

Treasurer's Update

USSYAA operates on a cash basis and for the period January 1, 2024 through August 31, 2024, year-to-date ("YTD") expenses were \$22,084.41 and consist of scholarships, our annual dinner, regional events, communications costs, and various operating and administrative costs.

Contributions from members are a critical part of the Association's financial picture. Through August 31, 2024, donors have earmarked \$3,010.00 toward our scholarship programs.

Assets of the USSYAA are held at Fidelity Investments and consist of mutual funds, exchange-traded funds, and common stocks. The USSYAA's Finance Committee manages its investments with the goals of maximizing portfolio assets and supporting the organization's Mission Statement. Tax returns are available at ussyaa.org.

Awards!

The USSYAA is starting the process for identifying and selecting award recipients for 2025. Each year, we award the Rosalie Wynn Hearst Distinguished Service Award, named for our beloved "Mom" Hearst. This award recognizes individuals who have made a positive, substantive impact on public discourse in the United States, and the recipient is honored at our annual awards dinner in Washington in March.

Past recipients have included Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, Senator Bob Dole, Senator Richard Lugar, Senator Tom Daschle, Senator Blanche Lincoln, Secretary Robert Gates, Secretary Chuck Hagel, Secretary Leon Panetta, Governor Bill Richardson, NIAID Director Dr. Anthony Fauci, C-SPAN's Brian Lamb, and many others.

If you have a recommendation for our 2025 Rosalie Wynn Hearst award, please contact Ryan Gavin at PresidentElect@USSYAA.org with your thoughts about who the USSYAA should seek to honor, and why they would be deserving of the recognition. The selection committee will gladly take your thoughts and recommendations into consideration.

USSYAA Contributions

The USSYAA has set a goal of raising \$25,000 for our 25th anniversary year, and we're off to a great start! Small gifts of support absolutely make the difference for our organization, and they allow us to continue offering alumni programming like regional events across the country, to expand our direct support programs like scholarships, and to invest in new ways to connect with our members, like our mentorship platform, member-focused website, and other digital tools. In our 25th year, we're more connected than ever!

Please consider making USSYAA a part of your year-end giving plan. Members can direct contributions of any size to our scholarship funds or general fund, and make an important impact on our programming in 2025. Contributions are tax-deductible, and can be made at USSYAA.org/Donate. We're always interested in hearing your thoughts and comments about what you'd like our association to focus on in the upcoming year, so please reach out with thoughts and ideas for how we can continue to grow.

One-time donations are always accepted, but the best way to make the biggest impact is to become a recurring donor. For as little as \$10 per year (not even 3 cents a day), you can help support year-round programs like our events across the country, member outreach programs, and other exciting new initiatives in 2025. You can choose to donate any amount of \$10 or more on a monthly, quarterly, semiannual or annual basis. We're also seeking new ways to thank our most engaged members, so starting in 2025, recurring donors will be guaranteed access to early event registration, and other small benefits to thank them for helping our ongoing mission. We're fully aware that not all members are able to contribute, and some of our most active members are still in school. New expanded benefits for donors will never be exclusionary, nor will they offer a level of participation not open to any member of the Association.

Thank you, as always, for supporting our mission with your time and contributions!

For more information about contributing to the USSYAA, please contact Ryan Gavin at PresidentElect@USSYAA.org or David Zavadsky at Treasurer@USSYAA.org

Annual Member News

Each year, the United States Senate Youth Alumni Association asks its members to send brief updates about their lives for inclusion in our annual newsletter. Whether you earned an award or a degree, gained a family member, moved to a new place, started a new job, or volunteered your time, your story means a lot to the USSYAA family.

To ensure adequate time for production, please go to our website and submit your news on our Submit News page (<https://ussyaa.org/submit-news/>) before **December 1, 2024**.

Alternatively, you can send your update to communications@ussyaa.org. Be sure to include your delegate state and year, or Military Mentor/Escort Officer year(s). Note that content may be edited for length and appropriateness.

USSYAA Board Involvement

Interested in getting more involved with USSYAA? We currently have several open regional director positions, namely for the Central Region (see the regional map here). Regional directors facilitate in-person and virtual events for alumni in their respective regions, typically at least once a year. This role is a great entry into serving on the USSYAA Board of Directors. Additionally, USSYAA has several committees which are open to general member involvement. These committees include the Bylaws Committee, Communications Committee, the Contributions Committee, the Awards Committee, and more. To learn more about any of these roles, as well as to nominate yourself or a fellow alum, please email president@ussyaa.org.

Scholarship Application Period Open

One of the signal goals of the USSYAA is to provide scholarships to help Hearst Program delegates pursue post-graduate academic programs to help continue to provide service to the broader community. The Rosalie Wynn and George Hearst Scholarship (\$5000) and Chandini M. Bachman Scholarship (\$2500) are available to all eligible program participants to fund graduate studies at U.S. schools or abroad. Past recipients and applicants have pursued studies in fields as diverse as medicine, community health, government affairs, international relations, art education, divinity school, many kinds of law, journalism, economics, cybersecurity, public policy, and many more. Every applicant and every scholarship winner has shown the continued creativity and commitment to service that the USSYAA champions. Scholarship applications are due **January 15, 2025**. The number of scholarships awarded will be based on available funding. Information about applying is [here](#).

Whether or not you will be applying for a scholarship this year (and past applicants are especially encouraged to reapply), we hope you will take a few minutes to learn about Rosalie Wynn Hearst and Chandini M. Bachman and their goals in fostering public service and to meet our most recent scholarship award winners [here](#).

We also encourage all of our alumni members to consider making a contribution to the Association to help us grow the scholarship program. As Chandini Bachman has commented each year she reviewed applications—we must give more scholarships. The applicants are all wonderful! You can donate [here](#).

If you would like to be a member of the Scholarship review committee, please send a message to alumniprograms@ussyaa.org.

Together, we can continue Mom Hearst's tradition of helping alumni with their educational needs.