

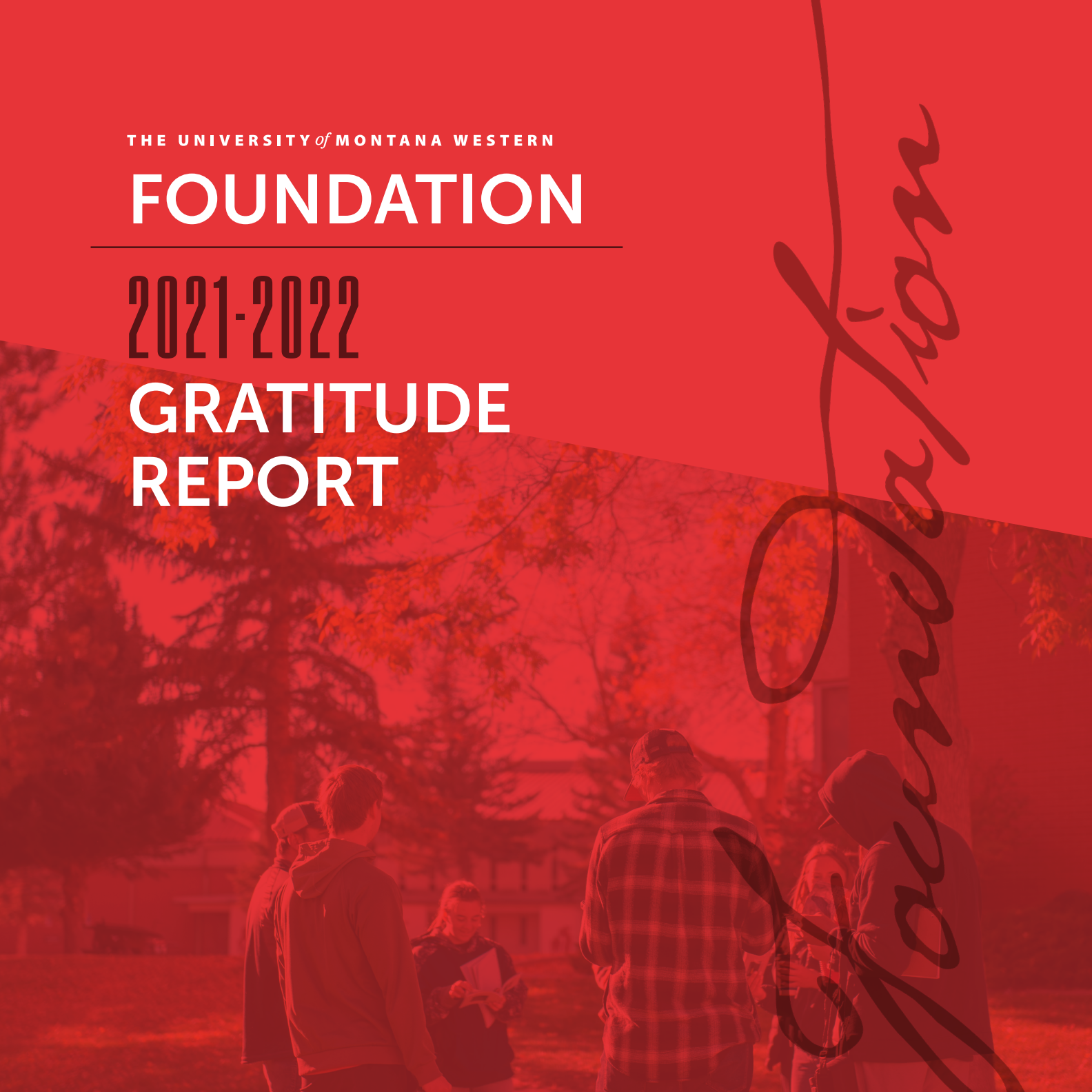
THE UNIVERSITY *of* MONTANA WESTERN

FOUNDATION

2021-2022

GRATITUDE REPORT

Journal



A LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



We are pleased to provide the 2021-2022 Annual Gratitude Report. It is my sincere hope that you will be inspired by the stories that you read on the following pages and see the difference that your contributions made to our students, faculty, staff, campus and community.

On behalf of the entire Montana Western community, I want to thank you for contributing to our efforts to enhance the student experience. To every donor who helped our students succeed and achieve their goals, thank you.

Through the stories and statistics in this gratitude report, we hope you will see that philanthropy is evident throughout Montana Western's campus. It is in the hope that a scholarship offers. It is in the success of our student athletes. It is in the realization of a family's dream when the first member earns their degree.

Thank you for making Montana Western your philanthropic priority.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Roxanne G. Engellant".

Roxanne G. Engellant
Executive Director

FY22 in Review

\$1,799,276

Total Private
Support
Received



46%

Alumni
Participation
Rate



1,439

Total
Donors

1,217

Gifts under
\$1,000

\$1,232,669

Total Support
to UMW
FY22



37%

Scholarship
Support

Total of
\$456,508



61%

Program
Support



2%

Capital
Support

YOUR SUPPORT:

Helped students remain in college with scholarship support.

Provided funding for faculty development opportunities.

Provided nonperishable food and personal hygiene items for the Student Food Pantry.

Purchased course materials when the additional expense was overwhelming for a student.

Provided the funds needed to purchase equipment essential for research.

Brought in subject matter experts to share their knowledge and experiences.

Helped bring our TRIO students to campus early for orientation.

Purchased equipment and training necessary to increase student-athlete success.

Upgraded a locker room that will provide an advantage for recruiting purposes.

Provided funding for faculty to explore ways to enhance experiential curriculum.

Employees of UMW have the power to invest through the Foundation's employee giving program: Our Montana Western employees who invest in UMW support academics, research, Experience One, athletics, and any area they are passionate about. Learn more at umwfoundation.org.



EMPLOYEE GIVING

DR MIKE MORROW

Biology professor Dr. Mike Morrow is passionate about Montana Western and its unique focus on experiential learning. A passionate outdoorsman, he enjoys backpacking, hiking, hunting and ice hockey. His love for the outdoors and the Rocky Mountains eventually led him west to Dillon and Montana Western, where he has been teaching for the past 21 years.

Dr. Morrow grew up in Clarion, a rural town located in western Pennsylvania. He attended Bloomsburg University where he received an undergraduate degree in Biology. He went on to earn his Ph.D. in Cellular and Developmental Biology from the University of Pittsburgh in 2001.

“As a professor, I enjoy Montana Western’s smaller class sizes and commitment to experiential learning. The Experience One program allows me to serve as a mentor to my students as we engage in immersive practices in their fields of study. I believe that this teaching philosophy plays a significant roll in Montana Western’s high veterinary, dental and medical school acceptance rates,” he said. Dr. Morrow gives back to UMW because it’s important to him to help the Foundation with its mission to support students.

“Giving not only benefits our students but it’s also a unique opportunity to directly fund specific scholarships and I appreciate the UMW Foundation’s dedication to providing financial support for undergraduate research and hands-on field experiences. These opportunities keep our students engaged and focused. I love going to work each day, this is my dream job!” Dr. Morrow said.

Amazing
GROWTH

14 mm

12 mm

10 mm

8 mm

6 mm

4 mm

\$13,204,867

FY22 year-end
value of endowment

'11

'12

'13

'14

'15

'16

'17

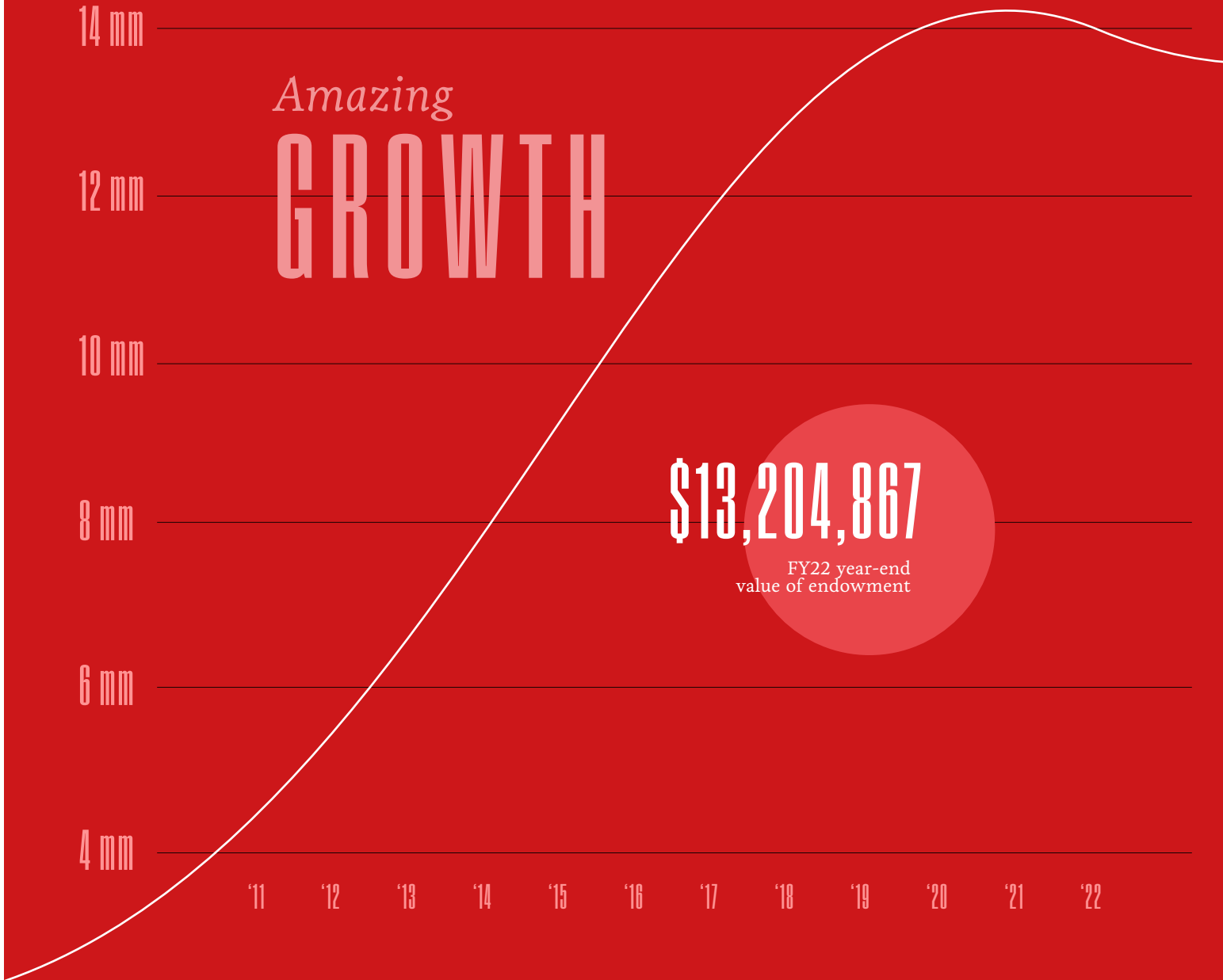
'18

'19

'20

'21

'22



FUND FOR EXPERIENCE ONE IMPACT

Japanese American Literature Exploration in Methods 5 – 12 English Language Course Dr. Katrina Kennett

Designed to engage our future educators as learners, students in the course asked questions and conducted research on Japanese immigration to America, events leading to the prejudice and eventual incarceration of Japanese Americans during WWII, and the lives Japanese Americans have lived since that time. They also crafted essential questions such as, “Why is it important to continue



discussing and learning about a difficult piece of our history?” These students then pitched their lesson ideas to Dillon Middle School 8th graders and used their feedback to revise and improve their work.

In conjunction with this course, the students also traveled to Heart Mountain, Wyoming, the location of a Japanese American confinement site during WWII. This field-experience would not have been possible without the generous support of our donors.

“I am incredibly grateful for the Fund for Experience One donors who made it possible to bring my students to Heart Mountain.

In working with the Interpretive Center’s Executive Director and Manager, my students learned deeply about our country’s unjust actions in displacing and incarcerating innocent citizens. Not only did they expand their knowledge about this history, but they were inspired to ‘think like teachers’ as they designed lessons informed by authentic archival materials. The staff was thrilled at the chance to welcome their first group of pre-service teachers and asked for our feedback on in-process guides that they intend to publish for K-12 educators. This trip to Heart Mountain provided our students the opportunity and intellectual task of designing meaningful instruction.”

“I am thankful to teach at a university that has such a strong and generous community to support these powerful experiential learning opportunities.”

– Dr. Katrina Kennett, Assistant Professor of Education

WILL HYATT
PSYCHOLOGY,
CLASS OF '27



UMW freshman, Will Hyatt, was uncertain about his future plans and believed that his dream of going to college wasn't an option. He faced several challenges during his high school years but was given new hope when he met UMW Cross Country Coach, Dylan Zitzer.

Coach Zitzer immediately felt that Will was someone special and was a gifted athlete. Their mutual passion for running led to Will's

first visit to the University of Montana Western campus and being offered a cross country and track scholarship to run competitively for the Bulldogs. Through his athletic scholarship and the Foundation's support, Will was given the opportunity to continue his education at UMW.

"The inviting campus and accepting community made me feel at home. The scholarships I received, including the Montana Running Company scholarship, have allowed me to focus on my studies as well as my goal of becoming the best runner that I can be," he said. "Scholarship support has made it possible for me to plan for the future."

Will's desire to make a difference has inspired him to pursue a degree in Psychology from UMW and to be an advocate for mental health awareness.

"I want to motivate others to lead a positive life and to never give up. I believe that my experiences and the lessons I have learned growing up combined with earning a college degree will give me the opportunity to give back to those who need help or encouragement to reach their future goals," he said.

Hadassah Auch plans to attend the University of Washington to earn her M.D. after graduation. It has been her dream to become a doctor ever since her father survived his battle with cancer. Spending every day in the hospital after school surrounded by medical staff fueled her dream to help people in need.

Visiting her dad in the hospital every day after her mother got off of work made her realize how important it was to utilize the time she had to focus on schoolwork and getting good grades. With this mindset, she excelled in academics, earned a spot in her high school's National Honor Society and took all the dual credit classes available to her.

It is important for her to do the best she can in everything, in order to make herself and her family proud. This mindset has pushed her to grow into who she is today. The highest level of education her parents received was a high school diploma, and they instilled in her the importance of higher education.

She is grateful for the opportunities open to her at Montana Western and that would not be possible without her hard work and scholarship support. Hadassah hopes to serve families in rural communities as their primary care provider and your support makes her goal attainable.

HADASSAH AUCH
BIOLOGY,
PRE-MED MINOR
CLASS OF '24



The Montana Western Foundation publishes its annual Gratitude Report each fall for the previous fiscal year ending June 30. The Gratitude Report is designed to provide a glimpse into the impact that our alumni and friends had on our students, programs and campus. It also contains a financial summary of gifts raised, a snapshot of net assets and powerful stories describing the impact of our donors.

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