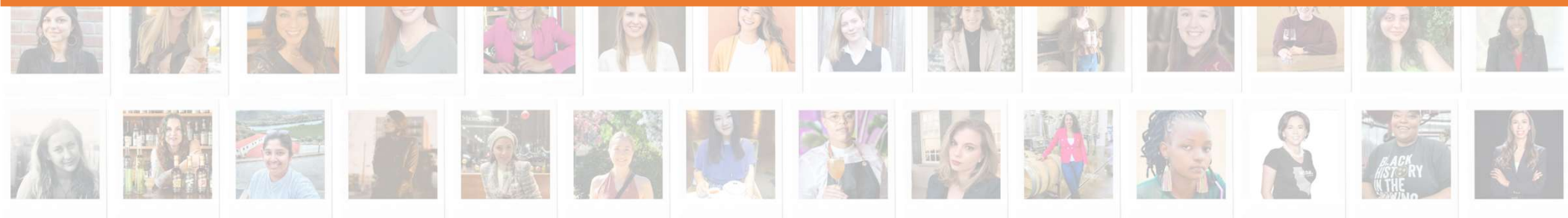




WOMEN OF THE VINE & SPIRITS FOUNDATION

“Crafting a Better World”™
for Women in Wine, Beer & Spirits

2023 Recipients





Professional & Leadership Development Recipients

Jon'll Boyd

Professional & Leadership Development Recipient
Silver Spring, MD

“This award will help towards continued education and learning as we hone our skills and continue to grow our wine company/winery as well as contribute to growing the wine industry overall.”



Laurel Parker

Professional & Leadership Development Recipient
Washington, DC

“WOTVS has always been an invaluable tool for helping me develop in my career. To be able to continue this path and contribute to the increased participation of women in the alcohol industry is something I'll forever be grateful for.”



Palbi Sharma Bhargava

Professional & Leadership Development Recipient
Kelowna, British Columbia

“This scholarship will help me learn, develop skills, meet with wine industry members and scholars, and gain insight into the valuable work being done on wine tourism in academia and beyond.”



Student Educational Scholarship Recipients



Chloé Raynaud

Student Educational
San Jose, CA

“Receiving this scholarship provides me the opportunity to continue to empower others and provide a reflection of the true people behind the beverage. I am honored to be alongside strong women who will change the wine, spirits, and beer worlds together!”



Karin van der Westhuizen

Student Educational
Stellenbosch, South Africa

“Receiving this scholarship is a great honor and achievement. The world is my oyster, and this scholarship will make it possible for me to participate more and learn more in the wine world.”

Esther Wanjohi

Student Educational
Corvallis, OR

“I feel honored and grateful to have been selected as a recipient of the Student Scholarship. The funds will go a long way in supplementing my tuition fee for my graduate studies in Enology.”



Caitlyn Wiley

Student Educational
Farmington Hills, MI

“It means a lot to me to be recognized by this incredible sisterhood of industry professionals and I am honored to further my wine business education!”





Sarah Wuethrich

Student Educational
Santa Rosa, CA

“I’m grateful for the support and encouragement as I take the next step in my career. There’s so much power in women supporting women!”



Continuing Education Scholarship Recipients

Alejandra Cuevas

Continuing Education
Baja California, Mexico

“I am deeply honored to have been selected as a recipient. I'm profoundly grateful to the WOTVS Foundation for believing in my potential and providing this incredible opportunity.”



Xiaoyu Feng

Continuing Education
Shanghai, China

“It is such an honor for me, as well as a great encouragement to all women working in the wine business, knowing that if we are willing to step up, we are not alone, someone got our back.”



Natalie Frazier

Continuing Education
Chicago, IL

“This money will not only help me pay for my Level 2 Court of Master Sommeliers Certification but will help strengthen my foundation in the wine industry and allow me to open up even more doors for folks who look like me.”



Charlotte Gordon

Continuing Education
Devon, United Kingdom

“I feel it’s our responsibility to keep pushing our own boundaries and ensuring we earn our places in the industry as key opinion leaders, writers, and critics for example. I am thrilled to be able to indulge in further wine study.”



Ashley Grayson

Continuing Education
Columbus, OH

“Being chosen as a recipient of the WOTVS Foundation is an incredible honor. As I embark on my new career in this industry I'm delighted to be featured with other outstanding women.”



Luisa Hernández

Continuing Education
San Francisco, CA

“I am deeply honored and grateful to receive this scholarship. This would be the next step in the wine industry to get certified as a Sommelier by the Court Master of Sommeliers and continue growing as a professional.”



Lisa Kozloff

Continuing Education
Lake Wylie, SC

“This scholarship from will allow me to pursue additional education to elevate my expertise in the beverage hospitality industry. In turn, I hope to share my knowledge as a mentor for other aspiring beverage professionals.”

Delia Moreno

Continuing Education
Modesto, CA

“This award vastly improves my work/study balance so I can focus primarily on school this quarter instead of working the overtime hours I usually do.”



Danielle Noce

Continuing Education
Palm Springs, CA

“This scholarship will help ease the financial burdens of the continuing education coursework I am pursuing to grow in my career.”

Gloria Rakowsky

Continuing Education
Syracuse, NY

“I am grateful to be a recipient — these funds will help me in advancing my Cicerone studies, in turn providing a greater depth of knowledge to those I serve.”



Kelsey Roberts

Continuing Education
Port Orchard, WA

“Being selected for this scholarship is so important to me. It is a huge honor to be recognized for my accomplishments and an even bigger honor to continue advancing my career.”





Karene Vilela

Continuing Education
São Paulo, Brazil

“Beyond the financial support, this scholarship signifies recognition and belonging in a community of women dedicated to the wine and spirits industry. Thank you for this incredible opportunity.”



WSET Awards Recipients



Crystal Charles

WSET Level 1 Award in Wines
Aventura, FL

“Thank you for this scholarship award!”



Hannah Kloft

WSET Level 1 Award in Wines
Mount Angel, OR

“The immense generosity of the scholarship will allow me to apply critical theoretical knowledge to the practical skills I have grown through harvest and cellar work. This education will surely help me grow as a woman in the industry.”



Taryn Sabot

WSET Level 1 Award in Wines
Victoria, British Columbia

“Being selected as a recipient of the WOTVS scholarship is a huge honor. It legitimizes my place in the wine industry and is a launch pad for furthering my education within the field.”



Leslie Sanders

WSET Level 1 Award in Wines

Ocoee, FL

“Winning a WSET scholarship with WOTVS will allow me to expand my skill set, network with my peers and make new industry connections.”



Christy Serrato

WSET Level 1 Award in Wines

Davis, CA

“This investment means the world to me—an outsider who transitioned from a career in tech.

The scholarship opens the door to ongoing professional development and new connections.”



Peggy O'Brien

WSET Level 1 Award in Spirits

Rock Springs, WY

“I am truly honored to be a scholarship recipient. Completing the WSET certification will equip me with the tools, knowledge, and confidence to communicate and educate those in my market to advance my career.”



Julie Purpura

WSET Level 1 Award in Spirits

Farmington, NY

“As an educator, I love to learn and enhance my knowledge base so I can entertain and educate others! I am so grateful to WOTVS for the opportunity to expand my knowledge base.”



Alexa Rodriguez

WSET Level 1 Award in Sake

Miami, FL

“I am so appreciative to have been chosen to receive this scholarship. The support to get my WSET will help me grow in the industry, as I continue to build a foundation of beverage knowledge.”



Amanda Heck

WSET Level 2 Award in Wines

New York, NY

“I am deeply grateful to receive this award. This acknowledgement is motivation to continue reaching greater heights with my craft and I am excited about the opportunities that lie ahead.”



Anna Jestin

WSET Level 2 Award in Wines
Paris, France

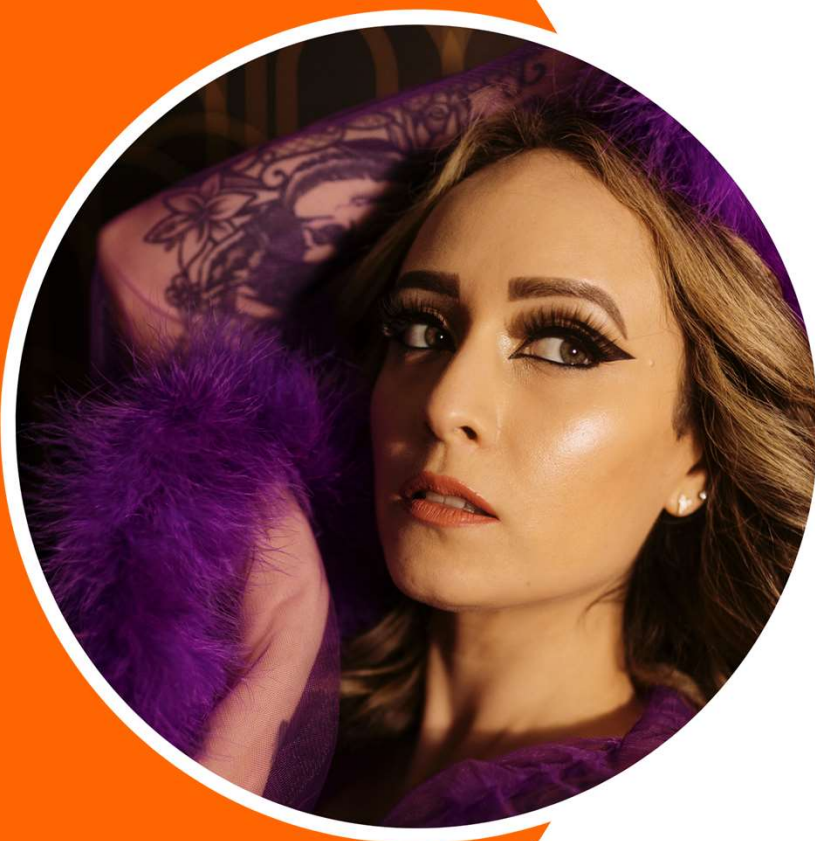
“I'm thrilled to receive this scholarship. I'm excited to broaden my education and skillset to better serve my clients today, and to continue pursuing my passion for the industry, which I hope to join some day.”



Jett Kolarik

WSET Level 2 Award in Wines
Atlanta, GA

“When I saw that the email I received said "it's with great pleasure," it was like the sun coming out! Not only is it a step towards a more well- rounded career, it's a vote of support from women I truly admire.”



Elizabeth Montelongo

WSET Level 2 Award in Wines

Las Vegas, NV

“It means so much to me to be acknowledged by fellow female professionals. It’s truly an amazing opportunity to be able to expand my wine knowledge with assistance.”

Beth Dixon

WSET Level 2 Award in Spirits

Richmond, VA

“I am so honored to be chosen as a recipient. I am so focused on elevating my career and building my business and having this certification is a huge asset.”





Jessica Morales

WSET Level 2 Award in Spirits

Gurabo, Puerto Rico

“This accolade not only reaffirms the passion and hard work I've poured into my career but also serves as a powerful motivator to continue pushing boundaries and driving excellence in hospitality.”



Ashley Santiago

WSET Level 2 Award in Spirits

Oaxaca, Mexico

“As a wine and spirits enthusiast, this opportunity will allow me to further my knowledge and be one step closer to achieving my career goals.”



Kseniia Alekseeva

WSET Level 3 Award in Wines

Ulyanovsk, Russia

“This scholarship will help me to continue my education in the wine industry and one day to reach my dream of opening a wine bar. Despite the traditional influence of males, today wine business features participation of females at various levels.”



Claudia Erpili

WSET Level 3 Award in Wines

Lombardy, Italy

“I am excited to continue my education, meeting likeminded people, and fall deeper in love with the wine industry. I aim to promote a safer and more inclusive environment for everyone, one glass at the time!”



Aimee Mondragon Hernandez

WSET Level 3 Award in Wines
Mexico City, Mexico

“I am very grateful for the scholarship, which offers me financial support and boosts my confidence in my ambitions. My motivation grows out of my desire to bring lasting change, aiming to inspire and drive transformation”

Ana Bertha Gallegos Barcenas

WSET Level 3 Award in Spirits
Montreal, CA

“Continuing education is crucial to me, and this scholarship will allow me to pursue opportunities to increase my knowledge and offer pathways to success for others in this dynamic field.”



Mürside Karadeniz

WSET Level 4 Diploma in Wines

Burgundy, France

“Thanks to the wonderful opportunity that WOTVS Foundation offers me, I am in a grateful and fortunate position to combine and contribute my strength and passion for diversity in the wine industry.”



Fiene Marie Kuijper

WSET Level 4 Diploma in Wines

Paris, France

“I cannot wait to start preparing this stimulating Diploma that will not only fuel my curiosity and eagerness to learn, but also give me tools to tackle the challenges that lay ahead.”



Sara Matos

WSET Level 4 Diploma in Wines
Coimbra, Portugal

“Awarding me this scholarship is not only trusting in my future, but also recognizing the importance of my past and every footprint I left in the Portuguese wine industry so far.”



Nichelle Thompson

WSET Level 4 Diploma in Wines

Barbados, Jamaica

“Furthering my education, will create additional opportunities for career development and validate my presence in the Wine Industry in the Caribbean and beyond.”



Executive Leadership & Developing Leadership Program Scholarship to attend DISCUS Academy

Shaylyn Gammon

Executive Leadership Program Scholarship
DISCUS Academy
Louisville, KY

“It is an absolute honor to have been chosen to receive this scholarship. Beyond this, I’m looking so forward to surrounding myself with other people that will undoubtedly be inspirational in their own rights.”

Kim Chyan

Executive Leadership Program Scholarship
DISCUS Academy
Seattle, Washington

"I am beyond grateful and honored for being chosen as a recipient. The program education will help me to further develop my leadership abilities, enhance my expertise, and ultimately help increase diversity within our industry."

Absinthia Vermut

Executive Leadership Program Scholarship
DISCUS Academy
Berkeley, CA

“What an honor to be recognized by WOTVS!
I am excited to learn everything I can from
this program Executive Leadership Program,
and I am grateful for the opportunity.”



Celeste Curry

Developing Leadership Program Scholarship
DISCUS Academy
Federal Way, WA

“I am very honored to be awarded this scholarship opportunity! It will help to arm me with the necessary tools to mentor, grow and develop future women leaders within our industry.”





Lydia Kim

Developing Leadership Program Scholarship
DISCUS Academy
New York, NY

“I am ecstatic and honored to have been chosen to receive this scholarship and am excited to learn and grow in the company of other industry professionals.”