



FUTURE LEADERS

SPRING/SUMMER 2024



Dear AEF supporter,

It has been an amazing start to 2024 for Arctic Education Foundation. As the summer comes to an end, the Foundation would like to share some of our work with those who have helped pave the way for AEF's continued success in ensuring our young people are prepared for the next stage of their lives — both professionally and culturally.

Over the past several months AEF has experienced many firsts, including the completion of its inaugural Future Leaders Summit in Utqiagvik, its participation in the Tribal Resource & Career Fair in Sitka, and the announcement of its first-ever Aveogan Leadership Award recipient. The Foundation has also built upon many of last year's firsts, such as its new Cultural Education Program, including the second annual Culture Camp at Pulayaaq. And, of course, AEF has continued its commitment to educational and cultural success through its many annual events and activities that expose North Slope students to postsecondary opportunities across the state and beyond.

I appreciate the opportunity to address our many supporters so that you can share in our successes. It is my hope that as you read through this newsletter and see the faces of AEF and hear their stories, you feel a sense of pride in supporting the next generation of Alaskan leaders. Quyanapqak for all that you do for the students of Arctic Education Foundation!



With deep gratitude,

Monica Wiehl

Monica Wiehl
AEF Director



ANAĠI LEADERSHIP
AWARD WINNER

**Andrea
Storer**

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

Arctic Education Foundation (AEF) is proud to announce the 2023 Anaġi Leadership Award winner - Andrea Storer of Anchorage, Alaska.

Storer is currently attending Montana State University in Bozeman pursuing a bachelor of science degree in Cell Biology and Neuroscience. Her ultimate aspiration is to become a pediatrician and provide healthcare in rural areas of Alaska, specifically in her home community of Utqiaġvik.

Andrea is the daughter of Geraldine and Andrew Storer; her grandparents are Morgan Sakeagak Jr. and Cora Sakeagak.



AEF wishes Andrea the best of luck in her education! Aarigaa! Kiita!

“I am very grateful for this scholarship as it will allow me to focus on my undergraduate degree and then medical school studies, and bring me one step closer to my dream.”

The Anaġi Leadership Award honors the late Arctic Slope Regional Corporation President & CEO, Jacob Anaġi Adams. This award is an exclusive scholarship given to an ASRC shareholder that exemplifies leadership in every aspect of their life while embracing Iñupiaq values.

AVEOGAN LEADERSHIP
AWARD WINNER

**Tenna
Qaġġuna
Pili**

UTQIAĠVIK, ALASKA

The recipient of the first ever Aveogan Leadership Award is Tenna Qaġġuna Pili of Utqiaġvik, Alaska

Pili graduated from Barrow High School in 2007, from Alaska Pacific University with a bachelor of arts degree in Alaska Native Governance, and the University of Alaska Southeast with her master of arts in Teaching. She is currently studying for a master's in Educational Leadership at the University of Alaska Southeast. Upon completion, Pili will have a master's in Education and her Type B professional license (Principal's certification).

Qaġġuna's passion lies in education, and she plays a vital leadership role in her position as the Director of Iñupiaq Education for the NSBSD. She is committed to uplifting her community, supporting and enhancing Iñupiaq education, and leading efforts in education that center around community and foster student success.

Tenna is the daughter of the late Teresa (Brower) Judkins, and granddaughter of the late Harry Brower, Sr. and Annie (Hopson) Brower.



Congratulations Qaġġuna on this outstanding accomplishment. Aarigaa! Kiita!

“These next steps in my educational journey are something I never imagined myself doing, but because of the support of the community, my family and the Arctic Education Foundation, I am able to set and work towards these goals in my educational leadership journey.”





**IVALU SCHOLARSHIP
AWARD WINNER**

**Ada
Putnam**

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

Arctic Education Foundation (AEF) congratulates Ada Putman of Anchorage, AK as the winner of the 2023 Ivalu Scholarship.

Putman will attend the University of Alaska Fairbanks in the fall to pursue an associate degree in Fire Science, followed by a bachelor's in Homeland Security and Emergency Management. While being a full-time student, she will also be working at the University Fire Department as a student firefighter. After she graduates, her plan is to start a career with the Anchorage Fire Department providing the highest quality emergency medical care for her community.

Ada is the daughter of Marietta Thibodeau and Jesse Putman; her grandparents are Eda Ahmaogak Akpik of Utqiagvik, Michael Chestler, Maisie Capps and Tok Putman.

After she graduates, her plan is to start a career with the Anchorage Fire Department providing the highest quality emergency medical care for her community.



Well done Ada, and good luck in the Fire Science program. Aarigaa! Kiita!

The Ivalu Scholarship was created to honor eligible applicants who are making noteworthy and influential contributions to their community through cultural service commitment of their personal time to projects and activities which strongly incorporate the Inupiaq values.

Village High School Leadership Awards

Arctic Education Foundation (AEF) awards annual scholarships to graduating North Slope high school seniors who are ASRC shareholders or descendants of original ASRC shareholders. These awards are to be used for college or training expenses and are in addition to other funding available through AEF.

Award recipients are selected by candidates who have been nominated by a member of the candidate's high school faculty or administration because of that candidate's superior academic performance, demonstrated leadership ability and/or community service achievements.



AEF is proud to announce the 2024 Village High School Leadership Awards winners!

Award	Amount	Nominee	High School
Justus Mekiana Leadership Award Harry Hugo Leadership Award Rachel Riley Leadership Award	\$2000 \$1000 \$1000	William Hugo Michael Lampe Arianna Hart	Nunamiut School
Florence Ahmaogak Leadership Award David Bodfish Sr. Leadership Award Billy Patktoak Leadership Award	\$2000 \$1000 \$1000	Kendra Kagak Jessica Tagarook Rhonda Kippi	Alak School
Peter Shugluk Leadership Award Elizabeth Hollingsworth Leadership Award Johnny Nayukok Leadership Award	\$2000 \$1000 \$1000	Rilei Anne Kingik Frances Itta Bernadine Bodfish	Meade River School
Dr. Harold Kaveolook Leadership Award	\$2000	Jim Allen Killbear	Harold Kaveolook School
Kiita Award Kiita Award Kiita Award	\$2000 \$1000 \$1000	Elissa Patkotak Kellen Patkotak Jr. Isaiah Aveoganna	Kiita Learning Community
Sam Taalak Leadership Award Alice Woods Leadership Award Thomas Napageak Leadership Award	\$2000 \$1000 \$1000	Randy Kasak Bonnie Hopson Austin Bennett	Nuiqsut Trapper School
David & Dinah Frankson Leadership Award Daniel Lisbourne Leadership Award Jakie Koonuk Leadership Award	\$2000 \$1000 \$1000	Kasey Rock Tatyana Nashookpuk Trevor Frankson	Tikigaq School
Edward E. Hopson Leadership Award Joseph Upicksoun Leadership Award Dr. Oliver Leavitt Leadership Award	\$2000 \$1000 \$1000	Kayla Kagak Khya Dobbins Malachi Nelson	Barrow High School
Warren and Dorcus Neakok Leadership Martha Tukrook Leadership Award	\$2000 \$1000	Kobe Koonuk Sabrina Henry	Kali School



At-Large High School Scholarship Awards

At-Large High School Scholarship Awards are given to qualified AEF applicants who at the time of award are graduating seniors and plan to continue their education by enrolling in a qualified postsecondary educational institution or training facility. Candidates must display superior academic performance, and demonstrated leadership ability and/or community service achievements.



Congratulations to the 2023 At-Large High School Scholarship Award winners!

Name	Hometown	College
Kaylie Oktolik	El Paso, TX	University of Alaska Fairbanks
Evelyn Pausanna	Nuiqsut, AK	True North Church - School of Leadership
Kahlia Lane	Point Hope, AK	University of Alaska Fairbanks
Kyla Oviok	Point Hope, AK	University of Alaska Fairbanks

Calling all graduates!

Please submit your graduation photos along with a few words of encouragement for future grads to arcticed@asrc.com.



2023 in Numbers

**\$2.4
MILLION**

IN SCHOLARSHIPS
AND SHORT-TERM
TRAINING AWARDED

455 STUDENTS
RECEIVED
FUNDING

Since Inception

**\$46
MILLION**

AWARDED IN TOTAL



COLLEGE MEET & GREETs

In 2023, AEF traveled to the **University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF)**, the **University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA)** and **Ilisagvik College** to meet in person with scholarship recipients. These Meet & Greets provide a time for Foundation staff to check in with students, provide information and updates, and continue to build strong relationships with scholarship recipients.

Not only do the events provide students with valuable insight into programs and opportunities available to AEF students, they also give everyone the opportunity to meet each other, share stories and niqpaq (Native food). The annual activities serve as an important component of AEF's goal of providing continuing support to Iñupiat youth pursuing postsecondary education or training.



We wish all of our postsecondary students the best and hope to see them again on campus and in-person this fall.



AEF is also capable of hosting Meet & Greets for high school students and families who have questions about AEF scholarships and opportunities. For more information, please contact us at **907.852.8633** or email arcticed@asrc.com.

AEF PROGRAMS



Tribal Resource & Career Fair

This year, Mt. Edgecumbe High School (MEHS) held its third annual Tribal Resource & Career Fair in Sitka, Alaska. Tribal and tribal-serving organizations met to speak with MEHS students about resources they can use to navigate their postsecondary path. From scholarships and internships to job training and more, the career fair helps students explore and plan for their educational, professional and personal goals after high school.

Arctic Education Foundation held a table and encouraged students to pursue post-secondary education in college or at vocational school. Many ASRC shareholders and descendants were provided with an AEF guide filled with information on resources available to them. A breakout session was held specifically for students who wanted to create their first AEF account, and they were informed on what leadership skills they can begin working on in high school to prepare them for college or vocational school. AEF also shared information about the Eileen Panigeo MacLean House at the University of Alaska Fairbanks campus, which is available to ASRC shareholders and rural Alaska students. AEF looks forward to attending again next year.



AEF PROGRAMS



Future Leaders Summit

Arctic Education Foundation held its first annual Future Leaders Summit April 15-18 in Utqiagvik, with 21 students from across the North Slope attending.

AEF and its board of directors implemented the Future Leaders Summit this year to expose students to various educational and workforce career paths, college and vocational training introduction, scholarship opportunities, hands-on experience in different industries, and an overview of ANCSA and the history of North Slope organizations. This summit was established to educate and empower its youth, foster development, and provide encouragement as students begin to prepare for graduation and the transition into becoming young leaders within their communities. We would like to acknowledge and congratulate the 21 students who attended and completed the summit.

The 2024 Future Leaders Summit was funded by Arctic Slope Community Foundation, the North Slope Borough and Hilcorp.



AEF PROGRAMS

Quyanaqpak to all of our partners who developed hands-on sessions that provided our students with an opportunity to learn about different industries, be exposed to career paths, and have an understanding of what training or education is needed to fill those positions and leadership roles.

Arctic Slope Native Association (Healthcare)
NSB Search & Rescue (Aviation & Mechanics)
NSB School District (Elementary Education)
ASRC Construction (Construction)
NSB Wildlife Department (Science)
UIC Arctic Development (Arctic Science Research & Gravel Pits)
Santos, ConocoPhillips, & ASRC Energy (Oil & Gas)

Quyanaqpak to the many other people and organizations who made the inaugural Future Leaders Summit not only possible, but an overwhelming success.

Josiah Patkotak - NSB Mayor
Asisaun Toovak - City of Utqiagvik Mayor
Crawford Patkotak & Bridget Anderson - ASRC
Patuk Glenn - Arctic Slope Community Foundation
Megan Edwardson - ICAS
Justina Wilhelm - Iliisaqvik College
Jack Frantz - NSB
Frieda Nageak - NSBSD
Dr. Pearl Brower - UIC
Kate Wolgemuth - Voice of the Arctic Iñupiat
Robin Sanford - ASRC Eskimos Inc.
OG Triple V
Vera Nungasak
Craig "Daaqsi" Moore
Arctic Slope Community Foundation
Voice of the Arctic Iñupiat
Iliisaqvik College
Iñupiat History, Language & Culture (IHLC) Office

If you have any questions, please email Monica Wiehl, AEF Director at mwiehl@asrc.com or call **907.339.7695**.

For more information about AEF visit arcticed.com



AEF FUNDRAISERS & EVENTS



2024 Ivalu Gala

On February 24th, the eighth annual Ivalu Gala benefiting the Arctic Education Foundation was held at the Dena'ina Civic and Convention Center in downtown Anchorage for the first time. Guests from across the state gathered to celebrate what has become one of the most anticipated events of the year, and the 2024 Ivalu Gala didn't disappoint.



AEF FUNDRAISERS & EVENTS



AEF was excited to welcome Iñuit seamstresses and fashion designers Danielle Rock, Alannah Jones, Corrine Danner, Victoria Kakuktinniq, Dana Hank, Tommi Lynn Ahmaogak and Hans-Henrik Suersaq Poulsen to the 2024 Ivalu Gala to premier their beautiful designs at the Iñuit Fashion Show. Utqiagvik Mayor Asisaun Toovak and Bernice Oyagak, both AEF alumni, did an amazing job emceeding the event.

During the gala, AEF recognized two of the Foundation's most devoted ambassadors who year after year continue to show their commitment to helping AEF students succeed. AEF presented the Umialik Award - which honors an individual or organization that has exhibited leadership and stewardship in the Arctic community - to Key Bank. The Foundation also presented the Flossie Hopson Andersen Award - given in recognition of a recipient's outstanding support of the Arctic Education Foundation and its mission - to Lucy Ahvaiyak Richards.



AEF FUNDRAISERS & EVENTS



More than 500 guests attended the gala with over 50 volunteers who ensured a smooth event process. Many of the volunteers and Ivalu Gala committee members are former or present recipients of AEF and treat the event as a way they can give back to AEF leaders – who had the foresight to ensure all ASRC shareholders have a chance to pursue higher education and now, cultural programs. The faces of AEF were seen on stage as presenters, emcees, designers, and models, at the registration booth as the first faces guests see, as ushers to personally greet each guest, and much more. AEF alumni were also present as employees and executives of the various Alaskan businesses in the crowd.

The Arctic Education Foundation would like to say **Quyanaqpak** to all the artists, volunteers and contributors who gave so generously this year. AEF's important work would not be possible without you!

For more information about the Ivalu Gala, how to become involved or to be added to future mailing lists, please contact Monica Wiehl at **907.339.7695** or mwiehl@asrc.com.



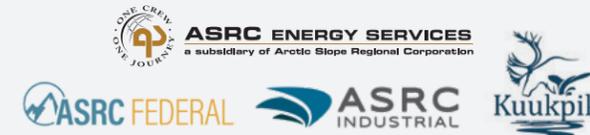
AEF FUNDRAISERS & EVENTS

Quyanaqpak to our 2024 Ivalu sponsors

Nakut Sponsor



Amiksraq Sponsors



Santos

Mapkuq Sponsors



Wine & Champagne Sponsors

Capitol Hill Consulting Group
RNDC

Kilu Sponsors

Alaska Airlines
ASTAC
City of Utqiagvik
Iñupiat Community of the Arctic Slope (ICAS)
Ilisaġvik College
Jeff Kinneeveauk
North Slope Borough
Parker Smith & Feek
Quintillion
Rodney Lincoln III
Sealaska
Ukpeaġvik Iñupiat Corporation
USI
Wells Fargo

In-Kind Donations

AOGA
Mark Begich
Kara Moriarty
Gail Mazzola
Brett Moulton
Doug Richmond and Family

Dance Group Sponsor

Marathon Strategies

We would like to thank the Ivalu Gala committee and all the volunteers and crew leads who contributed their time and efforts to make the 2024 Ivalu Gala a success:

Ivalu Committee

Monica Wiehl – *Project Director*
Lena Danner – *Donor Experience Manager*
Britt'Nee Brower – *Model & Fashion Show Manager*
Heather Hopson – *Registration Manager*
Marie Stackhouse – *Art Auction Manager*
Jamie Jones – *Art Staging Manager*

In memory of Georgia Hopson – Art Staging Manager

Ivalu Gala Contributors

Jesse Darling
Cale Green
Lloyd Pikok
Creative Lighting & Sound
Toast of the Town
Yuit Comms

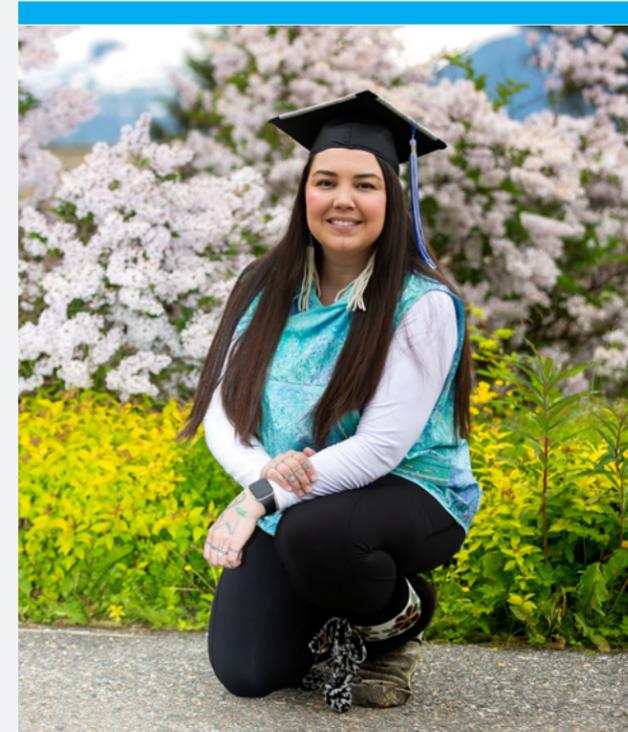


Congratulations to the following Arctic Education Foundation students who maintained a 4.0 GPA in 2023!

Abram Tooyak
 Alexia Bankston
 Alexis Nika Rexford
 Alynne Reane Bankston
 Andrea Lia Storer
 Andrew Mumford
 Angela Harris
 Angela Louise Oudean
 Berdell Paninguna Akootchook
 Bernadette Aanavak Fischer
 Bernice Leilani Luki Oyagak
 Brittany Amber Sarren
 Butch Johnson
 Casandra Oktollik
 Charles Panigeo
 Clarissa Panningona
 Colby Lynn Howarth
 Courtney Shayne Abad
 Crystal Manly
 David James Elder Waters
 Debra Lane-Hayes
 Dennis Barnes
 Donna Mae Hill
 Donna Westdahl
 Edna Laverne Ahmaogak
 Elisha Anglin
 Erik Andrew Andersen
 Flora File

Gabrielle J Jeffords
 Haley Marie Patkotak
 Hokulani Panigeo
 Iris Grace Lane Southon
 Jacob Aaron Cowell
 Joan Barger
 Jordan Qalutaksraq Ahgeak
 Justina Lorene Christensen
 Kahlia Lane
 Katie Roseberry
 Keith Robert Lemay
 Kiatcha Louise Nyquist
 Kimberly MinnieMae Pikok
 Kristina Jennie Cain
 Kristina May Decker
 Leya Marie Descombes
 Lillian Stone
 Lily Hank Tuzroyluke
 Lindsay Rexford
 Lucia Lynn Johnston
 Madison Lee Engel
 Madison Reams
 Margaret Patkotak
 Marie Gene Stackhouse
 Marilyn Jewell Wallace
 Nancy Grant
 Natasha Daniels
 Nicholas Danjin

Nikki Peidlow
 Oheneba Kofi Amponsah
 Paige LaFountain
 Paulina Angelica Eckley Gutierrez
 Phoebe Christopher
 Priscilla Jewel Leanne Frankson
 Priscilla Stalker
 Qinugan Roddy
 Roxanna Oyagak
 Samantha Wade
 Sarah Bowker
 Sassa Culver
 Shaddow Dawn Aiken
 Shae Stevens
 Shauna Koonuk
 Stacey Wells
 Tamara Featherly
 Tenna Pili
 Tracy Lynn Burns
 Uriah Ronald Nalikak
 Vera Lincoln
 Veronica Jones
 Zackary Smith



Tenna Qagguna Pili

UTQIAGVIK, ALASKA

As someone who has spent the last decade working in the education sector across various levels – local, state and national – I have witnessed firsthand the complexities of public education, especially in Alaska where our students are predominantly Indigenous. This experience has fueled my passion for becoming a lifelong learner, committed to fostering learning environments that are culturally safe and responsive for our children and communities.

In June 2024, I earned a Master’s in Education and a Principal’s Type B Professional License. The program and experience has equipped me with the knowledge and skills necessary to drive systemic change that is positive, effective, and meaningful. The education I received is not just an academic achievement; it is a critical tool in my mission to ensure that our education systems serve all students, particularly those from Indigenous backgrounds.

In my current role as Director of the Iñupiaq Education Department for the North Slope Borough School District, I am dedicated to creating curriculum and educational experiences that reflect our local perspectives and are rooted in the Iñupiaq way of being. This program has been invaluable in deepening my understanding of educational leadership and in strengthening my ability to advocate for and implement culturally rooted education for our students.

To those considering a path of education, I encourage you to see it as more than just a degree. It’s an opportunity to lead with purpose, to make a lasting impact on your community, and to contribute to the transformation of education systems. Your journey will not only empower you but also those you serve and will ensure that the viability of our local education system is led by local leaders who hold the true vision of what is best for our children.

I am the daughter of the late Teresa (Brower) Judkins, and the granddaughter of the late Harry Brower Sr. and Annie (Hopson) Brower. I am married to Erich Pili and together we are raising our son, Asoula Agiaq Pili.

As the recipient of the first Oliver Leavitt Aveogan Leadership Award, I want to express my deepest gratitude to Arctic Education Foundation for its unwavering support throughout my educational journey. The encouragement and resources provided by AEF have been instrumental in my growth and success.

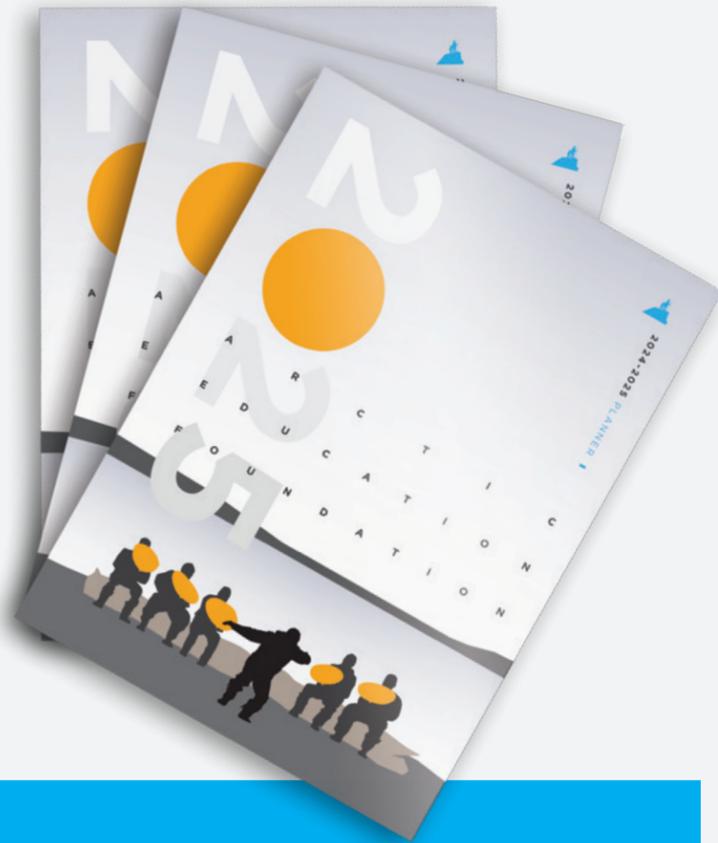
One of the first school board members, my aaka played a pivotal role as an advocate for a home-ruled education system. The board exercised the right of Iñupiaq sovereignty to ensure children of the North Slope had access to public education within our region. When I think back on the last 52 years, and in the early years when she was doing this work, I can’t help but think about the next 50+ years of work I will continue to lead and support for the educational future of generations to come.



2024-2025 STUDENT PLANNER

The 2024-2025 AEF Student Planner is now available online at arcticed.com. The planner gives students access to scholarship opportunities, deadlines and important reminders throughout the year.

Follow us on Facebook  for up to date information.



Upcoming deadlines

AUGUST 1

AEF Fall Scholarship
Ukpeaġvik Iñupiat Corporation Fall Scholarship
Olgoonik Foundation Fall Scholarship
Native Village of Point Hope Fall Scholarship
Tigara Education Foundation Fall Scholarship
City of Kaktovik Gaming Fall Scholarship

AUGUST 15

Iñupiat Community of the Arctic Slope Scholarship
Native Village of Barrow Scholarship
City of Utqiaġvik Eben Hopson Sr. Memorial Fall Scholarship

SEPTEMBER 12

AEF Fall Semester Documents

DECEMBER 1

AEF Spring Semester/Winter Quarter Scholarship

AEF SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINES

Fall August 1
Spring Semester December 1
Spring Quarter March 1
Summer May 1

SHORT-TERM TRAINING

Open year-round

Apply at arcticed.smapply.io

Be resilient

“ I changed my degree program a few times until I worked at Arctic Slope Regional Corporation as an Employment Recruiter, then as a Human Resources Manager. It was then that I found my passion in Human Resources. In 2011, I obtained a bachelor of arts degree in Business Administration with an emphasis in Human Resources from the University of Alaska Southeast (online program). After working as the HR Manager for eight years, I decided I needed to further my education. With the help of AEF’S Ivalu Scholarship I graduated with a master of science in Human Capital Management from Columbia University in New York.

Many leaders before my generation fought for self-determination and a home rule government. There are many resources and tools for us to improve our career interests because of their work. Education has increased my knowledge and skills and, in turn, continues to positively impact my work on the North Slope. ”

Be resilient because life will happen. Keep trying. Keep dreaming.

- **Patricia Patkotak**
AEF ALUMNI

Patricia Patkotak’s parents are Frances Ikkaiyuk Mongoyak and Eric Rice. Her maternal grandparents are Gilford Mongoyak Sr. and Rose Aaluk Qannik Kingmayuk Mongoyak. Her paternal grandparents are Alan Rice and MaryJane Grigware Rice.



MEET THE AEF TEAM

Committee Members



**Terza
Brower**

**Crawford
Patkotak**

**Mary Ellen
Ahmaogak**

**Stan
Brower**

**Thomas
Napageak Jr.**

Staff



Monica Wiehl

AEF DIRECTOR

Jenessa Oviok

SCHOLARSHIP COORDINATOR

Katie Roseberry

CULTURAL EDUCATION MANAGER

Trina Paul

CULTURAL PROGRAM COORDINATOR



We are located on the 3rd floor of the Bank Building in Utqiagvik.

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