



**'Holiday Magic'
Returns to
Greenville this
Wednesday, Dec. 18!**

What: "A Hark Up Christmas: Hometown Style"

Where: Greenville Performing Arts Center at Greenville High School

When: 7 p.m. on Dec. 18

Tickets: \$20, available
at gpac.ludus.com

GET YOUR TICKETS NOW!

**HARK UP HOMETOWN
CHRISTMAS CONCERT FUNDRAISER**

With soulful, heart-melting vocals and a powerful big-band sound that can fill any auditorium, Grand Rapids-based Hark Up is returning once again to perform a holiday-themed show for the greater Greenville community.

All proceeds go to the Education Foundation of Greenville.

Hark Up, a musical ministry and nonprofit organization, is renowned for its big-band sound, soulful vocals, and dynamic dance performances. This year's show will feature a blend of traditional and contemporary Christmas music, performed by talented vocalists, musicians, and dancers, including members of the Dance Dimensions Group of Grand Rapids.



Expectations Exceeded

‘Building Bright Futures’ event raises \$36,000+ for Student Scholarships and Teacher Grants



Thank you!

The inaugural “Building Bright Futures” fundraising event, held on September 18 at Frugthaven Farm, exceeded expectations and raised an impressive \$36,355 for the Education Foundation of Greenville (EFG). This nonprofit organization works to enhance educational opportunities for both students and teachers at Greenville Public Schools.

With around 150 attendees, the evening included a spirited auction, which helped raise the majority of the funds. The EFG was able to surpass their initial fundraising goal, thanks to the generosity of local community members and businesses.

“I can’t even describe how grateful we are,” said Linda Van Houten, EFG president. “We were hoping to raise \$10,000, and to see the community come together and exceed \$36,000 is truly humbling.”

The funds raised will go toward student scholarships, teacher grants, and specialized programs like summer camp scholarships, which provide students with life-changing experiences. The event’s success underscores the power of community support, particularly after the challenges of the pandemic, which made large-scale fundraising efforts difficult.



Key Highlights

- Auction Success:** Items like a weekend at a lakeside cottage, a Yellow Jacket Homecoming football experience, and a fire truck experience with the Greenville Department of Public Safety were auctioned off.
- Generous Donations:** Several attendees, including Mike Petersen, owner of Frugthaven Farm, raised their paddles multiple times to support the cause. Mike also graciously donated the venue for the evening in honor of his late wife, April Petersen, whose memory continues to inspire philanthropic efforts in the community.
- Support for Athletics:** A total of \$4,400 will be directed specifically to the EFG’s athletics fund, while the majority will go toward teacher grants and scholarships for students.

"A Celebration of Excellence"

Education Foundation Honors Outstanding Alumni



In a heartwarming ceremony before a capacity homecoming crowd at Legacy Field, the Greenville community celebrated three distinguished alumni who have significantly impacted their communities and professions. The Education Foundation of Greenville honored the Outstanding Alumni Award recipients for 2024, 2023, and 2022 during the pre-game festivities of the varsity football game against Sparta High School on Oct. 4. The honorees received a standing ovation from the crowd, highlighting the profound respect and admiration they have earned.



2024
Steve Foster
A Champion
for Education
and Skilled
Trades



2023
Kimberlee
DeBosier
Inspiring
Future
Engineers



2022
Jon Coles
Leading
Through
Sports and
Education

A 1966 graduate and lifelong Greenville resident, Steve Foster has dedicated his career to advancing education and the skilled trades.

- **Career and Education:** Foster earned an applied arts and science degree from Montcalm Community College (MCC) and a business administration degree from Michigan State University. He was MCC's first applied arts graduate and a founding member of its basketball team.
- **Professional Contributions:** Foster served as the director of Human Resources at Greenville Tool & Die for 32 years, playing a vital role in workforce development.
- **Community Impact:** Foster's extensive volunteer work includes advisory roles for Greenville Public Schools, the Montcalm Area Career Center, and MCC. He served over two decades on the Montcalm Area Intermediate School District Board of Education and was a founding member of EFG.

Kimberlee DeBosier, a valedictorian of GHS's 100th graduating class (1973), has paved the way for women in engineering.

- **Career Milestones:** DeBosier holds a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Michigan State University and an MBA from Louisiana State University. She co-founded Bayside Engineering and later joined WGI as director of operations.
- **Achievements:** DeBosier became the first woman to be named Engineer of the Year by the Florida Engineering Society in 2005. In 2022, she received the Dottie Berger MacKinnon Woman of Influence Award for her leadership.
- **Community Engagement:** Before the homecoming game, she spoke to students about careers in engineering, emphasizing the need for more women in the field.

Jon Coles, a 1995 GHS graduate, has distinguished himself in the fields of sports management and education.

- **Educational Background:** Coles earned a bachelor's degree from Valparaiso University, a master's from Central Michigan University, and a Ph.D. in sports management from North Central University.
- **Professional Journey:** He is an associate professor at Grand Valley State University and has served as an associate athletics director at Ferris State University. His career also includes coaching and athletic administration at Lake Superior State University and Big Rapids High School.
- **Community Contributions:** Coles is deeply involved in civic organizations in Big Rapids, including the Paint Big Rapids Pink Committee and the Community Tennis Association.

Thank You, 2024 Donors!



Thank you, Greenville High School Athletic Boosters! (\$10,000)



Thank you, Lake Michigan Credit Union! (\$3,000)



Thank you, Michigan One Community Credit Union! (\$500)



Thank you, Starbucks Foundation: Neighborhood Grants Fund! (\$1,000)

Giving to the Foundation

Your gift to the foundation makes a difference. Every gift, large or small, helps Greenville Public Schools move toward reaching its mission of ensuring all students the education to participate as responsible citizens in an ever-changing world.

Gifts to the OUR3 Campaign go directly to the endowment funds at the Greenville Area Community Foundation.

<https://education-foundation-of-greenville.square.site/>

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