



Alyeska pipeline
SERVICE COMPANY

Alaska Native Scholarship

2025 Report

Alyeska Pipeline Native Scholarship Recipients

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Since 2009, 60 students have received \$369,130 in awards from the Alyeska Pipeline Service Company Alaska Native Scholarship.

This edition of the recipient portfolio includes students awards from Fall 2009 – Spring 2024

Estimated Annual School Expenses Alaska Resident at UAF, Academic Year 2022-23			
	First Years & Sophomores (30 credits)	Juniors & Seniors (30 credits)	Graduate Students (18 credits)
Tuition and Fees	\$9,870	\$10,800	\$11,160
Room and Board	\$10,650	\$10,650	\$9,902
Annual Total	\$20,520	\$21,450	\$21,062



Tara McGrogan and her fiancé, now husband, John Deonigi at the UAF 2017 Commencement. They met in 2014 while attending UAF.

"Receiving the Alyeska Pipeline Native Scholarship had a huge impact on my educational goals. I worked at UAF School of Management as a marketing assistant, but the financial stress to pay for tuition and books was reduced dramatically. I was able to focus on what was important: classwork and getting involved on campus and the community as a student. My time at UAF prepared me for internships and eventually for my current position at Alyeska after graduation. Through my student job and Teaching Assistant position, I learned valuable professional and soft skills that I use every day at work."

Tara McGrogan

Communications Coordinator

Alyeska Pipeline Service Company



Nelson Carpluk proudly representing Alaska and the UAF Nanook family on the summit of Mount Kilimanjaro (Africa's highest peak - 19,341 ft) on July 6th, 2017.

"Receiving the Alyeska Pipeline Native Scholarship gave me added incentive to finish graduate school and good faith they were investing in my future. I was able to focus on a career after school, while at the same time, have the resources to assist my family financially in some times of need. The School of Management was integral in giving me the tools needed to succeed. What I learned in college went well beyond academics, also emphasizing how to interact and grow within a company."

Nelson Carpluk

Oil Movements Scheduler

Alyeska Pipeline Service Company

Morrow Duszynski

Spring 2023, Fall 2024

Morrow Duszynski is a dedicated full-time college student with a strong passion for business and marketing. Currently working as a Communications Specialist at UAF College of Business and Security Management, Morrow is pursuing an MBA to further her career goals within the college and in Alaska. Additionally, Morrow is starting her own business providing content creation and social media management services to small businesses in Alaska.

Growing up with a mother who prioritized education and a father adopted from Kaltag, an Alaskan village, Morrow values the importance of opportunity and the privilege of education. Her diverse family background has shaped her worldview, inspiring her to empathize with others and focus on causes like protecting land and enhancing community wellness.

Volunteering with organizations like Blossom House Healing Arts, Interior Alaska Land Trust, and the Fairbanks Community Food Bank, Morrow has developed valuable interpersonal skills that have prepared her for success in the future. By receiving the Alyeska Pipeline Scholarship, Morrow hopes to continue her educational journey without financial burden and make a positive impact on her community.



Morrow Duszynski

Jennifer Andreassen

Spring 2023, Fall 2022

Jennifer Andreassen is a first-generation college student studying accounting. She is Tlingit, and was born in Haines, Alaska. She started her degree in 2002, and due to life circumstances, had to put her education on pause until recently. This scholarship will help her finish her education and get a job doing what she enjoys.

Jennifer grew up in a single parent home, with two of her siblings. She did not meet her biological dad until she was 35 years old. Watching her mom raise three children made her more independent. She was very determined to go to college, and in the beginning didn't know what she wanted to study. After taking some core classes and some sign language classes, she then took a couple of business classes. After her first accounting class, she knew that she wanted to pursue an accounting degree.



Jennifer takes a selfie as she explores the Painted Hills in Oregon.

Katie Anthony

Spring 2023, Fall 2022

After completing her secondary education, Katie fell in love with school and decided to pursue a college degree at UAF. In 2016, Katie earned a certification and a Associates of Arts degree. Afterwards she took a break until spring 2021 where she returned to earn her Bachelors degree in Applied Management and Bussines Administration.

Katies family has always passionately supported her educational endeavors. Always excited to see her reach her future goals and full potential. Thus driving Katie to work hard toward her college education and entering the workforce as a qualified individual that can help better any company she works for.



Katie Anthony posing with family for a birthday.

Jasmine Jemewouk

Spring 2023, Fall/Spring 2022

Jasmine is an undergraduate student who is earning her business administration degree with a minor in rural development. While continuing her education from her home in Elim, she works part-time as a teacher's aid and serves on the board for the nonprofit organization, Alaska Community Action on Toxics.

Jasmine's ancestors are her biggest inspiration. Having lived through other pandemics, religion, racism, addiction, and much more, they still overcame every obstacle thrown their way.

Jasmine is Inupiaq, Yupik, and Cherokee. At the age of 12, Jasmine was enrolled in her father's tribe, the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, which is located in North Carolina. Inspired by her grandfather's knowledge of family history and storytelling abilities, Jasmine has gained a passion for working closely with her community. She strives to fulfill a leadership position in her community; with the help of her college degree, she can do just that.



Jasmine Jemewouk.



Will and his faithful companion Widgit.

Will Hartman

Spring 2023, Fall/Spring 2020 – 2022

Will Hartman is a first-generation student studying applied management and resides in Fishhook, Alaska with his wife, Rachel. He enjoys spending time outdoors, collecting oddities, and traveling.

Will grew up in Western Alaska and has lived in a number of villages along the Kuskokwim river, with his family ultimately settling in Bethel for work and educational opportunities. Will spent a lot of time on his grandparents native allotment in Georgetown, Alaska. It was there where he learned to subsist and be self reliant, and that you have to work hard and persist in order to get what you want. Will was raised by his mother, Debby, and has two brothers Jonathan, and Tyler. She taught him to treat people with respect, give back as much as he's able, and appreciate what he has. Will continues to maintain those values personally and professionally.

Will's career goal is to direct a small-to-medium sized nonprofit or tribal organization. Completing his bachelor's degree will allow him greater access to opportunities and advancement.

Will is a member of Beta Gamma Sigma, the business honor society recognizing students in the top 10% of their class. Previously he served as Tribal Administrator and Tribal Council Member for the Native Village of Georgetown, and Board Member and volunteer for Iditasport Alaska.

Clarence Daniel

Spring 2023, Fall/Spring 2022

Clarence is an undergraduate student pursuing a bachelor's degree in accounting. He was born and raised in a small village called Tuntutuliak located in the Bethel Census Area on the west side of Alaska.

Clarence's father is an Alaskan native and his mother is European. His mother taught him a lot about what it means to be patient, humble, and respectful, tools he uses often as he moves forward with both his educational and career goals. Clarence has six children, three of whom are also pursuing college degrees. His youngest daughter is very active in sports, and his youngest son is not yet in school. All of Clarence's children are fluent in Yugtun, and the last five children attended Yup'ik Immersion School in Bethel.



Daniel takes a selfie while out hunting.

Bridgette Keener

Spring 2024, Fall/Spring 2023, Fall 2022

Bridgette is a Junior Accounting Major as well as a stay-at-home mom. Being a single income family, Bridgette's biggest goal is to graduate without any student loans and be able to give her children the opportunities that she didn't have. Having grown up in a low-middle class family, most of her family grew up to work in the trades. Her mother, a single mom, attempted to pursue her dream of becoming a doctor but was unable to finish her degree. Her father, a mechanic for most of his life, had a lot of health issues and as a result was never able to retire. Bridgette's husband came from a similar background. Both Bridgette and her husband are creating a different future for their own children so that they have the opportunity to chase their dreams as they grow older.



Bridgette takes a selfie with her son and cat.

Jaylein Kriska

Spring 2024, Fall/Spring 2023, Fall/Spring 2022

Jaylein appreciates receiving this scholarship to attend school full-time, to further her education. While attending school she also runs her small business, volunteers in the native community, and works full-time.

In order to receive a better education, Jaylein's mother moved her family to Fairbanks from Koyukuk, AK when she was in the 4th grade. When she first moved to Fairbanks the school determined that she was 4 years behind because the main focus was the Athabascan culture instead of Western culture. Jaylein improved over the years and graduated high school with a 3.75. Her mother worked two jobs to support her family and make ends meet.

Having her mother as a role model, Jaylein learned that no matter what situation you are in, it is always okay to ask someone for help. Jaylein's positivity and work ethic helps her succeed as a Business Administration major. In addition to school, she works full-time at Doyon, Limited and has a small business called JayBaesBeads. She also makes time to volunteer at the ANCSA symposium, Morris Thompson golf tournament, and other events. She also supports and donates to the Women's shelter, the place that helped the family get on their feet.



Jaylein posing for a professional photographer.



Ashley showing off the catch of the day in her hometown of Dillingham.

Ashley Miller

Spring 2024, Fall/Spring 2023, Fall 2022

Ashley was born and raised in Dillingham. She grew up with her mom in the town she still calls home today and has a deep appreciation for our culture and rural way of life. Ashley is pursuing her MBA to be seen as a competitive candidate in the future when applying for management positions. She believes her advanced degree will set her aside from other applicants and get her one step closer to the job she wants.

Her motivation for applying for the Alyeska Pipeline Scholarship stems from her strong belief in furthering and enriching her education. The expense of college can be a challenge, and she would not have the ability to finance her education. Ashley stated that this scholarship decreases her financial burden and the stress of paying back college loans.



Stephanie takes a photo in front of the Utqiagvik Whale Bone Arch.

Stephanie Nelson

Spring 2023, Fall 2022

Stephanie is a Graduate Student pursuing a Masters in Emergency Management. Stephanie hopes to see development of the concentration in Tribal Emergency Management for the master's program. She also plans on continuing her education so that she can expand her expertise in the Tribal Emergency management field, to help not only my region but the 229 other federally recognized tribes across Alaska. Helping to preserve villages way of life for the next generations to come.

Having pursued her college education she has discovered a passion for Arctic policy. A driving force behind her education is remembering where you come from, treating others how you would like to be treated, and that hard work pays off.

When not busy with school or work, Stephanie volunteers with the Barrow High School Cross Country team, the Barrow Girls Scouts Troops, and the Tribal Court Judge for the Native Village of Barrow. She also works with the school district on their emergency preparedness efforts.



Jesse Roehl.

Jesse Roehl

Spring 2024, Fall/Spring 2021 – 2023

As a full-time student majoring in accounting, while also working full time, Jesse has become quite adept at time management. Along with his other responsibilities, Jesse continues to make time to participate in UAF's student organization, the Great Alaskan Accounting People. GAAP has helped Jesse prepare for a career as an accountant. Once he has established a career after graduation, he hopes to be able to provide for his community and himself.

With the aid of his father, Jesse continues to learn how to appreciate their Alaska Native culture. With his father's guidance, Jesse embraces the opportunity to attend programs such as Alaska Native Education, which connects him with his elders and allows him to learn about other cultures. Jesse is grateful for his connection to his culture and the ability to remain connected with other Alaska Native communities.

Monique Beetus

Spring 2020, Fall/Spring 2019

Monique has worked full time as an accountant in the past and she is currently seeking her degree in finance. Though Monique had to sacrifice her job so she could go to school and raise her son, she loves business and cannot wait to begin working again once she finishes her degree. Both of her parents were born in Tanana and her mother received her college degree at the age of 60. Monique feels she is also getting her degree a little late, but is motivated to finish to advance her career. She grew up with very little and college was not something that was practical.

Monique says that many more doors open up when you have a degree. She aspires to work in management in a finance position. Monique also likes to be involved in the community, especially fundraisers for the native community. She says that she always does her best to help when there are those in need whether they live in Fairbanks or in the villages.



Monique with her children.

Talon Erickson

Spring 2025, Fall 2024, Fall/Spring 2022, Fall/Spring 2021

Culture is a big part of Talon's life. His mother is Inupiaq, and father is Norwegian. Having grown up in Unalakleet, a small village in the Norton Sound, Talon has every intention of returning home after graduation. In many rural communities, it is taught that the best way to help your own community is to give back. Talon attends school and works hard so when he returns to his village community, he can share the skills he learned in college. Talon believes that Alaska Native people often struggle to be heard, and the best way to be heard is through education.

After graduation, Talon plans to become a CPA and practice accounting. He is preparing for a future in which Unalakleet can be serviced by an accountant who was raised in his own community.



Talon with his family celebrating July 4th.

Macayla Alexander

Spring 2025, Fall 2024, Spring 2021, Fall/ Spring 2020, Fall/Spring 2019

Macayla is a first-generation college student pursuing a bachelor's degree in accounting. While attending UAF, Macayla works six days a week to help pay for education and living expenses. Her dedication to her studies and employment are driving factors in achieving her childhood goal of graduating with a college degree.

Growing up with parents who struggle with addiction and did not graduate from high school, Macayla chose an alternative path. Not only did she graduate high school, she was also named student body president and was involved in student council to create a better educational environment for all the students around her. Macayla has been known to give back by running fundraisers in high school and volunteering in downtown Fairbanks for homeless individuals. She played basketball in high school and still plays in a women's league in Fairbanks. Macayla's work ethic and perseverance are clear. With the help of the Alyeska Pipeline scholarship, she is able to rise above her struggles and benefit those around her along with her future endeavors.



Macayla Alexander.



Julie staying warm in the village of Elim.

Julie Amaktoolik

Spring 2022, Fall/Spring 2021, Fall 2020

Julie is a first-generation college student who decided on a business administration degree because of her experiences during summer internships with two Alaska Native corporations. She worked for Bering Straits Native Corporation in Nome as a Lands/Accounting Intern and in Elim with Kawerak, Inc. as a Grant Writing/Cultural Development Intern. Julie loved working with company leaders in both places, and hopes to one day work beside a Native corporation leader as an accountant.

A major source of inspiration for Julie has been her family. She remembers her grandparents as being very hard working and doing everything they could to provide for their family. Her mom is a respected teacher, who set an example of giving back to her community. Julie sees working for a Native corporation as a way to give back to not only the community where she grew up, but other communities as well.



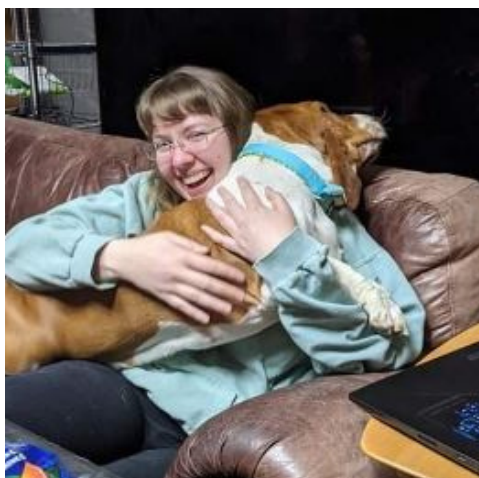
Leah getting her first degree from UAF.

Leah David

Spring 2022, Spring 2021, Fall/Spring 2020

Leah currently works in accounting for a tribal office and is pursuing a BBA in Accounting in hopes of becoming a CPA. As a CPA, she would be able to provide a low-cost option for people and local businesses in her village during tax season. Even with the challenges of having three kids and a job, Leah is determined to achieve this goal.

Growing up, Leah's family struggled to make ends meet. This motivated her to work hard so that she could have a brighter future. Leah was valedictorian of her graduating class in high school but dropped out of college because of the cost of attendance. Years later, after encouragement from a supervisor, she went back to school as a first-generation college graduate. Leah received both an Associate of Applied Accounting in 2016 and an Associate of Applied Science in Tribal Management 2017. As she strives for her bachelor's degree, Leah works as an accountant for Huslia Tribal Council.



Kaitlyn getting cuddles from her Bassett Hound while hanging out with friends.

Kaitlyn Stansberry

Spring 2022

Kaitlyn has lived in Fairbanks since she was eight years old and is now an accounting major at UAF. She is motivated by her mother to go to college, since Mom received her degree when Kaitlyn and her brother were young. Kaitlyn witnessed firsthand the strides it took to receive a degree, and the power education can give in terms of social economic mobility.

Her primary educational goal is to receive her CPA after graduation and become an accountant, and in that end will pursue a graduate degree. Kaitlyn stated that this scholarship enables her to take some time off work, while providing reassurance that she will be able to cover costs allowing her to focus on her studies and personal relationships.

Kaitlyn is a member of the Great Alaskan Accounting People (GAAP) Club. Even though she devotes most of her time to school and work, when she does find free time, she spends it with friends and family playing board games, mahjong, sharing a meal, or some other get together.

Joseph Thomas

Spring 2022

Joseph calls Interior Alaska and Yukon Canada home. He was raised on the Yukon Flats hunting, fishing, trapping, and camping taught to him by my grandparents, parents, uncles, aunties, and cousins. He comes from a large family that has a very historical working knowledge of the Yukon Flats in Alaska. His family instilled respect, teamwork, problem-solving, hard work, dedication, and results-driven traits in me to help me be successful in the world.

His motivation to apply for this scholarship was the opportunity to help him obtain his applied management degree. By receiving this degree, Joseph feels he can offer his knowledge, skills, and abilities to help an oil and gas company organization achieve business objectives. Currently working for Hilcorp North Slope LLC, his future goals are to be a manager in an oil and gas company.



Joseph enjoying a beautiful summer day on the water with his wife.

Randy Adams

Spring 2021

Randy is a first-generation college student currently in the UAF MBA program and is set on graduating with a 4.0 GPA. Randy was part of the construction management club in high school, and his team trained hard for six months to compete against top schools. They won \$25,000 for their school program after placing first in the regional competition. This experience helped Randy to better understand the power of hard work, and the reward that comes from accomplishments.

When Randy was 15 years old, his father passed away. His family did not have the funds to aid Randy's college education, so Randy became responsible for his own future. His community provided many generous grants and scholarships. The help that he receives from his community, and other scholarships such as this one, is what inspires Randy to keep moving forward towards his educational and workplace goals.

While Randy is attending college as a full-time student, he is also a full-time project manager in the construction industry. Randy hopes that earning his MBA will aid him in moving into a senior management position.



Randy and his Mom are all smiles for graduation.

Gordon Carroll

Spring 2021

Gordon is from Fort Yukon, Alaska, a close-knit community along the Yukon River. Growing up in a rural village disconnected from road systems created an appreciation for spending time outdoors, and inspired Gordon to learn how to provide for himself. Every summer, Gordon and his family can be found moose hunting, fishing and berry picking to prepare for the winter. These summer rituals continue to strengthen Gordon's love of the great outdoors.

As a first-generation college student, Gordon, along with his sister, are the first in his family to attend college. He is planning to enter the MBA program after finishing his undergraduate degree, while also working toward becoming a CPA. Gordon's goal is to eventually become a personal financial officer or a purchasing agent.



Gordon soaks up some sunshine with his family on beach.



Shannon poses with her grandmother Elizabeth Nayokpuk and cousin Karla Nayokpu.

Shannon Demientieff

Spring 2021, Spring 2016, Fall 2015

Shannon is pursuing an undergraduate degree in accounting from the School of Management. She currently works full time as an administrative assistant doing work management and cost controls for the Alyeska Pipeline Service Company. When Shannon finishes her degree, she plans to apply for a business analyst or cost assistant position with the company.

Shannon is motivated by her husband and her two beautiful daughters. This scholarship relieves the financial stress of paying for her college courses. Shannon was raised in a traditional subsistence hunting and gathering lifestyle, with winters spent in township and summers in camps. Her strong work ethic and dedication are results of this upbringing, and these values foster success in her personal and professional pursuits.

Shannon believes that the harder you work towards your goals, the more personal satisfaction you will feel, and also that working together as a team is vital to the outcome of the workforce.



Sierra Powers.

Sierra Powers

Spring 2021

After entering the foster care system at a young age, Sierra's grandmother took her and her siblings under her wing. This inspired Sierra to value the importance of giving back to the elders in her community. During her time in high school, Sierra volunteered five hours a day at local antique shops that were run by the community's elders.

After interviewing her great-grandmother, Minnie Robertson, with the intent of creating an educational program that taught others about her culture and history, Sierra was invited to present at Oklahoma State University. The week spent in Oklahoma gave Sierra the opportunity to educate herself, as well as students outside of Alaska, on Native culture and her own family.

As a first-generation college student, Sierra learned a lot about UAF and the field in which she is majoring. After graduating with her bachelor's degree in homeland security and emergency management, Sierra plans to move to Anchorage and find a job that can support her and her growing family. She plans on continuing her education by pursuing her master's degree online.

Angel Stickman

Spring 2021

Angel has overcome numerous obstacles in order to be where she is today. Due to alcoholism, her parents were unable to provide emotional support and ultimately led the family to face many financial hardships. After the passing of Angel's father, she and her sister were put into the care of the Office of Children Services. At the age of 17, Angel had her first child, graduating from high school a year later. She has spent most of her life battling anxiety and depression, but this hasn't stopped her from working towards her goals. She continues to turn her dreams into reality, and accomplish more than she had ever dreamed was possible.

Angel is a first-generation college student who has successfully obtained two degrees - an associate in human services and bachelor's in social work - and is currently working on her third degree in business administration. Her belief that higher education is a pillar in opening up future job opportunities is what fuels Angel's passion for a college education. Angel hopes that her passion for continued education and her internal strength, combined with a business administration degree, will lead to a job which will ensure financial stability.



Angel spends family time outdoors on snowmachines.

Esther Berlin

Spring 2020

Esther's father is from Kasigluk, Alaska, and her mother is from Atmautluak, Alaska. Esther grew up with her family in Kasigluk, which is located in western Alaska and has a population of approximately 600 people. Esther practiced traditional Yup'ik ways of subsistence hunting and gathering, as well as other cultural Yup'ik traditions. She also learned about the world outside of Kasigluk. Her parents told her that she would have to work hard to have a good, stable life.

Esther is a first-generation accounting student, and she knows that having a degree will make it easier to find a job in accounting. She is planning to start work in an entry-level accounting job, then move into a more specialized area after she has gained experience and explored the subfields within the industry. Growing up in a village made her see the world as a large place, where she should climb a ladder to bigger and better things. Today, she sees the world as a place to learn and grow in.



Esther (far right) with her family, and sister Charleen, who also was a scholarship recipient.

Jillian Bjornstad

Spring 2021, Fall/Spring 2020

Jillian is from Sand Point, Alaska, a small town on one of the Aleutian Islands. She is Unangax and is a member of the Qagan Tayagungin Tribe. Jillian's father has lived in Sand Point his entire life and has worked many jobs in the area. In addition to work, he is also on the tribal board and the board of directors for the Sand Point village corporation. He encouraged Jillian to leave their small island and make her mark on the world. Jillian's mother was also supportive and encouraging. She pushed Jillian to do her best and set high expectations. It was their support that led Jillian to not only attend college, but to obtain a BBA. She is currently working as a teaching assistant while she pursues her MBA.

As a first-generation college student, Jillian hopes that getting an MBA will inspire others from her community. She is proving that higher education is not just a far-off dream but is something achievable. Jillian wants others from her town to see her achieve her goals and realize that it is possible for them to do so as well.



Jillian poses in her graduation regalia in Sand Point, AK.



Samantha and her husband Jim, and their children.

Samantha Ely

Spring 2021, Fall/Spring 2020

Samantha is a wife and mother of two children. She is a first-generation college student who is attending school full-time and working part-time. With her husband unable to work, she faces the challenge of supporting the family while pursuing her degree. When Samantha first applied to college, she had no idea she would make it as far as she has. Neither of her parents graduated from high school, and no one in her family has a college degree. Looking back, it blows her mind how much her hard work and self-confidence has paid off. Samantha believes it is important to never give up, and to keep pushing forward through any obstacles that may stand in your way.

In the future, Samantha is planning to use the knowledge and skills she's gained from her education to open her own small business. Owning a business is a lot of work, and she believes that getting a business degree will help set her up for success.



Emily with her family.

Emily Gibson

Spring 2020, Fall/Spring 2019

Emily works full-time in law enforcement while raising five children, as well as entering her senior year in the accounting program at UAF. She hopes her degree will provide better opportunities in the future for her and her family. Once she has a degree, she hopes to acquire a more stable job in a local accounting firm. Further down the road, Emily would like to work towards being a controller. Currently, she is working towards obtaining her CPA and is a member of GAAP, the student accounting club.

Emily grew up on the Yukon River in the small Athabascan village of Nulato, with a population of 320 people. Her father raised three daughters on his own, while working in the city office as a treasurer. The people of Nulato emphasize respecting your elders, honoring your ancestors through practicing traditional ceremonies, and to never forget where you came from. Her background and experience have taught Emily to work hard for what she wants, to never give up, and believe if she works hard enough, she can accomplish anything she sets her mind to.

Noah Lovell

Spring 2020, Fall/Spring 2019, Fall/Spring 2018,
Fall/Spring 2017

Noah is pursuing a bachelor's degree in business administration, deciding on an emphasis in either marketing or finance. In the short term, he participates in the JET program (Japanese Exchange and Teaching program) to gain international experience. For the past five years, Noah has been a Native tour guide at the Riverboat Discovery and has been able to share his culture with tourists and people from around the world. He is also very involved in his church group and has been playing the violin since 4th grade.

An academic degree will provide Noah with the tools necessary to further his career aspirations. In the future, he plans to further his education by getting a master's degree then working for an Alaskan Native corporation and continuing ties to his heritage and culture. His family and culture have had a big impact on his life. His mother is Koyukon Athabascan and his father is Japanese American. Noah hopes that with his local and international experiences that he will be able to continue to teach and share his drive to work hard with the surrounding community.



Noah Lovell in Washington, D.C.

Christopher Pitka

Spring 2020

Christopher was born and raised in Fairbanks, Alaska. He is the son of Raymond Pitka Sr. and Debra Pitka. After graduating with his degree in accounting, Christopher plans to work full-time as an accountant, while pursuing an MBA. Getting an education is important to Christopher because it will allow him to have better career opportunities and be financially able to support both his family and his community.

Christopher has worked hard to overcome obstacles so that he can continue to study and achieve his academic goals. Several members of his family are hearing impaired, including his father, his brother and himself. Christopher has hearing aids and uses interpreters for school. Being hearing impaired can make school challenging, but with support from his family and teachers, he is succeeding.

Christopher has mentored K-12 students for over five years. He helps students who are deaf or hard of hearing build confidence in themselves and succeed in school. Christopher's goal is to challenge kids to overcome their fears and put in the work needed to succeed. He is committed to studying hard and looking for opportunities that could help make his goals a reality, and he encourages others to do the same.



Christopher enjoying time outside with a family member.



Stephanie with her family.

Stephanie Pitka

Spring 2020, Fall/Spring 2019, Spring 2016

Stephanie is pursuing a BBA in accounting and hopes to receive a CPA. Since childhood, she has dreamt of becoming the first in her family to graduate college. She is a single mother of three, and scholarships allow her to work less and spend more time with her family and on her studies. Last year, Stephanie was awarded the Jean B. Schmitt Scholarship, which is awarded to a mother pursuing accounting. The funding she received has had a ripple effect on her future. She was able to get better grades and was awarded other scholarships. She is also active in the accounting student organization that changed her life by motivating her to challenge herself.

Stephanie's family is from Stevens Village and is deeply integrated within the Alaska Native community and involved in many cultural activities. From 2008 to 2017, Stephanie was a board member of Dinyea, which is the Stevens Village Corporation. She served as Secretary/Treasurer, which was a great learning experience in leadership, community and tribal development. Making many connections and life-long friendships with elders over the years has helped her connect to her past and understand who she is.



Martha White.

Martha White

Fall/Spring 2019, Fall/Spring 2018, Fall 2017

Martha works at ASRC Energy Services as an administrative assistant while attending UAF. She is an accounting student who makes education her top priority. She is able to balance work and school by taking online and summer courses. With her degree, this first-generation college student hopes to accept an accounting position with ASRC or another company in Fairbanks.

It's not all work and school for Martha. She helps organize a youth basketball tournament during spring break for the Fairbanks Native Association. In the summer, you'll find Martha playing softball, fishing, and picking berries.

Her mother's side of her family comes from Utqiagvik (Barrow) and Point Hope. Lessons Martha has learned from her mother's family include resilience, problem-solving, and honoring traditions. Her father's side of her family is from Kentucky. Lessons learned from her father's family include hard work, adaptability, and curiosity. Coming from two worlds is not as novel as it once was, but it affects how Martha views the world and her place in it. She works hard to be kind each and every day and is open to new experiences.

**ASRC Energy Services
Employee**



Charleen with her family.

Charleen Berlin

Spring 2019, Fall 2018

Charleen is a first-generation college student. Raised in the Yup'ik way of life, those traditions and values remain very important to Charleen. She often attends Aarigaa and Inu-Yupiaq dance groups because these two organized college clubs are close to the culture she loves so much. Charleen has always strived for perfection and has even made her own hashtag for herself, #seekdiscomfort. She says that college should take you outside of your comfort zone and encourage you to learn new things.

Charleen realizes that while it is very important to have a degree, it is also necessary to have life experience; both are important to succeed. She has participated in and placed in public speaking competitions. Charleen gets her strong work ethic from her parents and is motivated by her daughter, who inspires her to go above and beyond in all things.

Zane DeBilt

Spring 2019, Fall/Spring 2018, Fall 2017

Zane is a full-time student at UAF who graduated from UAF in 2017 and is now working on his Master of Business Administration. He hopes to use his education to help improve rural Alaskan communities. Zane's father, as a high school teacher, always emphasized the value of education and gave him the drive to succeed in college. His mother has always supported him throughout his college career and has passed down her commitment to getting work done and sticking to one's goals.

Growing up in the village of Bethel, Zane believes that support systems are crucial to succeed. His support system is one of the major reasons for his achievements in life and in his studies. In his free time, Zane is a UAF Global Ambassador and is involved with the UAF Japanese club.



Zane at Commencement 2017.

Cory LePore Jr.

Spring 2018, Fall/Spring 2017

Cory is a full-time student from Bethel. An economics major with a minor in finance, Cory decided on his degree track because he deeply enjoys his economics courses. His studies allow him to view the world from a new perspective, and he is excited to graduate by the summer of 2018. After graduation, he'd like to work for Alyeska Pipeline Service Company and help expand its operations to become an even more successful company. The Alyeska Pipeline scholarship allowed Cory to quit working and focus on his 18-credit course load. It also frees up more time for him to participate in student activities. Cory enjoys helping younger students in the community when he returns home to Bethel.

His work ethic comes from his family background; Cory's father manages buildings for Tunista Construction and has a catering company in Bethel. His mother is an apartment manager for the Bethel Native Corporation. Both of his parents have served as inspiration for Cory to pursue his dreams and work hard to achieve his goals. They have encouraged and supported his journey to becoming a first-generation college graduate, and remind him often to keep pushing forward.

Update: In 2021, Cory accepted a position as a business analyst with Alyeska Pipeline Service Company in the CFO department.



Cory LePore Jr.

**Alyeska Pipeline Service Co.
Employee**

William Paneak

Spring 2019, Fall/Spring 2018, Fall/Spring 2017,
Fall/Spring 2016, Fall 2015

William is a full-time student working on his undergraduate business administration degree with a concentration in finance; he plans on graduating in 2016. He is proud to say that because of scholarships he was able to complete his freshman year debt free. He hopes to graduate debt free by receiving more scholarships. William completed an internship with Petro Star and will continue his internship next summer. He hopes to gain more experience with this company and move up through its corporate ranks.

Born in Fairbanks, William is half Inupiaq Eskimo. He grew up hearing stories from his maternal grandfather and paternal grandmother about the hardships they faced struggling to feed their families in the winter. His grandmother was the mother of five boys and always had to worry about stretching money to make sure all her children were fed. As he listened to these stories, William learned valuable lessons and morals.



William enjoying the great outdoors.



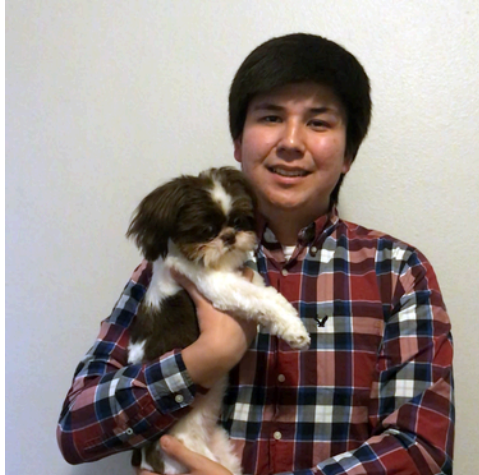
Darren Silas.

Darren Silas

Spring 2019, Spring 2018

Darren is a full-time undergraduate student with the School of Management. He is currently in his freshman year, and he is seeking a degree in both accounting and business administration. His main educational goal is to graduate with a 3.6 GPA. Then he would like to run for President of Doyon, Limited. The scholarship will help him reach these goals and further his education. In his spare time, Darren enjoys playing city league basketball in Fairbanks and playing in local Native basketball tournaments.

When discussing his family, Darren notes that he was raised by his grandmother, Theresa Silas. She was born in Kaltag, AK and moved to Nulato after marrying into the Silas family. She made her way to Fairbanks to allow her children to achieve a higher level of education, of which first generation college-goer Darren has made ready use. Darren says that he is motivated to prosper by the stories his grandmother tells of the difficulties faced by Alaskan Natives in the 60s and 70s. He wants to become a successful Native man to show future generations that Native people can excel in western culture if given the chance.



Charles with his dog.

Charles Lowrey

Spring 2018, Fall/Spring 2017

Charles is a full-time student at UAF pursuing his Master of Business Administration. He will be graduating in the spring of 2018. He plans to use his education to give back to his community. After he graduates he hopes to be working in Bethel. Charles is very thankful for the opportunities that the Alyeska Pipeline Scholarship has provided for him. It has increased his drive to learn in school and for his future career here in Alaska. Charles has a diverse family background. His mother is from Kwethluk, Alaska and his father is from Pennsylvania. Growing up in a rural community has helped Charles to better appreciate what he has. While in high school, he was involved with DC Close Up at Bethel Regional High School and helped raise money by running a school store and hosting a banquet. Now at UAF, he enjoys spending his free time in intramural sports activities such as ultimate frisbee.

Elizabeth Herzner

Spring 2017, Fall/Spring 2016, Fall 2015

Beth is a first generation college student who is currently working on her bachelor's degree in business administration. She is also pursuing a UAF Co-Curricular Opportunities for Leadership Development Certificate and is part of the Honors program. She relishes the learning environment and plans to be a lifelong student by taking courses, attending lectures, or researching topics on YouTube. Beth plans to obtain her Certified Public Accountant certification and then attend law school after graduating from UAF, so she can practice law for her family's reindeer ranch in Nome.

Beth is mostly Inupiaq Eskimo and with some German heritage. She grew up very sheltered without experiencing the mayhem most of the world experiences. Her father would often mention how beautiful the mountains are and how lucky the family is to live in Alaska. Beth grew up with traditional Inupiaq values, her favorite being that we should care for one another in this world and offer each other help whenever it's needed and without reserve.



Beth sits atop the corral of her family reindeer ranch.

Tara McGrogan

Spring 2017, Fall/Spring 2016, Fall/Spring 2015

Tara completed her undergraduate degree in business administration with a minor in music performance in the spring of 2016, and graduated with an MBA in 2017 from SOM. She interned at Alyeska Pipeline for two years and is currently a Communications Coordinator in the Anchorage office. Some of her responsibilities include supporting internal and external communications, overseeing their employee recognition program and working with the Alyeska Alaska Native Program to promote initiatives and good relationships between Alyeska and the Alaska Native Community.

Born and raised in Fairbanks, Tara is the youngest in her family and was a first-generation college graduate. Her parents provided many opportunities for Tara while she was growing up and they continue to be supportive in her career decisions. This upcoming summer, she will be marrying her fiancé, John Deonigi. They met in 2014 while attending UAF.



Tara's instrument of choice is the violin.

**Alyeska Pipeline Service Co.
Employee**

Mary Weinard

Spring 2017, Fall/Spring 2016, Fall 2015

Mary is currently a full-time student working on her undergraduate degree in business administration; she plans on graduating in May 2016. She hopes this degree will increase her chances of being hired and provide her with the knowledge and expertise so she can do her job well.

Mary was born and raised in Alaska. No one in her immediate family has ever attended college, which makes her a soon-to-be first generation college graduate. By getting her degree, she hopes to inspire others in her home village and region to pursue college degrees, as well. She leads by example by exploring opportunities that could lead to great rewards down the road.

Once Mary graduates, she hopes to start her career in Anchorage at the NANA Regional Corporation, Inc., the native corporation of which she is a member.



Mary in a field of fireweed.



Janice harvesting salmon.

Janice Agwiak

Spring 2016, Fall 2015

Janice is currently pursuing her undergraduate degree in business management. Janice is motivated by her daughters and hopes that by attending college she sets a strong example for them. She also wants to show them that scholarships are a way to complete college.

Janice didn't spend time reading while growing up, and attending college wasn't a priority that was impressed upon her. Life in the village was very simple and she longed for her independence. She left her village to attend college full-time and to explore a different place. In 2004, she received an award from the UAF for an outstanding student of the year at the Kuskokwim Campus. As she attended college full-time, she was also hired as the First National Bank of Alaska branch manager's assistant.



Agatha with her mom.

Agatha Erickson

Spring 2016, Fall 2015, Fall/Spring 2011

Agatha received her undergraduate degree in Native American studies with a focus on Alaska government and law from Dartmouth College. Agatha is Koyukon Athabascan and grew up in Hoonah. Agatha's father is a teacher with a certification from UAF. Agatha and her mother received their BAs at the same time, and each flew thousands of miles to see the other graduate.

After working for three years at the Tanana Chiefs Conference, Agatha was named Rural Liaison for the Office of Senator Mark Begich in 2012. In 2014, she began working for Alaskans for Begich, helping to build and oversee one of the largest rural field campaigns in Alaska's history. Since leaving the campaign, she has continued working for Mark Begich at his newly formed consulting firm Northern Compass Group as the Director of Indigenous and Rural Affairs.

Agatha is now returning to complete her MBA because she believes the skills she will gain are necessary to move forward in her chosen field of public policy and law. After earning her MBA, Agatha plans to attend law school. Between these two degrees, she believes she will possess the knowledge and skills to make a positive impact on Alaska policy and political leadership.



Jamie carrying home the reward of a moose hunt.

Jamie James

Spring 2016, Fall 2015

Jamie is a part-time student working towards her undergraduate degree in accounting; she plans on graduating in the spring of 2018. She currently works as an accounting coordinator, which is providing her with experience in the accounting field while furthering her classroom knowledge. Her job also offers advancement opportunities and she hopes once she gets her degree, she will be able move up within the company once she qualifies for senior positions.

Jamie comes from a large family and lived in Bethel. She says that when you grow up in a village, you never really think of college or careers. But, when her mom decided to attend UAF and earn a teaching degree, Jamie realized that she also wanted to pursue educational and career goals. With motivation and support from family and friends, Jamie applied to UAF and was accepted. She applied for the Alyeska Pipeline Native Scholarship because of its reputation and because she could not afford college without it. Since she is also a mother, Jamie wants to be able to show her children they can grow up to be whatever they want to be, just like she is doing.

Beau McClain

Spring 2016, Fall 2015

Beau is a senior finishing up the final year of his undergraduate degree in accounting. He is a first generation college graduate, fulfilling a lifetime goal of his. A roofing career was the initial plan for Beau, but after a few years in the industry he realized that growth opportunities were limited. He believes education is important and even after stumbling in his first attempt at college, Beau is proud of how far he has come. Once his degree is completed, he plans to begin testing for the Certified Public Accountant exam. Beau hopes to work for a well-established public accounting firm in Anchorage.

His family background is diverse, as his parents had divorced by the time he was three. His father's side of the family are gold miners in Fairbanks and his mother stayed in the Anchorage area, where he and his brother would often visit. She would take them to do more traditional Alaskan activities, such as camping, hiking, and fishing.

Coming from a blended family has given Beau the opportunity to develop relationships in a unique way. He believes family is what you make of it and values the close ties developed throughout life. Beau views Alaska as a unique place that is vast and huge, yet small and personal with the connections that are made.



Beau as president-elect of the Great Alaskan Accounting People group. Courtesy of Melissa Lynch.

Michaela Murphrey

Spring 2016, Fall 2015

Michaela is currently working on her bachelor's degree in emergency management through the Homeland Security and Emergency Management program. She is also a student intern with the Arctic Slope Regional Corporation's Alyeska Pipeline Division. This award provides Michaela a sense of confidence that Alyeska Pipeline has decided to invest in her future, a future that involves her investing back into the company by applying her skills and knowledge from her degree coursework.

Michaela's father possesses outstanding compassion and dedication, as well as the traditional Inupiaq values of respect, communal society, and hunting traditions, and Michaela holds herself to these same important values. From her mother she learned compassion, humility, and the importance of family and kinship. In addition, her mother's work as a UAF Rural Student Services advisor taught her patience. Both of her parents have given her different perspectives on how her education can make a difference on their cultural background for the future. She believes in the ASRC Energy Services vision statement: Honoring the values of our founders as we develop the future.

Update: In 2021, Michaela Murphrey accepted a position as a light equipment coordinator with the Alyeska Pipeline Service Company fleet department.



Michaela at her internship with the Houston Contracting Company.

**Alyeska Pipeline Service Co.
Employee**



Cassandra with her partner and their three children.

Cassandra Nashookpuk

Fall 2015

Cassandra is currently working on her undergraduate degree in accounting. After graduation, she plans to attend more classes until she has enough credits to test for the Certified Public Accountant exam. Her educational end goal is a master's degree in accounting. She is currently looking for a job or internship to gain experience in the accounting field.

Cassandra was raised by her father's parents - Aapa (grandpa) and Aaka (grandma) are what she called them in Inupiaq - in Point Hope. As a young child, her grandmother would encourage her to be a better student in school. Aaka had dreams of Cassandra going to college getting a job that would provide for her and her family. Unfortunately, Cassandra's grandparents passed away before she completed high school and she was basically living on her own. Although she had a few bumps after high school, Cassandra is well on her way to obtaining her degree and beginning a career. She will be the first ever in her family on either side to obtain a degree and is looking forward to a promising career, motivated by her three beautiful children to stay on course.



Selina wearing her Miss Nuchalawayya regalia.

Selina Sam

Fall/Spring 2015, Fall/Spring 2014

Selina recently changed her major from business administration to rural development; she expects to graduate in 2016. She is honored to have received this award and thankful for the help moving her education forward. Selina strives to challenge herself and understands her hard work now will allow more business opportunities in the future.

Growing up in rural Alaska has given Selina a love for being outdoors with her family. During her free time, she enjoys spending time with her family while going moose hunting and berry picking. During the winters, she can be seen riding her snow machine to her family cabin where they recently began trapping. Selina also embraces her Alaska Native culture through her dance group and by making beaded sun catchers. She was crowned Miss Nuchalawayya in 2012.

Selina appreciates Tanana's close-knit community and wishes to stay close to where she grew up. Choosing to enroll at UAF allowed Selina to visit home more frequently, such as this past summer when she returned to Tanana to complete four online courses from home. Selina hopes that with her degree, she can begin to improve communities around Alaska.

Sonja Sommer

Spring 2016, Fall 2015

Sonja is a part-time student working on her undergraduate business administration degree with a focus on general business; she plans to graduate in May 2016. She also holds an associate's degree in accounting. As she completes school, she also is working in the business field as a receptionist and administrative assistant to gain experience. Sonja hopes that with the completion of her degree she will be able to begin moving up the ranks in the business world.

Sonja was born and raised in Fairbanks and her single mother was a great influence on her. Although her mother didn't have the chance to finish her college degree, she was able to show her daughter the importance of education. Also beginning school as a single mother, Sonja will be the first person on her mother's side to finish a college degree and only the fourth out of more than 30 cousins on her father's side to do so. Sonja wants to show her daughter the importance of a college education, just like her mother did for her. Sonja knows that having a college degree will open many doors in the job market and she can't wait to put her degree to excellent use.



Sonja with her children.

Amber Vaska

Spring 2017, Spring 2016, Fall/Spring 2015, Fall 2014

Amber is currently working on her undergraduate degree at UAF with a focus on business administration and expects to graduate in May 2018. With her degree, she hopes to influence the Native healthcare system to create a healthier future for all Alaska Natives.

Amber's family moved to the rural village of Aniak when she was in the 5th grade. Growing up in Aniak, Amber absorbed the Yup'ik culture through subsistence fishing, berry picking, and hunting. Furthermore, this experience opened her eyes to her passion of the Alaska Native games. Amber believes these experiences have influenced her toward a career that will allow her to give back to the community that has provided her with so much.

Now an adult and mother of a beautiful son, Amber faces the challenges of balancing life as a full time mom, student, and employee in order to fulfill her goal of giving back to the community. Today, she remains active as an athlete in the World Eskimo Indian Olympics (WEIO) and the Arctic Winter Games. Amber also volunteers at the Fairbanks Rescue Mission and Fairbanks Senior Olympics, and helps to raise funds for the Effie Kokrine Native Charter School.



Amber participating in the two-foot high kick during the WEIO games. Courtesy of the Tanana Chiefs Conference.

Chalisa Attla

Spring 2015, Fall/Spring 2014, Fall 2013

Chalisa completed her B.B.A. in accounting in December 2014. She plans to become a Certified Public Accountant while pursuing her MBA. Chalisa works at Robinson & Ward and hopes one day to work as a CPA for the Native community.

Chalisa is the first in her family to attend college. As a child of the foster care system familiar with instability, she created her own foundation attending boarding school in Galena, becoming an athlete and graduating with honors. She believes it doesn't matter where you come from, as long as you've learned from past circumstances and push forward to improve, you can go anywhere. Chalisa is very appreciative of everyone who reached out and showed compassion to her when she needed guidance.

Chalisa is a Koyukon Athabascan originally from Hughes. She is a proud mother to her son and wants to be a good role model for him. Chalisa hopes to be an inspiration that anything is possible if you put your mind to it. She feels honored and very grateful for the opportunity to pursue her educational goals.



Chalisa with her son.

Kayla Bishop

Spring 2015, Fall 2014

Kayla received her accounting degree after graduating in May 2015. She would like to become a certified public accountant and is considering a master's degree.

Kayla believes her family is the driving force behind her academic success. Her parents have largely influenced her world views and have always encouraged education as a top priority. College was never optional for Kayla; it was definite. Now that she has her degree, she hopes to help improve the lives of Alaskans everywhere.

Kayla was the Vice President of the UAF accounting organization, Great Alaskan Accounting People (GAAP). She also regularly volunteered for the Volunteer Income Tax Association program. Kayla volunteered for the Business Leader of the Year event for two years. Kayla also helps out with the Circle K organization, which promotes fellowship and leadership skills in college students.



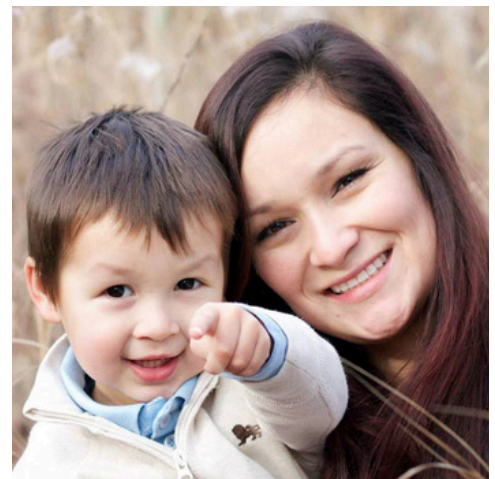
Kayla with her family.

Nadine Carroll

Fall/Spring 2014, Fall 2013

Nadine received her MBA degree in 2015. As a first generation college student in her family, Nadine wanted to set an example for others to follow. Nadine has been a Tribal Administrator for the Birch Creek Tribal Council for the past three years and has previously been employed with Alaska Native businesses and organizations including Doyon, Ltd. and Interior Regional Housing Authority.

Growing up in the small village of Fort Yukon, Nadine has faced many challenges living in rural Alaska. Now a mother and professional adult, she wants to keep her childhood values, such as the importance of education and culture, strong in order to serve as a role model to others in her community. Nadine credits her success towards furthering her education to her parents, whom always worked hard to give unconditional love and support. She plans on giving the same amount of support towards her own child.



Nadine with her son.



Lynn (center) with her sisters.

Lynn Church

Spring 2015, Fall/Spring 2014

Lynn received her undergraduate degree in business administration and graduated in May 2015. After graduation, she plans to continue her education in the MBA program.

Growing up in Alaska, Lynn understands the need for a well-educated workforce and believes her passion for business will help her succeed. Raised in rural Alaska, Lynn faced many obstacles with her education, including her struggle with a learning disability. As a child, she was frequently labeled as being "special" by her teachers, which only drove her to try harder. After refusing to let her disability control her life, Lynn is working towards being the first college graduate in her family.



Julie with her family.

Julie Biddle

Spring 2014, Fall/Spring 2013, Fall 2012

Julie received her undergraduate degree in business economics at the University of California Santa Barbara in 1995. After earning her degree, Julie went to work for Doyon, Limited. Julie chose to continue building her business skills by pursuing her MBA degree with an emphasis in capital markets at the UAF School of Management. She graduated in May of 2014 as a member of the Golden Key International Honor Society.

Julie is from Fort Yukon. She graduated from Lathrop High School in Fairbanks. Julie is proud of her Native heritage; her late mother was Gwich'in and her father is Navajo. Being a first generation college graduate, Julie recognizes the importance of education and strives to be a good student and role model for her children by continually seeking out opportunities for learning and development. Julie is currently a financial analyst with Doyon, Limited.



Rodney with his son.

Rodney Carpluk

Spring 2014, Fall 2013

Rodney earned his undergraduate degree in economics with a minor in business administration in May of 2014. He is currently pursuing his M.S. in resource and economics at UAF.

Rodney was born in Bethel, Alaska and spent much of his childhood in Mt. Village. Growing up in rural Alaska, Rodney realized the importance of family and culture. This shaped his current values of hard work, respect for others and taking opportunities that are offered. Rodney spends most of his time studying and spending time with his family. When he has time, Rodney volunteers at soup kitchens, community trash pickups and food banks. He enjoys participating in the World Indian Eskimo Olympics and Alaska Native basketball tournaments.

Rodney is the younger brother to Nelson Carpluk, former Alyeska Pipeline Scholarship recipient and current Alyeska Pipeline Service Company employee. Rodney and Nelson have the distinction of being the first two siblings to be awarded this scholarship.

Edwin Bifelt

Fall/Spring 2012

Edwin received his undergraduate degree in business administration with a concentration in finance in 2008. He graduated with his MBA in May 2013. He now owns Zane Hills Capital, his own consulting firm offering strategic planning and land management services.

Edwin is from Huslia, where his mother and father, Audrey and Fred Lee, as well as his siblings, Josephine, Leona, LeAnne, Joseph, and Edward, still live. Edwin is Koyukon Athabaskan and is the first college graduate in his immediate family. As a student, Edwin worked at K'oyitl'ots'ina, Limited where he oversaw shareholder relations and land management. After graduation, Edwin launched his own company called Zane Hills Capital. When not working, Edwin enjoys hunting, trapping, and camping.

Edwin says receiving the scholarship was an exciting opportunity that allowed him to focus on school instead of worrying about educational expenses. He said it was an honor to receive the award and know that organizations such as Alyeska Pipeline Service Company support students like him.



Edwin with his family.

Jennifer Maguire Adams

Spring 2012, Fall 2011

Jennifer received her undergraduate degree in english with minors in applied business and Alaska Native studies in 2004. She earned her MBA in fall 2013, thanks to the Alyeska Pipeline Alaska Native Scholarship. Jennifer and her family have a long history at UAF. Her late father, Bob Maguire, earned his M.A. in education from UAF and worked as a teacher and principal for 30 years throughout Alaska before he finally retired, worked at the Doyon Foundation, and retired again. Her mother, Cora Maguire earned her B.A. in education and worked as an elementary teacher and in other educational positions across Alaska for many years. Her sister, Gail, earned her nursing degree from UAF and works as an R.N. at Fairbanks Memorial Hospital and her brother, Jeremy, earned a wildlife biology degree from UAF and now works for Seattle Public Schools in Seattle, Washington. In July 2015, Jennifer married UAF alumnus Fred Adams, who earned his aviation maintenance degree at UAF and works as superintendent of quality assurance for the Air National Guard at Eielson AFB. Jennifer says she is forever grateful and would not have completed her graduate degree without the Alyeska Pipeline Alaska Native Scholarship. In April 2015, Jennifer accepted the position of director of planning and development at Fairbanks Native Association.



Jennifer with her husband, Fred.



Abigail with her husband, Rob.

Abigail Scannell Riggs

Spring 2011, Fall 2010

Abigail received her B.B.A. in accounting at the UAF School of Management and graduated with her MBA in 2011. Abigail currently works as the senior corporate tax accountant at Doyon, Limited. Her long-term goal is to be CFO at one of the Alaska Native corporations, and she is well on her way.

Family has remained an important part of Abigail's life. The first person she told after receiving the scholarship was her husband, Rob, and she says she couldn't have succeeded without the support of her family. Together, Rob and Abigail have a son, Timothy, named after Abigail's father. They also have a baby girl named Adrianna.

Abigail is thankful for the support she has received from the community. Being awarded this scholarship was the deciding factor in Abigail pursuing her MBA, and she looks forward to giving back to future students.



Nelson with his mom and dad at Commencement.

Nelson Carpluk

Fall/Spring 2010, Fall 2009

Nelson was born in Bethel and has two younger siblings, Rodney and Joanna. He was raised in Mountain Village, where his mom, Lenora, was born. His father, Gerald, and his side of the family were raised in Massachusetts. The Carpluk family moved to Fairbanks in 1992 when Nelson was in first grade so that Lenora could finish her education and the kids could attend school. He attended Monroe Junior and Senior High School. Both his parents earned degrees from UAF and instilled the drive to pursue higher education in their children.

Nelson received his BBA in finance from UAF in May 2009. He chose to pursue his MBA because he felt motivated to further his education. After graduating with his MBA in December 2010, Nelson was hired as a business analyst at Alyeska Pipeline Service Company. He recently took on a new role within Alyeska in 2018 as an Oil Movements Scheduler. In his current role, he works with stakeholders to help plan and schedule oil tankers arriving and departing Valdez. He also monitors the Oil Accounting of all oil delivered and transported in the Trans-Alaska Pipeline. Hiking, traveling and watching sports take up much of his free time, along with spending time with family and friends.

**Alyeska Pipeline Service Co.
Employee**



Rachel with her daughter, Madison.

Rachel Roy

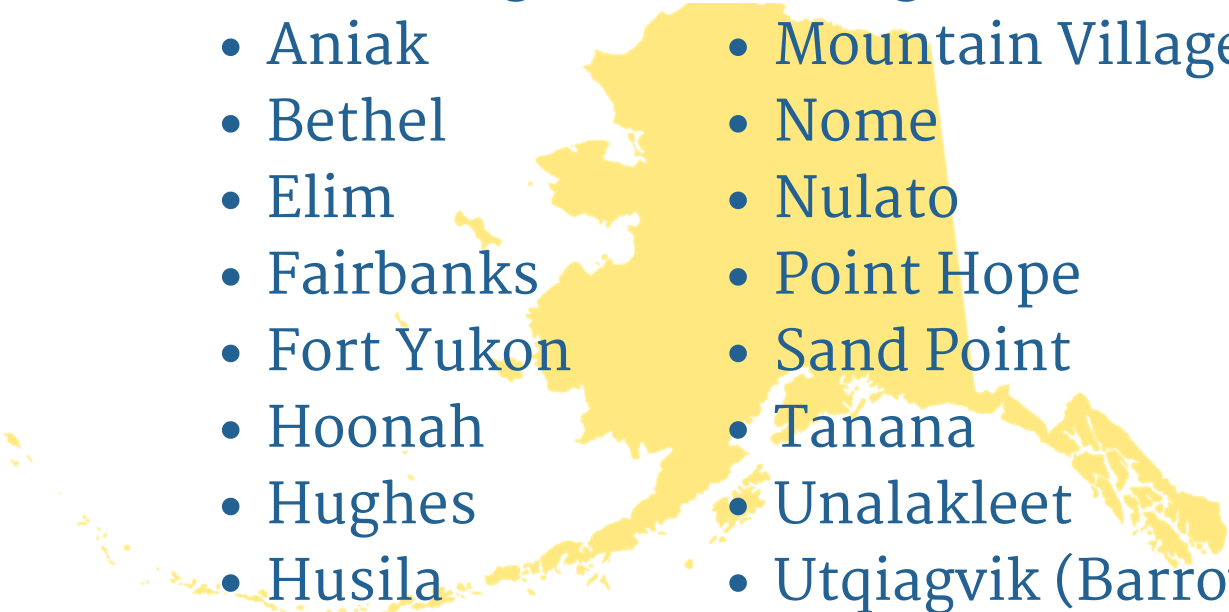
Spring 2009, Fall 2008

Rachel was the first recipient of the Alyeska Pipeline Native Scholarship. After receiving her B.B.A. from Sheldon Jackson College in 2008, Rachel chose UAF for her MBA. She liked the small classes and the program was only three semesters. After graduating with her MBA in December 2009, Rachel accepted a position at Fairbanks Memorial Hospital (FMH) as a project manager in the Information Technology Department. Rachel coordinated the fundraising efforts for the 2010 United Way FMH employee giving campaign, which raised over \$100,000. She has also helped raise money for the Heart Walk, serving on the steering committees in 2010 and 2011. Rachel has since moved on and is currently the executive director for the Sitka Chamber of Commerce. Rachel feels it is essential to show her daughter, Madison, the importance of education and how to meet the challenges life presents. Rachel enjoyed attending the UAF Scholarship breakfast with her daughter and met Lynda Sather, former Fairbanks Communication Manager for Alyeska Pipeline Service Company. Rachel feels the scholarship made an impact not only on her, but on her daughter as well.

The UAF mascot is the Nanook,
a derivation of “nanuq,”
the Inupiaq Eskimo word for
polar bear.



Scholarship recipients from around the State

- 
- Anchorage
 - Aniak
 - Bethel
 - Elim
 - Fairbanks
 - Fort Yukon
 - Hoonah
 - Hughes
 - Husila
 - Kasigluk
 - Mountain Village
 - Nome
 - Nulato
 - Point Hope
 - Sand Point
 - Tanana
 - Unalakleet
 - Utqiagvik (Barrow)

The Alyeska Pipeline Service Company Native Scholarship supports students at the UAF College of Business and Security Management. Students receive scholarship funds to help with the cost of their education.

For more information, please contact Tammy Tragis-McCook by phone at (907) 474-7042 or email at tammy.tragis@alaska.edu



College of Business
and Security
Management



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