



the
evergreen
state college
foundation

Your 2025-2026 Giving *Impact Report*

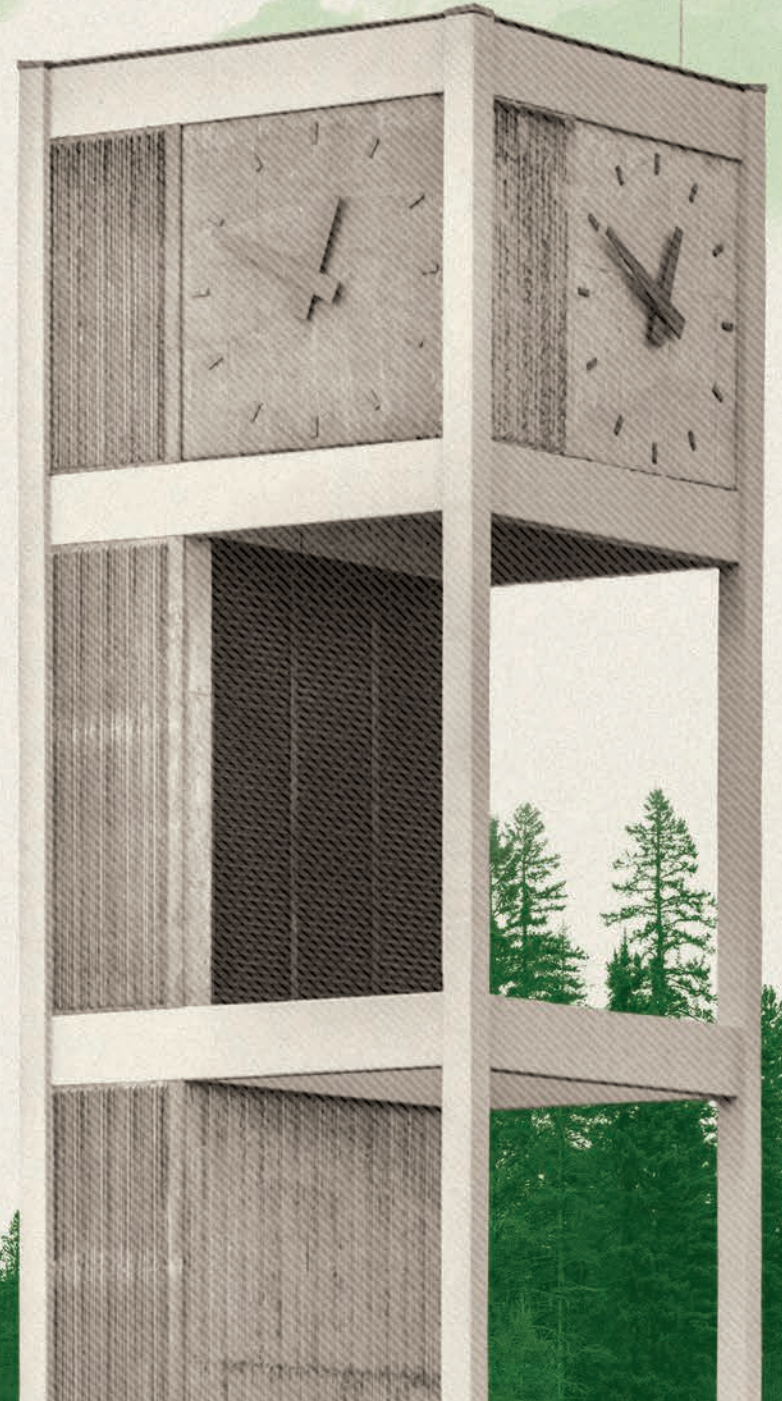


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MANY THANKS TO YOU, FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Abby Kelso



ABBY KELSO '01, MPA '11
Vice President for Advancement
Executive Director, The Evergreen
State College Foundation

Dear Evergreen believers,

I hope you take a moment to dive into this 2025–2026 report and feel invigorated.

Our strong community of alumni, parents, and friends made it possible to try new things, forge new paths, break barriers, and open doors for students to succeed.

You helped entrepreneurial students like Archie Moore III '26 dream bigger than they thought possible (page 8). You gave athletes like Alauna Carstens '27 the drive to win national championships and state service awards (page 11). You inspired conservationists like Lindie Gardner to devote her Master's study to the urgencies of climate change (page 13).

In 2025–2026, our community also came together in meaningful and inspiring ways. On May 8, a sold-out crowd gathered for the Art of Giving—hosted for the first time at the Seattle Art Museum. Together, you raised over \$400,000 to support students through the Evergreen Scholarship Fund (see page 9).

During the year, record numbers of people also turned out for Greener Meets events, Return to Evergreen, and volunteering through Evergreen Advocates. Your incredible outpouring of time, togetherness, and expertise created lasting Evergreen memories and powerful impacts across the country. Be sure to also catch up with great alumni achievements, from Dontae Payne '18, MPA '20 (page 15) to Thomas Clark '17 (page 16), to Loni Grinnell-Greninger, MPA '16 (page 17).

Thank you for creating amazing moments in 2025–2026 that show the enduring value of Evergreen's public education and the vital role the College plays in advancing the public good. An Evergreen education matters and our students and alumni are changing the world.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Abby".

YOUR BIG *Impact*

\$4,892,743

total gifts and grants
committed to Evergreen

\$198,015

awarded in Student
Emergency Fund
micro-grants

\$1,331,616

offered in
scholarship awards

\$3,435,559

total support from
the Foundation to
the College

208 STUDENTS

provided with aid
through the Student
Emergency Fund

343 STUDENTS

received scholarships



FOUNDATION BOARD RECEIVES NATIONAL AWARD



The Foundation Board receives the prestigious John W. Nason Award.

You have a lot to be proud of when you invest through The Evergreen State College Foundation. In February, the Board received the 2026 John W. Nason Award for Board Leadership by the Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges (AGB).

Presented annually by AGB, the Nason Award recognizes higher education governing boards that demonstrate exceptional leadership, foresight, and initiative in advancing institutional mission and impact.

Among a highly competitive and diverse pool of nominations, Evergreen was selected for the award in recognition of bold new fundraising and advocacy campaigns. Through their

leadership, the Board increased the student aid budget by 82%. The Board helped increase enrollment by 26% in four years and elevate the College's reputation.

The award also recognized the Board for its prioritization of culturally responsive governance, social and racial justice, and board diversification—demonstrating how foundations can propel institutional growth through principled action.

"Their commitment to excellence, courage through uncertainty, and advocacy for Evergreen has transformed what is possible for our students," said Abby Kelso '01, MPA '11, Evergreen's Vice President for Advancement

Welcome NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Joined in 2025–2026:

Keri Carkeek '92

Kim Kaufman '78

Jason Reddock '18

Joining in 2026–2027:

Jeremy Caudle

Lorri DeFoor '09 MiT

Kayla Mahnke Hargett '12

Aleesha Towns-Bain, Ph.D., '02

and Executive Director of the Foundation. "I am inspired by their service and honored to see their work recognized with this national award."

Ben Anderson '93, past Chair of the Foundation Board of Governors, shared his heartfelt tribute, "I am deeply proud of this team and the work we're doing to lead Evergreen forward."

AGB is the premier organization advancing excellence in higher education governance. The John W. Nason Award is named in honor of higher education leader John W. Nason, who served as chair of the National Japanese American Student Relocation Council and helped more than 4,000 interned students continue their college studies during World War II. Learn more about AGB's Nason Award at [AGB.org/Award](https://www.agb.org/Award).

ALUM'S GIFT SUPERCHARGES

STUDENT SUPPORT

Initiated with an anonymous gift from an Evergreen alum in 2024, the Resilience Fund aimed to infuse \$1 million into scholarships and student support over a five-year period.

Today, the Resilience Fund continues to supercharge your impact.

That means more support to the Basic Needs Center and the Student Emergency Fund. And it means more scholarships through Evergreen Tacoma and the Native Pathways Program to students who are transforming their learning into leadership.



The Basic Needs Center, started with help from the legislature, provides food, clothes, housing support, and case management services.

In 2025–2026, the Emergency Fund was able to increase awards to students by over 26% (from \$156,000 to over \$198,000) through the Resilience Fund. The Basic Needs Center, a hub for essential food and housing support, was able to respond to 1,392 student visits in 2025–2026, nearly three-times as many as the previous year. The Center was also able to offer short-term housing for students experiencing housing insecurity.

V. Guardado, Basic Needs Center Navigator, explains, “Donor support for Basic Needs programming has helped us respond to growing needs while ensuring students feel supported. This funding makes it possible for Evergreen students to remain enrolled and hopeful as they pursue their educational goals.”

“The Resilience Fund and other donations have been critical in meeting students’ basic needs and allowing them to focus on their academic work,” says Holly Joseph, Dean of Students. “We are able to serve more students and respond to a wider variety of needs because of the generosity of donors. Students who would have dropped out are staying instead.”

Additionally, the Resilience Fund has already provided over 60 students with scholarships. That includes students like Maria Paz '28, who received a scholarship from the Resilience Fund in 2025–2026. Paz, who is also on the Women's Wrestling team, sees education as a path to opportunity, stability, and creating a better future for her family. “Because of support like yours,” says Paz, “students like me are able to keep striving, keep learning, and keep building something bigger than ourselves.”



Maria Paz '28 is using a scholarship from the Resilience Fund to build something even greater for her family.

STUDENT EMERGENCY FUND

Fueling curiosity with
Kelly Marie Dawsin '26



“What I love most about studying at Evergreen is bringing in my lived experience. The interdisciplinary model fuels my curiosity and critical thinking and has provided me a space to explore art, philosophy, literature, and culture.

My path to Evergreen has not been a traditional one. Before returning to school, I spent more than 40 years as a business owner, hair designer, yoga instructor, and creative collaborator. Yet I always had a deeper desire to expand my understanding of storytelling and visual expression. Returning to school allowed me to reconnect with that dream.

The Student Emergency Fund has been essential for continuing my education. This year, I am most excited to further develop my skills in digital filmmaking and experimental media. I am especially interested in how visual storytelling can explore identity, memory, and the unseen layers of human experience. As a returning student balancing financial responsibilities, the Emergency Fund has relieved a tremendous amount of stress.

Donor support made it possible for me to remain enrolled during financially uncertain times and to focus on my coursework and my filmmaking rather than constantly worrying about basic living expenses. I can keep studying, keep creating, and keep building toward a future that once felt out of reach.

With my Evergreen education, I hope to make films and multimedia works that amplify voices, document stories, and explore the beauty and complexity of human life.”



INTRODUCING THE NEW *Greener Hub*

A welcoming smile and a helpful hand are always available at the new Greener Hub drop-in kiosk. Students can ask questions like how to navigate campus. They can also talk through academic plans, get advice from peers, and receive warm referrals to other campus services. The Hub is the connective center of Evergreen’s campus support network. Along with programs like the Student Emergency Fund, the Hub is helping Evergreen students thrive.

The Greener Hub was launched through a federal Title III Strengthening Institutions grant.

THE EVERGREEN SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Turning dreams into reality with Archie Moore III '26

“My journey at The Evergreen State College began the first day I walked through the doors of the Tacoma campus, fresh out of barber college.

I came to Evergreen with a very limited perspective. I thought that sports and entertainment were my only opportunities. Evergreen showed me that I can become so much more.



The faculty at Evergreen Tacoma cared about my future and inspired me to work hard. Dr. Mingxia Li pushed me to do better in my coursework. Dr. Keith Stafford inspired me to be great, to keep believing in myself, and to always keep learning. My favorite teacher, Dr. Peter Bacho, taught me to think outside the box and to use my imagination. Dr. Joye Hardiman taught me to keep improving and thinking of all the different obstacles in business. Dr. Maxine Mimms taught me to dress the part for the job I want.

My focus is business and administration, and my goal is to open my own barbershop. Once I finish my bachelor's degree, I want to go to grad school. With a master's degree, I can teach young men and women how to run a successful business. When I graduate, I hope to see more Black men enrolling at the Tacoma campus, getting their credentials, rebuilding the community, and creating Black-owned businesses in the Pacific Northwest.

I am grateful to have many talents that help me towards these goals, from working with my hands to being innovative and always thinking of new ideas. I am hungry for knowledge, and

ABOUT THE EVERGREEN SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The Evergreen Scholarship Fund provides scholarships to students at Evergreen's Olympia and Tacoma campuses, as well as the Native Pathways Program. Many scholarships are renewable and increase as students get closer to graduation. Scholarships open doors for students to thrive and dig deep into the interdisciplinary, real-world learning experiences that only Evergreen can offer.

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AWARDS OFFERED
FROM THE EVERGREEN
SCHOLARSHIP FUND
IN 2025-2026

I will not give up on my dreams. Being the first Black man in my family to pursue a bachelor's degree is a lot of pressure. I want to show my family that it's possible.

My eyes are focused on the prize, and I will not stop until my dreams become reality. I can't wait to walk across that stage and see my family watching me receive my degree."

GOING BOLD WITH *the Art of Giving*

In May, Evergreen's dedicated community of donors, alumni, and friends came together to make the Art of Giving an impressive fundraising success.

The Art of Giving, a premier gala that raises funds for the Evergreen Scholarship Fund, was held for the first time at the Seattle Art Museum and sold out two weeks in advance. Through this year's theme, "Portraits," art and storytelling immersed attendees in the transformative impact of community giving and scholarships.

Throughout the program, attendees heard directly from students whose lives and academic journeys have been shaped by

scholarship support, including Kai Shook '26. "Evergreen was one of only two colleges that offered zoology, and it also offered no grades and interdisciplinary learning," explained Kai, who has a passion for Pacific Northwest wildlife. "That really won me over. I wanted to work with something I loved, and for me that meant animals. I wanted to support that ecology and the life here."

Kai's story, and that of almost a dozen other student speakers and ambassadors, underscored how your investments, as an engaged Greener community, creates immediate and lasting student success.

"The generosity of alumni and friends was inspiring, and Evergreen students responded by filling the room with hope for a better future for us all," said Evergreen's President, Dr. John Carmichael.

Art of Giving guests raised their paddles in support of student scholarships.



*Ella Colwell '27,
one of the student
keynote speakers
at the Art of
Giving gala.*



*Kai Shook '26,
one of the
student keynote
speakers at
the Art of
Giving gala.*

Results and Impact 2026

- » **Over \$400,000 raised** for the Evergreen Scholarship Fund
- » **More than 100** scholarships created
- » **240 guests attended**, including alumni, students, donors, and community leaders

HONORING DANNY THROUGH STUDENT OPPORTUNITY

Harriet and Norm Klein remember their son Danny '88 through the legacy he passes on to future generations



Norm and Harriet Klein have always believed that every person deserves opportunity. They adopted five children, welcomed two biological children, and

opened their doors to more than twenty foster children and exchange students.

Their son, Daniel Ira Klein, graduated from Evergreen in 1988. Danny was creative, curious, deeply social, and passionate about the Northwest music scene. "We cannot be more thankful for his Evergreen adventure," express Norm and Harriet, "Danny was able to design his own path. Not everyone fits into the same box, and Evergreen's educational model did wonders for our son."

Sadly, Danny's life was cut short in a motorcycle accident in 1993. In the midst of profound loss, Norm and Harriet chose to honor Danny's life through the creation of the Daniel Ira Klein Memorial Endowed Scholarship. Today, with gifts from the Kleins and caring family and friends,

more than 50 students have received support in Danny's name.

Recently, Norm and Harriet took another extraordinary step: they established a planned gift to strengthen the endowment and ensure Danny's legacy will help students far into the future.

"We have always believed that education enhances opportunities," explain the Kleins. Norm, a City College of New York graduate, became a mechanical engineer and retired as a General Manager at Honeywell. Harriet (who spent her own childhood in foster care) graduated from Brooklyn College and became President of TRAC Associates, a nonprofit focused on employment and self-sufficiency.

Now, through their dedication, Danny's scholarship will provide an enduring tribute for a remarkable young man and change lives at Evergreen for generations.

*If you would like to learn more about nurturing future generations, contact the **Major and Planned Giving Team** at foundation@evergreen.edu or (360) 867-6300.*



ON THE RUN WITH ALAUNA CARSTENS '27

Alauna Carstens '27 is always moving.

As an athlete, she is highly competitive with a total of eight All-American awards in cross country, marathon, indoor track, and outdoor track from the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA).

In the classroom, Carstens works hard towards her goal of forming a career in health education. Her focus is on culturally responsive teaching, prevention, and harm reduction with an emphasis on community-based learning: psychology, communication, and civic engagement.

Outside the classroom and off the track, Carstens is committed to community service. Among her many volunteer roles, she has helped fellow students through tutoring

with The Shelton Promise Program and has worked as a Peer Health Educator at Student Wellness Services on campus. "I have learned the importance of consistently showing up," says Carstens. "I've seen the way one conversation can spark a whole line of positive things, so I will continue to always take the time to sit down, talk, and be intentional in every conversation."

This spring, Carstens was awarded the 2026 Student Civic Leadership Award. The award recognizes outstanding student leaders who are dedicated to making a difference on their campuses and in their communities. Carstens and fellow Evergreen student Maria Atristain '26 were both chosen for the award, which was presented by Governor Bob Ferguson.

Being at Evergreen has helped Carstens bring all her interests and passions together. "I feel everything is interconnected," she explains, and she credits her campus experiences for helping her stay goal-oriented, team-focused, and leading a healthy lifestyle.

"Alauna is an incredibly talented and hard-working student-athlete, and Peer Health Educator," agrees Elizabeth McHugh, Evergreen Director of Student Wellness, Recreation, and Athletics. "It's been incredibly rewarding to see the impact she has had on the health of our campus."

A VERY DECORATED *Geoduck*

- » 2 NAIA Marathon championships, 2024 and 2025
- » NAIA Scholar-Athlete honors
- » Chosen as Women's Collegiate Sports Star of the Year, Thurston County Sports Awards 2025
- » Cascade Collegiate Conference cross country title, 2025
- » Academic All-District, College Sports Communications
- » Named NAIA West Region Women's Indoor Track Athlete of the Year, 2025

Alauna excels at athletics and civic leadership, and is a Keith & Lynn Kessler Family Endowed Scholarship recipient.



THE POWER OF COMMUNITY GIVING WITH ALITHEA O'DELL '21

Evergreen gave Alithea a new perspective on learning. Now, she's giving back.



“My education at Evergreen was an unexpected and transformative experience. I was not successful in high school. I did not think I was “book smart.” I came to Evergreen as a non-traditional adult student, and Evergreen taught me how capable I am. At Evergreen, I learned how to learn, and that gave me absurd amounts of confidence and drive.

This experience led to my career in higher education, currently as a financial aid counselor. I want to help students like me who did not see themselves capable of going to college.

I studied printmaking and letterpress printing at Evergreen, and often people will ask how that is relevant to my job. But learning at Evergreen is not just about learning “a subject.” Studying at Evergreen is about critical thinking, communication, leadership, and research—all tools I use every day. If I can explain the en quad system (the measurement system used in letterpress and only in letterpress!) I can explain the FAFSA. I believe life and work are interdisciplinary, and our education should be as well.

Every day, I am more and more grateful for my time at Evergreen. I decided to make a recurring donation as one small step to show my support and help students who are like me. I give what I can and I will continue to yell atop any building about how wonderful Evergreen is.”

Why Monthly Matters

Your small investment today can turn into big, life-changing moments for Evergreen students. Last year, through payroll deductions and scheduled monthly gifts, recurring donors, like Alithea, contributed over \$57,000. That's the power of community and of coming together to create bold change. Your monthly giving supports scholarships, emergency aid, and special campus experiences. Most importantly, your steady support makes sure students feel confident in their learning day-in and day-out.

To find out more, go to evergreen.edu/give/monthlydonor

PREPARING FOR A CAREER IN ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERSHIP WITH LINDIE GARDNER, MES CANDIDATE



“I was drawn to Evergreen’s collaborative, interdisciplinary learning and commitment to social justice and environmental stewardship.

When I began exploring graduate options, the Master of Environmental Studies (MES) program immediately stood out as the perfect fit in terms of values alignment, possible areas of study, faculty, and location.

I have built my career in the nonprofit sector since completing my bachelor's degree at the University of Colorado at Boulder in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology. A part of me has always known that I am called to environmental conservation. With the impacts and urgency of climate change becoming more apparent every season, I want to focus my life and work on exploring solutions and creating positive change for the planet.

At Evergreen, the areas of study that I am particularly drawn to are restoration ecology, ecofeminism, and climate justice. I am already envisioning how I could curate the ideal

Lindie Gardner is earning her MES to create positive change for the planet; Lindie is also a recipient of the Sara Bilezikian Graduate Fellowship in Environmental Studies.

combination of coursework to pursue research opportunities, learn traditional ecological knowledge, and prepare for my career as an environmental leader.

As part of the MES program, I appreciate that the instructors are brilliant and very generous with their time. I have also been building strong bonds with people in my cohort. Last year, one of my memorable projects was working with a group and presenting on wetland restoration efforts that benefit migratory birds.

I had been saving money so I could return to school for my Master's degree. Receiving a scholarship was an incredible surprise and alleviated a significant financial burden. Getting a scholarship feels like heartfelt validation and encouragement from like-minded people who share my vision of the world and believe in my commitment to creating positive change. I am grateful to be in the program, and I am looking forward to future opportunities.”

s'gwi gwi ? altx^w HOUSE OF WELCOME'S NATIONAL IMPACT IN NATIVE ARTS

Together, s'gwi gwi ? altx^w House of Welcome and the Foundation work to support thriving and powerful Native American and Indigenous arts and cultures. Over the years, House of Welcome has provided space, grants, visibility, and collaboration to hundreds of artists across the country. Today, those artists have leadership positions in their Tribes. They are amazing, successful culture-sharers, historians, and visionaries through their art. Their work graces the cases and walls of prestigious galleries and public spaces, and they are receiving acclaim and awards in multiple venues.

Below are a few of the artists recently supported by the Native Creative Development Program, which aims to honor and further customary and contemporary Native art forms. In 2025–2026, through The Evergreen State College Foundation, this program provided 10 artists with grants totaling \$53,000. Through these grants, artists were able to explore individual artistic projects, and two pursued mentorships in carving and weaving. Artists in the program hailed from 7 different Tribes.



**Clifton Guthrie,
Tsimshian, of
Metlakatla**

In honor of the living traditions, Tsimshian master artist Holtka Xsoo, also known

as Clifton Guthrie, is fluent in various woodcarving techniques and materials using red and yellow cedar, alder, and yew. His current project aims to create a memorial totem pole that honors the artistry of his uncle Niishluut, who originally carved it in the 1800s before it was removed from Metlakatla, Alaska. This endeavor pays tribute to his uncle's technical skills and will create a traditional pole to be raised at his uncle's home.



**Jenny Williams,
Nimiipuu, Omaha**

Jenny Williams is a respected master weaver and culture bearer from the Nimiipuu people, living in rural Lapwai, Idaho,

on the Nez Perce Indian Reservation. She carries ancient traditional weaving techniques using corn husks, pine needles, cedar bark, jute, and bear grass. Jenny also gathers and processes dog bane twine to revive nearly lost traditional basketry skills affected by colonization. Her renowned practice and must-see work foster generational learning and celebrates ancient artistic and cultural traditions.



**Kitana Connelly,
Confederated
Tribes of
Grand Ronde**

Kitana Connelly is a member of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde with ancestral ties to the Molalla, Umpqua, and Klickitat Tribes. As a contemporary Native painter, her series "Obsidian" features layered ink paintings that celebrate a deep connection to the land for healing and remembrance. Her abstract, multidimensional style reflects the spirit of the Pacific Northwest and explores how Tribal peoples preserve their traditions while evolving.

The Native Creative Development Program (NCDP) provides grants to Tribally enrolled artists in WA, OR, ID, and MT to develop visual arts practices. Hosted by The Evergreen State College's House of Welcome, it awards up to \$5,000 for individual artists and \$6,000 for master/apprentice projects.

IMAGINING POSSIBILITIES WITH

Dontae Payne '18, MPA '20



Dontae Payne is using his Evergreen degree to lead in Olympia, and he asked recent graduates to join him. Selected by the Class of 2026 as Evergreen's Commencement Keynote Speaker, Payne knows what it means to serve his community.

Payne was born and raised in Philadelphia, and his family later relocated to Allentown, Pennsylvania, where he attended high school and joined the U.S. Army.

He moved to Olympia in 2014 during his station at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington. While in the military, he served on active duty in the United States Army for six years, including being part of Operation Enduring Freedom with two tours to Logar Province, Afghanistan.

Following his service, Payne came to Evergreen to earn a Bachelor of Arts degree in 2018 and then a Master of Public Administration (MPA) degree in 2020.

"This institution doesn't just teach people how to make a living," said Payne during his Commencement speech. "It challenges people to think differently, to ask the difficult questions, to imagine new possibilities, to see connections between problems and people, and to understand that learning isn't just something you do in seminar. It's something you carry into the world responsibly, and with intention."

In 2021, not long after graduating from Evergreen with his MPA, Payne was elected to the Olympia City Council. He became mayor of Olympia in November 2023. He also currently serves as the Equity & Community Partnership Manager for the Washington State Department of Revenue.

In Olympia's 164-year history, Payne is the first Black American and openly gay person elected or appointed to the office of mayor.

He and his husband Jason are raising their 8-year-old daughter, Priscilla, along with their cat, Minnie, in Olympia's westside.

In June 2026, Dontae Payne was chosen as the keynote speaker for the Evergreen Commencement ceremony.

ENERGIZING FUTURE GREENERS

WITH *Thomas Clark '17*

“Currently I am the Chief Operating Officer for one of the largest solar installation and design companies in Northwest Montana, Northstone Solar. During my time with Northstone, one of my primary objectives has been to make alternative energy more accessible to Montanans. I have helped people fund alternative energy projects through the USDA's Renewable

Energy for America Program and secure low interest financing through the Department of Environmental Quality's Alternative Energy Revolving Loan Program.

I have worked with Montana members of Congress to seek incentives for alternative energy systems on both the state and federal levels. This included the Federal Tax Credit and also Solar for All funding, which helps bring reliable and affordable energy to Indigenous communities throughout the state of Montana. Interest in my work on the state and national levels has been featured in publications such as Reuters, Bloomberg Tax, and Yahoo Finance.

Outside of Northstone, I am the Head Girls Varsity Soccer Coach at Columbia Falls High School. I played soccer at Evergreen and I have so much love for the Geoducks athletic program. In September 2026, I was lucky enough to be named Fall Small Schools Northwest Region Coach of the year by the United Soccer Coaches Association. We have even sent three soccer players from Columbia Falls High School to Evergreen to play soccer for the Geoducks.

The scholarships I received while attending Evergreen have also helped me land in a position to pay that generosity forward.

In 2023, when the Farming for the Future Academy at the Montana Veterans Home reached out about a solar project, we knew it was a “no-brainer” to work with them. They acquired a grant that paid for the materials of a solar panel installation, but not for the labor—it was a project we couldn't pass up.

The farm is now fully self-sufficient and uses no energy from the Veterans Home. The solar installation is also allowing them to host STEAM camps in the summer that are free and open to all kids. We were able to come and teach the kids about solar power and how batteries are charged, then help each camper make a small solar panel.

My Evergreen scholarships were the seed to expanding access to renewable energy in Montana, and bringing experiential learning to these future Geoducks!”



Thomas Clark is a past recipient of the Dan & Sheryl Tishman Scholarship.

2026 JOSEPH ALBERT DEAR AWARDEE

LONI GRINNELL-GRENINGER MPA '16



The Evergreen State College honored Loni Grinnell-Greninger, MPA '16, vice chairwoman of the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe, with the 2026 Joseph Albert Dear Distinguished Alumni Award.

Grinnell-Greninger earned her Master of Public Administration from Evergreen in

2016, with an emphasis in Tribal Governance. She has served as vice chairwoman of the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe since 2020 and has held leadership roles within the Tribe's Social and Community Services and Culture departments.

Her career has centered on service to Tribal communities and strengthening relationships among Tribal, federal, state and local governments. Before returning home to work for the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe, Grinnell-Greninger worked for the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services in Indian Policy and as a Tribal liaison for behavioral health services.

Today, her work extends across issues affecting Indian Country, including health and human services, behavioral health, Tribal sovereignty and government-to-government relations. In May 2025, she testified before the U.S. Senate Committee on Indian Affairs during a hearing examining federal health and social service programs serving Native communities.

Grinnell-Greninger joins a group of past recipients that includes Lt. Gov. Denny Heck '73, Monica Alexander '13, Seth Kirby '02, MPA '07, and marine researcher John Calambokidis '78.

About the Award

The Joseph Albert Dear Distinguished Alumni Award was established in 2014 in memory of Joe Dear, a 1977 Evergreen graduate whose career included leadership of the Washington State Investment Board and Department of Labor and Industries, the federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration and the California Public Employees' Retirement System. Dear also served as chief of staff to Washington Gov. Gary Locke and on The Evergreen State College Foundation's Board of Governors.

The award is presented during Return to Evergreen Alumni Weekend to recognize graduates who, like Dear, have made public service a defining part of their lives and careers.

10-YEAR TRENDS

The Foundation provides this 10-year financial snapshot to help you visualize the long-term health of your investments.

LOOKING FOR MORE?

You can always find our audited financial statements, as well as past annual reports, online at: evergreen.edu/foundation/foundation-annual-reports

QUESTIONS?

foundation@evergreen.edu
(360) 867-6300

Ten-Year Trends 2017–2026

Assets

	June 30, 2017	10 years	June 30, 2026	Low	High	Notes
Net assets (\$ millions) ¹	17.8		34.1	17.8	34.1	The Foundation's net assets almost doubled in 10 years.
Endowment (\$ millions) ²	13.4		27.0	13.4	27.0	The Foundation's endowments doubled in 10 years.

Revenue and Returns

	June 30, 2017	10 years	June 30, 2026	Low	High	AVG	Notes
Gifts & contributions (\$ millions) ³	3.2		2.7	2.0	6.0	3.4	Includes new gifts received and binding pledges committed.
Investment returns (\$ millions) ⁴	1.6		4.1	-1.1	5.1	1.8	The majority of investment returns are associated with endowments.
University of Washington Consolidated Endowment Fund (UWCEF) return (%)	13.6		17.1	-5.5	35.1	10.2	The Foundation's endowments are invested with the UWCEF.

Foundation Impact on the College

	June 30, 2017	10 years	June 30, 2026	Low	High	Notes
Grants, scholarships and college support (\$ millions) ⁵	2.9		3.4	1.9	5.1	Includes all scholarships, grants and spending to support college programs.
Scholarship recipients	251		343	251	376	The number of scholarship recipients increased by 50%.
Student emergency fund recipients ⁶	33		208	24	346	This fund gives \$500 microgrants to students facing financial emergencies.

¹ Unaudited Statement of Financial Position: Total net assets

² Unaudited Investment Balances: UW investments, 4th Qtr

³ Unaudited Statement of Activities: Gifts and contributions

⁴ Unaudited Statement of Activities: Investment income

⁵ Unaudited Statement of Activities: Grants and scholarships plus program operating

⁶ In 2021-22 federal funds were used for 155 students in addition to the 24 from the Foundation

2025-2026 numbers are unaudited.

SPEND MORE TIME WITH US



GREENER MEETS

Meet alumni in your area and show off your Greener Pride!

October 16, 2026 • Portland, OR

October 27, 2026 • New York City, NY

January 26, 2027 • Washington, DC

February 17, 2027 • San Francisco, CA

February 25, 2027 • Seattle, WA

March 18, 2027 • Tacoma, WA

March 25, 2027 • Olympia, WA

Learn more and register at
evergreen.edu/alumni/events

Brought to you by The Evergreen State College Foundation and the Evergreen Alumni Network.



ART OF GIVING

Spring 2027 • Seattle, WA

Celebrate the power of scholarships and raise funds for the Evergreen Scholarship Fund at our premier gala event.

Learn more about Art of Giving at
evergreen.edu/artofgiving

RETURN TO EVERGREEN

Summer 2027 • Olympia, WA

Calling all alumni, all years, to come back to campus for connection and learning.

Learn more at
evergreen.edu/alumni/events

EVERGREEN ADVOCATES

Evergreen Advocates is a coalition of 300+ alumni, friends, and community members dedicated to making higher education a priority in Washington State. Guided by the Legislative Committee of The Evergreen State College Foundation, Advocates work to ensure that Evergreen's voice is heard.

Learn more at evergreenadvocates.org





the
evergreen
state college
foundation

The Evergreen State College Foundation secures philanthropic funds to support students to achieve a transformative education, strengthen Evergreen's public service, and build a community of graduates who exemplify critical thinking, creativity, empathy, and social responsibility.

Advancement and The Evergreen State College Foundation

2700 Evergreen Parkway NW, Olympia, WA 98505

Evans Hall 3900 • Monday – Friday 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. PT

foundation@evergreen.edu • (360) 867-6300 • evergreen.edu/give



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