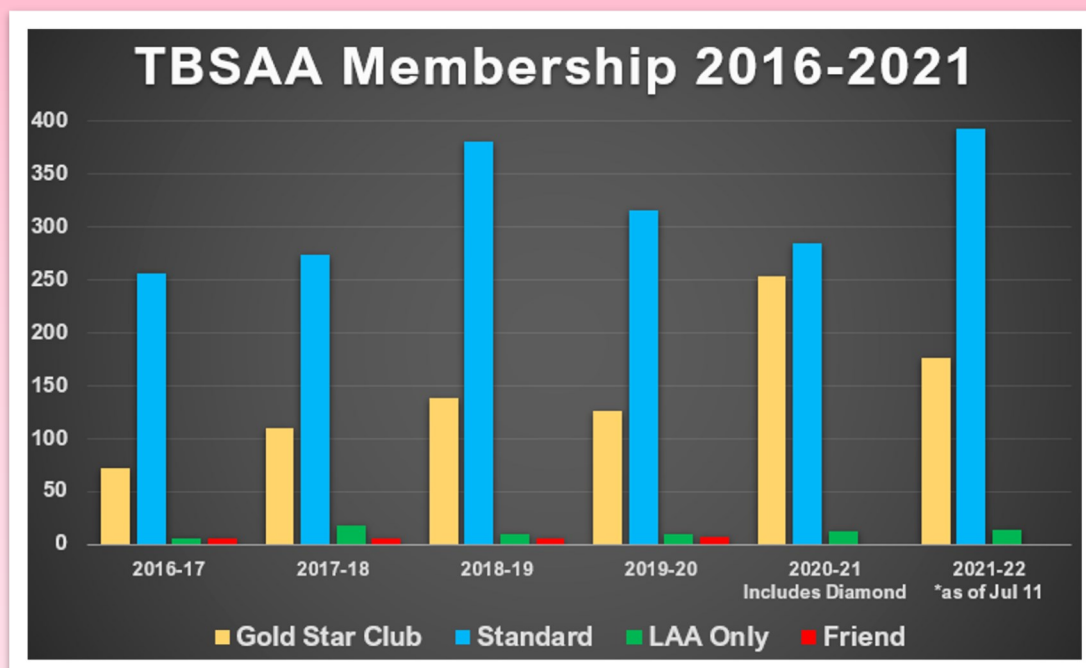
During the 2019-2020 year, the TBSAA saw an increase in retention following the November 2018 Life Membership sale. There was a higher percentage of those new Life Members, who received their complimentary first year of membership in the Association, choosing to continue their TBSAA Membership than in the past. While the raw number of standard TBSAA decreased from the previous year, the number of non-complimentary (paid) memberships increased.

As mentioned previously on page 3, the TBSAA offered a special membership tier in the 2020-21 member year called Diamond Anniversary. This was an extra level of commitment on top of the Gold Star Club membership tier. The Diamond Anniversary Members will be tracked as Gold Star Club members for purposes of analyzing membership trends. The TBSAA is very thankful for those members who chose

to participate in this special program and are glad so many have chosen to continue their membership into 2021-22.

Looking at the current participation as we start the new biennium, we are seeing the highest number of Gold Star Club members to date, excluding the special circumstances of the Diamond Anniversary Membership program the previous year. Also, the March 2021 Life Membership sale has helped TBSAA to a record number of members to start the year, with over 350 standard members, and 580 members total, both being all-time highs. We hope that this experience will encourage more members to return following their complimentary year and also spur interest in forming new LAAs across the country.

The Executive Council is always researching new membership benefits that could be offered to our members. If you have suggestions, please contact tbsaa-membership@tbsigma.org. We hope to have all of our members back for the upcoming biennium as the TBSAA celebrates our 15th anniversary in the summer of 2022!



Local Alumni Association Highlights

During this biennium, our local alumni association program has thrived and grown, despite the challenges brought on by the global pandemic. Our LAAs have adapted and come up with inventive ways to stay in touch and continue to promote alumni fellowship & networking! The TBSAA sincerely thanks all of our members who served as officers in our local alumni associations! A special commendation is sent out to the officers in the six district-wide alumni associations, as they were tremendously adaptable and dedicated to hosting *two* online district conventions during the biennium, the first of which came with short notice after the pandemic was declared in March 2020. Thank you all!

Some of the many highlights from our LAAs this biennium :

- ◇ Epsilon Omega AA hosted a virtual celebration for the 45th anniversary of the Epsilon Omega chapter
- ◇ Eta Lambda AA organized, and distributed COVID kits to all high school band programs in their area
- ◇ NEDAA issued a climate survey to its membership to collect data on member retention and satisfaction
- ◇ SWDAA recognized outstanding educators by giving them gift cards to use in their classroom
- ◇ SCStateITB AA supplied their band program with personalized "Marching 101" masks
- ◇ UAPB SW Regional AA hosted several online workshops related to Covid-19 for music educators
- ◇ Brave Spirit AA provided a scholarship to a member of the Alcorn State University "Sounds of Dyn-O-Mite"
- ◇ Delta Theta AA co-hosted a Women in Music Forum with their active chapter
- ◇ WDAA hosted a resume building and interview strategy workshop
- ◇ MWDAAs hosted successful fundraisers during district convention and made donations to both district councils
- ◇ SEDAA created 2 new awards to recognize members from the Southeast District

Local Alumni Associations 2019–2021

2019-2020

Alpha Delta Alumni Association
Atlanta Alumni Association
Beta Xi Alumni Association
Delta Alpha Alumni Association
Epsilon Psi Alumni Association
Eta Lambda Alumni Association
Gamma Eta Alumni Association
Grambling Alumni Association
Midwest District Alumni Association
North Central District Alumni Association
Northeast District Alumni Association
Southeast District Alumni Association
Southwest District Alumni Association
Western District Alumni Association

2020-2021

Atlanta Alumni Association
Brave Spirit Alumni Association
Delta Theta Alumni Association
Epsilon Psi Alumni Association
Epsilon Omega Alumni Association
Eta Lambda Alumni Association
Gamma Eta Alumni Association
Grambling Alumni Association
Midwest District Alumni Association
North Central District Alumni Association
Northeast District Alumni Association
SCStateITB Alumni Association
Southeast District Alumni Association
Southwest District Alumni Association
Tuscaloosa Area Alumni Association
UAPB Southwest Regional Alumni Association
Western District Alumni Association

Thank you to our 2019–2021 Gold Star Club Members!

2019-2020

David Alexander, Jr.
Marissa Archuleta
Yslette Arispe
Debbie Baker
Peggy Banks
Kwinton Baylor
Valerie Beerbower
Pamela Bennett
Oria Berkley
Justin Brady
Samantha Brandeberry
Beth Bronk
Mary Lu Brooks
L. Renee Brown
Sue Carr
Morine Carroll
Renee Cartee
Jasmine Causey
Angela Chin
Lance Coochyouma
Debra Crawford
Lisa Croston
Amanda Dickson
Emily Donovan
Jason Dornbush
Kanoshia Duncan
Baisha Dunn
Kelly Eidson
Harmona Epps
HaShawn Epps
Dawn Farmer
Paige Fell
Chris Foster
Willie Frazier
Leslie Gartin
Kathy Godwin
Samantha Hall
David Hammond
Karon Hammond
Alan Harriet

Alysha Harvey
Tamara Henry
Valeria Hicks
Demetria Jackson
Eve Jones
Chris Joyce
Kathryn Kelly
Randy Kitchens
Marco Krcatovich, II
Katie Langley
Jada Lee
Allison Leemann
Kymberly Littlejohn
Joshua Lott
Christopher Lukasik
René Mark
Jonathan Markowski
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Scott McCambridge
Wendy McCann
Leslie McClure
Rosalyn McDonald
Javonni McGlaurin
Heather McGowan
Melanie Meehan
Cathy Miles
Dana Mitchell
Brianna Mitchell
Monika Monk
Jasmine Moore
Ivania Morales
Caleb Morris
Tundra Morris
Eric Morson
Thea Murphy
Bridget Myers



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Cassandra Nicholson
Stephani Noar
Robin Oegerle
Maisha Paggett
Tamisha Palmer
Salli-Tymna Parker
Theresa Powell
Adrienne Rall
Chelsea Rasing
Linnetta Ratliff
Kelsey Reilly
Mikaela Rhodes
Catrina Sally-Thomas
Michael Scheidegger
Jennifer Scott
Amber Scott
Scott Sergeant
Carly Shields
Kimbi Sigle
Kerry Simon
Marlena Simoneau
Zara Simpson

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Meghan Smith
Deena Smith
Brandy Stallworth
David Stookey
Jessica Stookey
Amanda Sutfin
Rebekah Tarplin
Julia Tordo
Leisa Tucker
Alana Urbano
Hayley Voorhees
Verinda Waters
Deami Watson
Kathy Webster
Janet West Miller
Terri White
Lashann Williams
La'Tyra Willis
Jenna Woodward
Marcus Wyche
Tyra Yiare

2020-2021

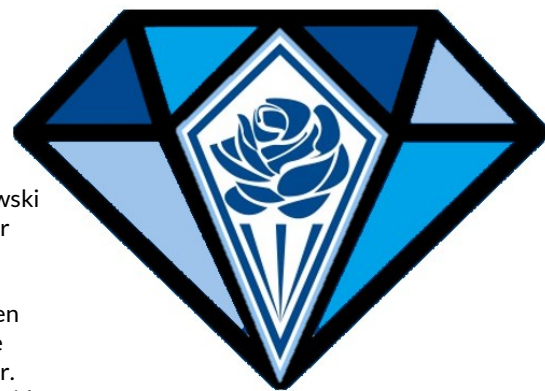
Nikole Alford
Melissa Bays
Carmen Bessent
Joanna Bonner
Brittany Brown
Erwin Brown
Maleah Bufford

Morine Carroll
Nai Colton
Jasmine Davis
Bria Douglas
Baisha Dunn
Layla Gray
Kristy Harris

Janelle Henderson
Autre Howard-Morgan
Demetria Jackson
Elizabeth Jones
Sade' Kemp
Ivania Morales
Tundra Morris

Angela Nellum
Paige Sanford
Nyaesia Thompson
Linda Wallace
Verinda Waters
La'Tyra Willis

Special thanks to our 2020-21 Diamond Anniversary Members!



David Alexander, Jr.
Venus Anderson
Marlee Archer
Marissa Archuleta
Yslette Arispe
Cynthia Baker
Debbie Baker
Justina Bascombe
Kwinton Baylor
Stacy Bell
Nicole Benedict
Destinee Bennett
Pamela Bennett
Danielle Blackwell
Bethany Bonner
Justin Brady
Samantha Brandeberry
Angela Brewster
L. Renee Brown
Stephanie Brown
Betty Buller
Kimberly Burrell
Helen Capehart
Tammy Carethers
Kylene Carlson
Sue Carr
Veronica Carroll
Jessica Carswell
Renee Cartee
Constance Castle
Jasmine Causey
Zach Cheever
VanTarsha Clarke
Abigail Clay
Brittany Coffey
Nicole Cook
Kenneth Corbett
RoShunda Council
Queenester Covington
Debra Crawford
Lisa Croston
Kellye Cunningham
Vontraciya Davis
Brittany DeRyke
Alexis DeVaughn
Jen DiBenedetto
Shivochie Dinkins
Emily Dixon
Emily Donovan
Mia Duffy
Kanoshia Duncan
Kelly Eidson
Megan Enright
Harmona Epps
HaShawn Epps
Dawn Farmer
Paige Fell
Jared Finkel
Sarah Fitzgerald

Tia Monet Flores
Natarsha Ford
Chris Foster
Gwyn Fox Stump
Willie Frazier
Abigael Frey
Juliana Garrison
Leslie Gartin
Ciara Gibbs
Pamela Gilmore
Erin Glaze
Kat Grant
Domonique Graphenreed-
Spence
Chiquita Greene
Sonya Greene
Tim Greenwell, Jr.
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Samantha Hall
David Hammond
Karon Hammond
Alan Harriet
Lavina Harris
Natalia Harrison
Holli Hartman
Akierah Hatten
Sherronda Henderson
Britney Henderson-Green
Tamara Henry
Valeria Hicks
Camille High
Shauna Holmes
Kandice Horton
Rosalind Howard
Kathryn Howell
Markitha Humphrey
Crystal Hunter
Maxwell Jabara
Wendy Jacques
Saidah Johnson
Eve Jones
Annette Jones-Baskin
Kathryn Kelly
Tylar Kerstetter
Sammi Kinnison
Oliver Kochol
Katie Langley
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Jessica Lewis
Monica Lewis
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Dana Mitchell
Kishera Mitchell
Monika Monk
Caleb Morris
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Larietta Moultrie
Marco Munoz, Jr.
Thea Murphy
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Cassandra Nicholson
Stephani Noar
Seritta Norige
Shalyn Nystrom
Maritza Olivares
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Maisha Paggett
Salli-Tymna Parker
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Parth Patel
Elizabeth Peterson
Erika Pope
Chris Pratt
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Chelsea Rasing
Linnetta Ratliff
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Jennifer Ryder
Catrina Sally-Thomas
Nicole Sanchez

April Sansing
Ed Savoy
Michael Scheidegger
Stacy Schiele
Amber Scott
Jahn Scott
Jennifer Scott
Scott Sergeant
Riley Sheets
ClinTonya Shorter
Kimi Sigle
Ashlyn Simmons
Kerry Simon
Marlena Simoneau
Zara Simpson
Alex Sizemore
Alexis Smith
Jessica Smith
Sharron Smith
Brett Steinbrink
Wendy Stewart
Olivia Stewart-Costa
David Stookey
Jessica Stookey
Amy Strickland
Shruthi Sudhakar
Amanda Sutfin
Ashley Tanksley
Coleone Taylor Davis
Ikeila Thomas
Jessica Thomas
Ericka Thrower
Amber Tubbs
Alana Urbano
Jennifer Villarreal
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Latrinda Walker
Georgette Washington
Kathy Webster
Gloria White
Terri White
Christy Wiggins
Siobhan Wilkes
Bridgette Williams
Lashann Williams
Laurie Williams
Hannah Wilson
Tyra Yiare
Taylor Young
Chelsea Zuniga

Thank you to our committee volunteers during this biennium!

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Sarah Bogue
RJ Gammon
Sami Kinnison
Christopher Lukasik
Caleb Morris
Mikaela Rhodes
Brett Steinbrink

2020 Scholarship/Grant Committee

Danielle Blackwell
Christopher Lukasik
Chris Reed
Chelsea Zuniga

2021 Scholarship Committee

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Caleb Morris
Mikaela Rhodes
Nicole Sanchez

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Megan Enright
Emily Gunby
Julia Waldron

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Natalie Kimura, WDAΑ
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Alex Sizemore, MWDAΑ
Olivia Stewart-Costa, SEDAA
Jermaine White, AAA

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Shalyn McKitt, Chair
Dominic Gattozzi
Kat Grant
Janay Johnson
Jon Leeper
Caleb Morris
Alaina Peters
Breanna Thomas

2020-21 LAA Chair Committee

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Ralph Holloway, BSAA
Natalie Kimura, WDAΑ
Monica Lewis, TAAA
Tamara Lovejoy, ΔΘΑΑ
Christopher Lukasik, NEDAΑ
Jasmine Rhodes, ΗΛΑΑ
Mikaela Rhodes, SWDAΑ
Michael Scheidegger, NCDAA
Alex Sizemore, MWDAΑ
Olivia Stewart-Costa, SEDAA
Jessica Thomas, ΕΨΑΑ
Jermaine White, AAA

National Convention Committee

JJ Causey
Mia Duffy
Marco Muñoz
Scott Sergeant

Thank you to our fabulous donors during this biennium!

Donors to TBSAA Programs

Bethany Bonner
Renee Brown
Japheth Cleaver
Rebecca Grasser
Toni Jackman
Oliver Kochol
Marla Lewiski
Regina Newsome-Cook
Zara Simpson

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Greg Boike
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Kylene Carlson
Sue Carr
Maddy Collins

Lance Coochyouma
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Natalie Kimura
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2021 For Greater Bands 5K Donors

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Greg Boike
Sue Carr
Maddy Collins
Lance Coochyouma
Mary Anne Edwards
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