THE GHROW® FOUNDATION

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# ANNUAL REPORT

July 1, 2025 –
June 30, 2026



Dear GHRoW Donors! Thank you, thank you, thank you!! So very much for all your donations to GHRoW and to me. I pray that God continues to bless you and I want to thank you for using your blessings to bless us all. I enjoy all the little goodies & outings & just the times we get to get together. Thank you for being such a blessing. With Gratitude. —Belmaris Mercado, SVA '26.

2026 GHRoW-SVA Seniors at the GHRoW Senior Dinner – (back) Abby Moore, Ajani Shaw, Sophia Trigo, Andrés Muñoz, Sofia Segura, Dylan Jimenez, Belmaris Mercado; (front) Joshua Franco.

## DEAR FRIENDS,

What a wonderful year to celebrate God's blessings through GHRoW! As we mark our 35th anniversary, we rejoice in awarding a record $60,000 in scholarships to eight SVA students, made possible by your extraordinary generosity. Praise God, and thank you!

Since 1991, GHRoW has awarded 210 scholarships totaling over $800,000, with more than $350,000 endowed to benefit future students. What a wonderful legacy of generosity and faithfulness!

Beyond financial assistance, our scholars enjoy fellowship, special outings, and spiritually enriching vespers that strengthen friendships and encourage their walk with God. The GHRoW board covers these expenses so every donated dollar supports scholarships.

Thank you for investing in young lives and helping make an SVA education possible. What a blessing to share this mission with you!

Gratefully,

Tony Williams, *President*
SVA Class of 1982

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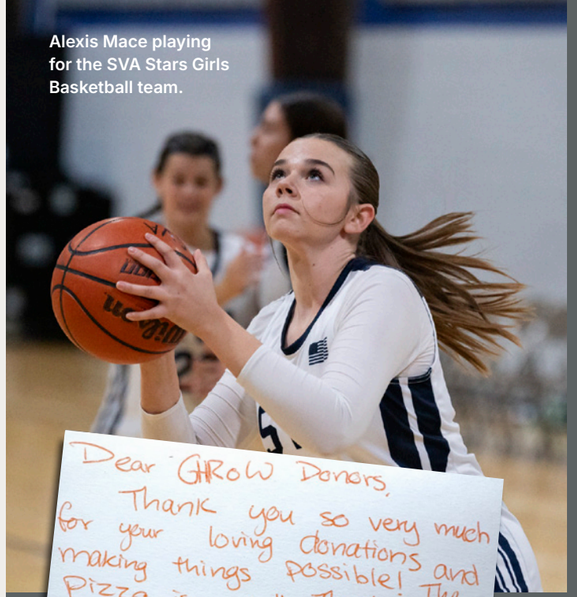
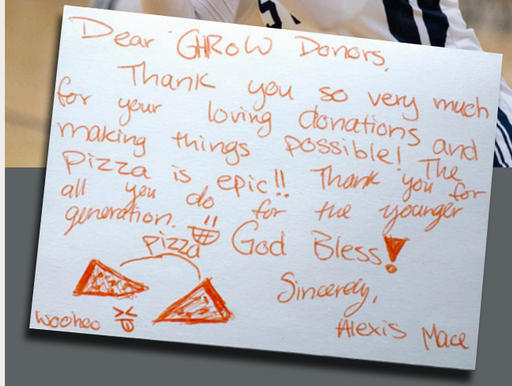


Alexis Mace playing for the SVA Stars Girls Basketball team.






Abby Moore receiving her diploma from Principal Don Short.
PC: JACLYN KNIGHT




Ajani Shaw pitching for the SVA Stars baseball team.

# DONORS

Anonymous
*Memory of Robert Goyne*

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Banks, Russ & Kari
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Moon, Kurt

Moon, Sydney
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*Memory of Lyle Botimer*





Sophia Trigo, 2025 RSH Leadership Scholar, conducts during the Spring Concert.
PC: JACLYN KNIGHT

## 2026 MERIT SCHOLARSHIPS

Thanks to record donor generosity, GHRoW awarded a record $57,000 in Merit Scholarships to seven SVA students this year!

Congratulations to our newest Merit Scholars: Rebecca Anderson, Jael Blackett, Rhonnier Gutierrez, Na'Hamani Hubbard, Alexis Mace, Nayomi Siever, and Corey Whalen.

GHRoW Merit Scholarships recognize students demonstrating academic achievement and financial need. Applicants submit personal essays that the GHRoW board prayerfully reviews. Awards are based on available donations and distributed over students' remaining years at SVA.

During the 2025–2026 school year, 16 Merit Scholars attended SVA, with scholarship awards totaling $129,000.

Your generosity continues to open doors to an SVA education and invest in the lives of deserving students.



Newest GHRoW scholars selected in Feb 2026 are sophomores (front) Jael Blackett, Na'Hamani Hubbard, Rebecca Anderson, Nayomi Siever; (back) Alexis Mace, Rhonnier Gutierrez, Corey Whalen. PC: CARRIE HEILMAN

**Dear GHRoW Donors, You have changed my life! I was unsure if I was go to be able to remain at SVA, but you all made it possible. I can't imagine myself anywhere but SVA. So, thank you! Words cannot describe how thankful I am!**
**Love, Nayomi Siever '28.**



## 2026 R. SCOTT HANDEL LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP

Andrés Muñoz, two-time Student Association President at SVA, is the recipient of the 17th annual R. Scott Handel Leadership Scholarship, receiving $3,000 from the RSH Leadership Endowment.

Each year, one of SVA's six student presidents is selected for this recognition, honoring exceptional leadership and service.

In his application, Andrés described leadership as serving others through communication, collaboration, and listening. He views himself as a bridge between students and administration, advocating for his peers and encouraging their ideas. Influenced by Christian role models, he believes effective leaders inspire others through vision, integrity, and a commitment to helping others reach their potential.

Andrés exemplifies the servant leadership this scholarship was established to recognize. Congratulations, Andrés!





**Above: R. Scott Handel Leadership Scholar, Andrés Muñoz between SVA Principal Don Short (left) and Vice-Principal Amir Gulzar (right).**

**Left: After adding his name to the Leadership plaque Andrés Muñoz poses with it in the lobby of Dale E. Twomley Hall at SVA.**

## CELEBRATING THE SCHOLARS

The GHRoW Social Calendar was once again a highlight for scholars this year. Fall activities included an ice cream outing at Peep's and a special vespers led by SVA alumna Donna Mashburn, who engaged students in a lively discussion. The evening concluded with hot chocolate, cookies, and fellowship as students received their traditional gift bags and study tips ahead of the following week's exams.

Spring brought another favorite tradition—a pizza and ice cream outing in Harrisonburg, giving scholars time to relax and enjoy friendships.

A new addition this year was the GHRoW Senior Dinner, where eight seniors gathered for a home-cooked Italian meal, reflected on their SVA experiences, and shared thoughts about the future as graduation approached. Each received a personalized GHRoW leather journal and a signed copy of *Un-Offendable*.

The GHRoW board covers the cost of these activities, ensuring that **100% of your donations go directly to student tuition**. It's a joy to see the friendships and encouragement these gatherings bring to our scholars throughout their SVA journey.



GHRoW students getting ice cream at Peep's in New Market (Sep 2025).


Special GHRoW vespers at the Student Center (Dec 2025).



Considering their ice cream options at Smileys (Apr 2026).


Spring pizza and ice cream outing in Harrisonburg (Apr 2026).


The inaugural GHRoW Senior Dinner in New Market featured a home-cooked Italian meal, reflection, and conversations about the future. (May 2026)

# FINANCES

| SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED* | |
|---|---|
| Merit | $57,000 |
| RSH Leadership | 3,000 |
| Total | $60,000 |

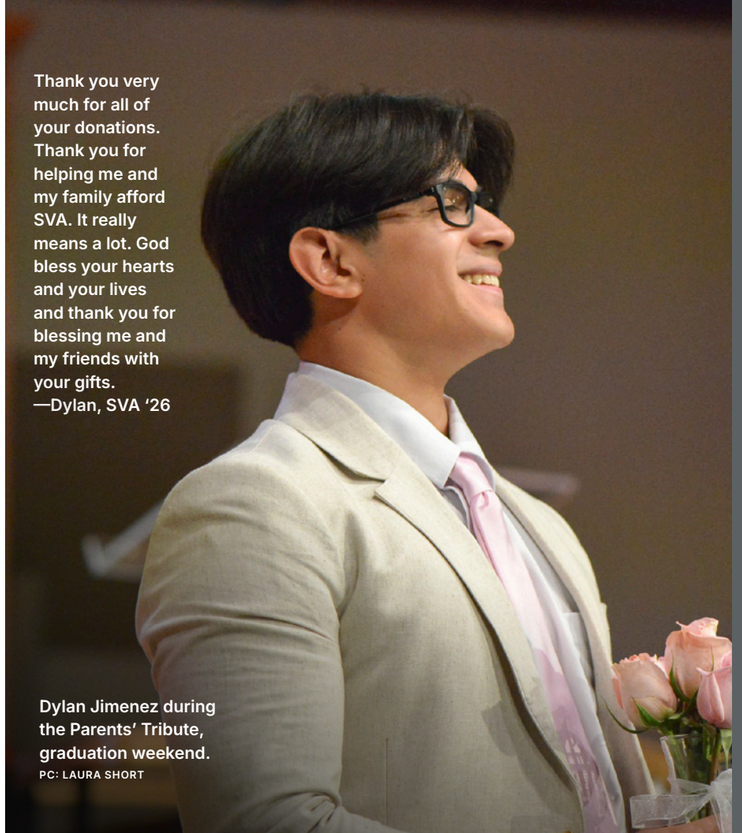
| GIFTS RECEIVED | |
|---|---|
| Merit & Unrestricted | $58,689 |
| RSH Endowment | 8,250 |
| Legacy Endowment | 21,500 |
| Total | $88,439 |

| ENDOWMENTS | |
|---|---|
| RSH Leadership | $133,612 |
| Legacy | 240,589 |
| Total | $374,201 |

| TOTAL ASSETS | $462,002 |
|---|---|

** Merit scholarships are paid over the scholar's 10th – 12th grade years at SVA. The Leadership scholarship is paid upon award.*





Thank you very much for all of your donations. Thank you for helping me and my family afford SVA. It really means a lot. God bless your hearts and your lives and thank you for blessing me and my friends with your gifts.
—Dylan, SVA '26

Dylan Jimenez during the Parents' Tribute, graduation weekend.
PC: LAURA SHORT



GHRoW scholar Rebecca Anderson inducted into the National Honor Society.
PC: CARRIE HEILMAN



GHRoW Junior John Mathai performing during the Annual Candlelight Concert.
PC: JACLYN KNIGHT

Thank you for all you have done to help keep the GHRoW Foundation alive!! Your help has give us students the ability to be at SVA! Being at thsischool has been the best part of my life and I would never trade it for everything! May God Bless! —John Mathai SVA '27



2026 GHRoW students: (front) Rhonnier Gutierrez, Na'Hamani Hubbard, Jael Blackett, Corey Whalen, Nayomi Siever, Belma Mercado, Sofia Segura, Sophia Trigo. (back) Josh Franco, Ajani Shaw, Andrés Muñoz Dylan Jimenez, Alexis Mace, Abby Moore, John Mathai (not pictured: Rebecca Anderson and Zephaniah Clarke)

Dear GHRoW Donors, Thank you very much for your donations to young maturing kids like us. You have no idea how much of a blessing it is for me to have my tuition lowered. I pray God blesses you all so much that the blessings overflow. Thank you so much for all that you do. Sincerely, Rhonnier G.

Thank you soooo much for all your donations. I'm so grateful to be able to be a part of the GHRoW scholarship, it has truly helped me so much and I'm beyond grateful for all your donations —Sofia Segura, '26.