Sun Devil Family Association

Leadership Council
The Sun Devil Family Association is dedicated to supporting student success through a strong network of engaged ASU families committed to advancing academic excellence, access, and impact.
“Our participation with the SDFA Leadership Council has made us feel truly involved in our sons’ journeys through college. The sense of belonging to the larger university community that comes with involvement on the Council is invaluable. It also reminds our children that there are times in life when you need help and it is good to give back when you can and receive when you need to.”

James, Elise, Bill, and Patrick Gotimer
Rockville Centre, NY

“Being part of the SDFA Leadership Council has given us a direct and tangible connection to ASU, and an opportunity to positively impact the college experience for Sun Devil students and their families. We enjoy hosting gatherings for Sun Devils in Colorado—we see it as a local connection to a life-long relationship with ASU.”

Scott, Claire, and Jeni Makinen
Ft. Collins, CO

“I love being a part of the SDFA Leadership Council because it helps me feel connected to my Sun Devil, and at the same time, gives me my own ASU experience. I can provide volunteer support from Chicago or on campus when I am in town. It’s a great way to connect with other ASU parents!”

Luke Phillips and Jennifer Gleason
Mokena, IL

“ASU has not just been a place to receive an education for us and our children, it has also been a family destination, a legacy that has spanned three generations. We love the mission of the SDFA, its compassion and support for all students, and how it is a community helping them engage and succeed.”

Brianna, Susan, Mark, and Tanner Osman
Tempe, AZ
The SDFA Leadership Council

The SDFA Leadership Council is comprised of dedicated parents committed to student success by providing volunteer and financial resources. Members serve as strong advocates, locally and nationally, on behalf of the SDFA to engage ASU families and expand opportunities and academic support for today’s students.

Opportunities – members enjoy the following opportunities:

- Attend exclusive receptions and special events
- Receive invitations to VIP tailgates
- Being part of a network of parent leaders who are committed to ASU
- Recognition in parent communications, programs, and at events

Involvement – members may participate in a variety of ways, including:

- As parent-leader connector points for local and regional university outreach efforts and activities
- Directing parent-funded grants and serving on the scholarship selection committee
- Planning and coordinating various fundraising activities
- Engaging in small-group meetings with staff, faculty, and leadership
- Connecting with families and students to share the Sun Devil experience

Commitment – members invest in the SDFA Fund with an annual gift at the Angel, Gold, or Maroon Family Circle recognition levels:

- **Angel Family Circle** $5,000 and above
- **Gold Family Circle** $2,500 - $4,999
- **Maroon Family Circle** $1,000 - $2,499

Sustaining Members – members who make a multi-year* commitment at the Angel, Gold, or Maroon Family Circle recognition level are recognized as Sustaining Members.

*(Minimum two years or longer)

To Join the SDFA Leadership Council

- **Mail:** Complete the enclosed Join SDFA Leadership Council form and mail in return envelope
- **Phone:** Robin Okun Hengl, Executive Director, at 480-965-0830
- **Online:** asufoundation.org/LeadershipCouncil
Fueling their dreams

Sun Devil Family Association Fund

When parents join the SDFA Leadership Council, their gifts support the Sun Devil Family Association Fund, which enables important student-success initiatives that have helped thousands achieve their potential in an academic environment that promotes excellence.

The SDFA grants more than $400,000 each year to student success programs, including:

- Scholarships for in- and out-of-state students
- Free tutoring and academic resources for all students
- Emergency crisis funding for students experiencing financial hardship
- Free Thanksgiving dinner for students unable to travel home
- Transition support for students raised in foster care

Gifts from ASU families provide a safety net that enables students from all socioeconomic backgrounds to pursue an education and realize their dreams.

Joshua Allen’s Story

A few years ago, I was in dire straits: about to be evicted, no money, halfway through the semester with finals looming and lots of studying and homework to be done. I was so worried about my finances that I thought my only option was to drop out of school and start working full time. I had no idea what to do. I then learned about and applied to the SDFA Emergency Crisis Fund. With those funds, I was able to stay in school. It was a huge blessing. It kept me on pace to finish school and get my degree! I just graduated in May. It is surreal and I would not have been able to do it without that emergency scholarship. Without that help, I would not be sitting here with my degree.
Championing student success

SDFA Angel Program

An option for donors who invest at the $5,000 level is the opportunity to participate in the SDFA Angel Program.

The SDFA Angel Program connects an individual SDFA scholar directly to a donor and the far-reaching impact of his or her personal or corporate philanthropy. The generosity of our Angel donors has provided the opportunity for many SDFA scholars to reach their dreams.

The Angel Program enables a donor to not only share financial support—in the form of a $5,000 annual commitment—but also to connect with their scholarship recipients through invitations to special SDFA Angel donor/scholar recognition events and receptions.

Leadership Council member Junette West is a firm believer that every child should have the opportunity to pursue higher education. “It’s important to me,” she says. West’s scholarship will enable Nguyen to pursue biological sciences, a first step in his dream to become a doctor.

Watching his scholar, Zackary Wood, work his way to an aerospace engineering degree is rewarding for Leadership Council member Steve Murow. “Here’s an opportunity to see your money at work and what a difference it makes in one person’s life,” he says. “You can save the world one student at a time!”

Jesse Nguyen, biological sciences freshman, with Angel donor Junette West.

Zachary Wood, engineering senior, with Angel donor Steve Murow.
Together, our potential is limitless