



A quick note from the Foundation Board



Jeffrey Gardner (2002)
President, Cougar Foundation
Board of Directors

Happy New Year to all in the Sahuaro Community! As we enter a new year under new circumstances, I wanted to reach out with some updates on the Foundation and its activities.

Covid-19 Pandemic forces postponement of Cougar Foundation fundraisers

Due to the COVID-19 crisis, our events for 2020 were postponed until such a time where we can celebrate safely. This means the Golf Tournament (which is tentatively rescheduled for April of this year) as well as the Hall of Fame Breakfast, honoring **Ashley Ross Ashcraft** (Class of 2003), **Major Tim Ashcraft** (Class of 2003), **Steve Botkin** (Class of 1986), **Herbert "Will" Montoya** (Class of 1980) and former administrator **Jane Stratman**. We all look forward to recognizing these outstanding individuals at a later, safer, date.

Many of our members used the Hall of Fame Breakfast as a reminder to pay annual dues. Should you wish to pay online, please visit sahuarocougars.org.

Cougar Foundation Awarded 'Gold Star' Status by GuideStar

Thanks to the work of the newest member of the Cougar Foundation Board **David Laszakovits** (Class of 1996), the Cougar Foundation has been given an award for transparency. See below to find out more information.

End-of-year gifts for Sahuaro teachers and staff distributed by the Cougar Foundation

The Foundation Board voted unanimously to provide a \$30 Amazon.com gift card to all Sahuaro teachers and staff as a symbol of our gratitude for extraordinary efforts during an extraordinary year. We wish we could do more, but are proud to say a heartfelt THANK YOU to all who have continued their efforts during these times.

As always, thank you for your support of Sahuaro and the Cougar Foundation. Please let us know if there is anything we can do to recognize or support the achievements of Sahuaro students, alumni, and staff. Most importantly - stay healthy!

Cougar Foundation Board of Directors

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Visit us on the web:
sahuarocougars.org

Sahuaro Cougar Foundation is a Gold Star Charity

Foundation achieves high marks for transparency and ethical usage of donations



David Laszakovits (1996)
Member, Cougar Foundation
Board of Directors

The Cougar Foundation board is excited to announce that we recently earned GuideStar's Gold status. GuideStar the foremost leader in reporting nonprofit organizations in the United States.

GuideStar Gold status demonstrates to the public our commitment to nonprofit transparency, accountability and best practice. In particular, this designation attests that the Cougar Foundation is dedicated to providing current and potential donors with accurate and in-depth knowledge about the many ways we are responsibly advancing our mission and vision with any money donated.



GuideStar provides a Seal rating (Bronze, Silver, Gold, or Platinum) on all 1.8 million IRS-registered nonprofit organizations. The goal is to provide as much information as they can so that a donor can make his or her own determination of where to donate money. The elements provided on each nonprofit can include:

In the coming months, we'll be doing the necessary work to achieve GuideStar's highest status of Platinum.