



**SONS of
NORWAY**
FOUNDATION

2023 Annual Report





**SONS of
NORWAY**
FOUNDATION

Mission Statement

The mission of the Sons of Norway Foundation is to celebrate Nordic culture and heritage through scholarships and grants to our members and communities.

Core Values

- Building Nordic culture and heritage for the future
- Committing to life-long learning and service
- Demonstrating compassion for our members in need
- Sustaining the link to contemporary Norway
- Fostering a community of generosity



Dear Sons of Norway Foundation Supporter,

We have had a remarkable year putting our mission in motion, thanks to support from donors and friends. It is your support that makes thank you notes like this possible:

“Dear Sons of Norway Foundation,

Thank you so much for your support throughout my college career. The generosity of the donors and Foundation made such a huge impact on my life, and I cannot thank you enough.”

-Clara Ingrid Kramer, a 2022 Nancy Lorraine Jensen award winner

We are always grateful to hear updates from scholarship recipients, and in turn, we also strive to keep you informed of the latest foundation news.

The Sons of Norway Foundation is self-supporting, but closely aligned with Sons of Norway in mission and function. We are a nonprofit, charitable private foundation whose mission is to celebrate Nordic heritage and culture through scholarships and grants with our members and their communities. Our missions overlap as we strive to support Norwegian heritage and culture, as that is what helped to establish our over-arching organization originally in 1895.

Today, the Foundation is strong with over an 11-million-dollar endowment as of fiscal year 2023. This solid financial position helped the Foundation make awards of \$240,776 in scholarships and grants in 2023.

The results of our grants and scholarships truly are amazing, from assisting students like Clara to helping a lodge revitalize their building with paint and fixtures. Please join us in continuing to support our members, our lodges and our communities, tomorrow and beyond.

Tusen takk,



Amy (Olson) Tuchenhagen

Merv Eriksson
Chair, Board of Directors

Amy (Olson) Tuchenhagen
Director, Sons of Norway Foundation



Clara Ingrid Kramer

Clara was a 2022 winner of the Nancy Lorraine Jensen scholarship, a fund that supports women in science. Clara was kind enough to recognize the impact this scholarship had on the trajectory of her educational journey. And, we get to cheer her on as she continues her journey onward to pursue a Ph.D. in Chemical and Biological Engineering at the University of British Columbia, Canada. It is our hope that you feel the pride of accomplishment for Clara and the excitement as she expands her horizons to further her education, thanks in part to your financial support.



Merv Eriksson & Amy (Olson) Tuchenhagen

2023 Financial Report

The financial information contained in this report is a condensed version of the fiscal year 2023 audited financial statements for the Sons of Norway Foundation. A complete set of all audited financial statements is available by contacting the Sons of Norway Foundation.

The Sons of Norway Foundation is primarily an endowment foundation. Grant and scholarship payouts are based on a percentage of the total assets that are determined by the Board of Governors. Our commitment is to maintain and grow the charitable assets entrusted to us in a fiscally responsible way. Your financial support helps us achieve this goal to maximize the impact we make.

Statement of Activities Year Ended 12/31/2023

Revenues

Contributions	\$323,013
Investment interest & dividends	\$280,111
Net capital gains (losses)	\$1,066,316
Change in Value of Charitable Remainder Trust	\$97,230

Total revenues and other support	\$1,766,670
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Deductions

Scholarship and grant awards	\$240,776
General administration expenses	\$366,302

Total deductions	\$607,078
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Net Income	\$1,159,592
Net fund value as of 12/31/2023	\$11,686,356



2023 Scholarship Highlight

Kayla Hanson

Winner of the King Olav V Scholarship

This is a story about how the Sons of Norway impact can be passed along from one generation to the next or even make an amazing connection, miles from home.

Kayla Hanson is grateful for her Sons of Norway Foundation King Olav V Scholarship to help her pursue the (Henrik) Ibsen Studies Master's program at University of Oslo. Kayla has always felt a deep love for Norwegian culture. After a visit to family in Norway in 2018, Kayla decided to move to Norway with the intention of studying Henrik Ibsen as it combines her interest in theater with Norwegian culture. The Sons of Norway Foundation scholarship helped make her dream come true and in 2023, Kayla followed her dream to Norway.

Kayla has been fortunate to have support from Ibsen scholars while at University of Oslo, one being Professor Ellen Rees, a professor of Scandinavian Literature. Kayla and Dr. Rees quickly discovered a shared connection in the Sons of Norway community. It turns out that Dr. Rees got her start in Norwegian studies by taking a Norwegian language course at the Sons of Norway lodge in Bellingham, WA many years ago. That experience transformed her life and eventually led her to earn a Ph.D. in Scandinavian Languages and Literatures at the University of Washington. Rees has tried to live by the Sons of Norway Foundation's core values and recognizes this in Kayla Hanson as well.



2023 Grant Highlight

Dave Ellingson

Sons of Norway Grant Recipient

“The Paddle Pilgrim,” Dave Ellingson, secured a Sons of Norway Foundation grant to help create the documentary video “Kayaking Norway: Coming Home.” It is his documentary of tracing his family’s roots by way of a kayak adventure in Norway. He and a team of adventurers/friends spent one month tracing Dave’s family’s roots and living *friluftsliv*. It was an adventure of a lifetime, a chance to honor his ancestors and visit the family farm to connect with distant relatives.

The finished film has been recognized as Best Documentary Short in the Poulso Film Festival and been viewed by many, perhaps inspiring others to dig deeper in their family’s history and embrace their adventurous spirit.

The Foundation is proud to help sponsor projects like this that encourage ties to Norway.



2023 Donor Highlight

Estate giving is an important part of the Sons of Norway Foundation's development.

Estate gifts are an opportunity for a donor to leave a legacy with a community they care deeply about and perhaps fund a passion that interests them.

An anonymous donor has created a generous estate gift to come to the Sons of Norway Foundation upon their passing. This donor had a specific passion that they wanted to support, therefore leaving a legacy for others to enjoy and benefit from. "We wanted to share our appreciation for Norwegian culture and thought this would be a meaningful way to do it." Their gift will

support students who want to study abroad in Norway so they can experience Norwegian culture up close and personal.

In fact, the donors found the process so inspirational, they created a second scholarship fund to honor their parents.

"Even though we won't be here to see the impacts of our gift, it gives us great joy to know that others will benefit from our gift, strengthening the ties to Norway."

If you are interested in remembering Sons of Norway Foundation in your will, please contact us at foundation@sofn.com



Inspiring a legacy of philanthropy in the Nordic community

Sons of Norway Foundation impacts in 2023:

\$14,181 in camperships for youth to attend Norwegian cultural camps across the U.S.

\$67,156 in cultural and humanitarian grants

\$159,439 in scholarships to students continuing their educational pursuits

**That's \$240,776 impacting our
Sons of Norway Foundation communities!**



Individual Donor Listing

*Much attention was given to the curation of this list.
Please accept our apologies for any errors or omissions.*

\$20,000+

Karl and Dao Hella

\$5,000 - \$19,999

Bonnie O Crandall

Janice M. Jacobson

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Individual Donor Listing

*Much attention was given to the curation of this list.
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Individual Donor Listing

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Paul and Sandi Wisness
Gloria K York

District/Lodge Donor Listing

*Much attention was given to the curation of this list.
Please accept our apologies for any errors or omissions.*

\$50,000+

District 2
Solbakken/Noreg Lodge 3-466

\$5,000 - \$49,999

District 1
Wergeland Lodge 2-021

\$1,000 - \$4,999

Bernt Balchen Lodge 2-046
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\$500 - \$999

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Møllargutten Lodge 4-478
Nordland Lodge 5-544
Solglimt Lodge 1-547
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Solskinn Lodge 6-150
Fjeldheim Lodge 2-047
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Hampton Roads Lodge 3-522
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Bitterrootdalen Lodge 4-656
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Fredheim Lodge 3-242
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Victory Lodge 6-043

\$50 - \$99

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Maihaugen Lodge 1-665

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Wergeland Lodge 4-247
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Norhaven Lodge 4-536
Norskfødt Lodge 1-590
Roald Lodge 2-039
Vennelag Lodge 1-546
Vennskap Lodge 1-554



Special thanks to the members of the Sons of Norway Foundation Board of Governors. They serve with passion and tenacity to be able to bring the Foundation's mission to life. The Board is responsible for the oversight of the Foundation's grant and scholarship process and in turn it is their aim to conduct the mission of the Foundation.



Pictured left to right, front row: Fred Hymans, Elaine Nelson, Faye Auchenpaugh, Jon Tehven. Back row: Robin Fossum, Ron Stubbings, Darrin Lee, Merv Eriksson, Kenneth Johnson, Ernie Fosse, Claudia Berg and Marci Larson.



**SONS of
NORWAY**
FOUNDATION

**We welcome all to participate in the Sons of Norway Foundation.
We would love to hear from you.**

Please Contact:

Amy (Olson) Tuchenhagen
Director, Sons of Norway Foundation

Direct: 612.821.4655
Email: foundation@sofn.com

