



CROATIAN SCHOLARSHIP FUND END OF YEAR ANNUAL REPORT 2022

ABOUT US

The Croatian Scholarship Fund, (CSF), established in 1989 as a 501-C (3) non-profit organization, enjoyed another successful year of effective operation and fundraising efforts to meet the annual goal of providing financial scholarship assistance to the students accepted into the CSF Program.

We are proud to celebrate 33 years of CSF's existence. CSF is grateful to our student sponsors, donors, Croatian organizations and other individuals that support CSF. We continue to meet our goal to help many Croatian university students achieve a college education. We are grateful to our committed all volunteer Board members, support staff and other volunteers. Without their help and involvement this organization would not be able to function or help so many deserving Croatian university students.

The CSF is the only Croatian organization in the United States providing scholarship assistance to Croatian university students living in Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina. The White House along with Members of the United States Congress, Republic of Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina have paid special recognition for CSF's outstanding humanitarian and scholarly efforts.

GRADUATES

Over the past 33 years CSF has helped hundreds of students earned college degrees from various universities in Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina. They received degrees in academic disciplines including medicine, economics, electrical engineering, physics, natural science, law, philosophy, maritime engineering, pharmacy, political science, and other professions. Many of these graduates now hold Doctorate degrees, have become leaders in their professions and are contributing to Croatian society as a whole.

STUDENTS IN THE PROGRAM

After a rigorous selection and admission into the CSF program, student's academic progress is monitored closely by our Student Liaison. Prior to receiving funds, student must submit a transcript at the completion of each semester and show successful academic progress before scholarship payments are issued to them.

Croatia adopted a Bologna system of Higher Education to comply with the European Union higher education guidelines. Under this system, students spend three years completing their Bachelor level work and two additional years for Master's degree. In 2014, CSF adjusted to this system and we are now funding scholarships for the duration of time students are enrolled at the university. This can be up to five years if they successfully complete their Bachelor degree in three years and Master's program in two years. Students in the regular and Grgich Endowment programs receive a scholarship of \$2,000 per year, and students in Rados Endowment program receive a scholarship of \$2,500 per year.

Student Numbers:

The CSF supported a record number of students in 2022

Regular Program students, scholarships are \$2,000 per year:

- Graduated – 11
- Accepted into program ----- 26

- Continuing students ----- 67
Total number in the program ----- **104**

Grgich Endowment Program, scholarships are \$2,000 per year:

- Internship ----- 5
- Scholarships ----- 8 (3 first year & 5 second year students)
- Scholarship graduates ----- 5
Total ----- **18**

Rados Endowment program, scholarships \$2,500 per year:

- Scholarships
 - Music Academy ----- 4
 - Theatre Academy ----- 0
- Total ----- **4**

Total student number, all programs in 2022 = 126

FUNDRAISING EFFORTS AND EVENTS HELD IN 2022:

1. Donations. –CSF received two donations.

(1). **Tony Ujdur** donation has been finalized. It will provide scholarships for students in our regular program. Mr. Ujdur was one of CSF Founders and generous supporter during his lifetime. It was always his wish to continue with his legacy and provide scholarships to students after his death. CSF is committed to honor Tony’s wishes and is deeply grateful for his generosity.

(2). **Mr. Damir Rados Endowment** is in memory of his mother “Dragica Krog Rados Scholarship Fund”. This Endowment will provide scholarships to students majoring in Theatre Arts and Music Academy. CSF is honored and grateful to Mr. Rados for his generous donation.

2. CSF Newsletter - The December Newsletter was mailed to over 2,000 Croatian families, and businesses located in California and across United States. The newsletter featured CSF’s new and current students as well as the success of some of our graduates. With the CSF newsletter our goal is to reach out to the Croatian community, inform them about our work, ask for financial support and hopefully recruit new student sponsors.

3. CSF Student Sponsors – Currently we have over 35 sponsors that provide full scholarships of \$2,000 per year and many support more than one student. They stay in close contact with them and often serve as their mentors. CSF is grateful to our sponsors for their commitment and generosity.

4. Donations - CSF attempts to reach out to individuals, businesses and organizations for donations. This is done the newsletters, web site and other electronic media. We continue to look for ways to reach out to potential donors.

5. Memorial Donations – CSF continues to receive memorial donations in memory of family deceased loved ones. We are grateful to the families for selecting CSF for memorial donations.

CSF BOARD ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Executive and Advisory Board for the year 2021 pursued the following activities:

- Monitored the Budget effectively.
- Paid out 121 scholarships and funded 5 internships. This was done in two installments, fall and spring semester, using electronic payments via PayPal.

- Submitted IRS and State reporting, met all guidelines, and continue to maintain 501c(3) non-profit status.
- Conducted a successful internal audit
- Updated CSF Manual.
- Updated CSF Documents, By-Laws, Policies and Procedures.
- The Investment Committee and the Board oversaw the CSF budget, including the Endowment funds and adjusted the portfolio following the guidelines of prudent management to ensure that the funds are invested in the most prudent and secure way.
- record and cleared them for scholarship payments.
- Monitored Sponsor Master list, payments and sponsor tracking.
- Updated public information and marketing materials designed to help promote the CSF mission through printed and electronic media.
- Continue to work and update the CSF website and Facebook
- Updated Croatian High Schools email list, received from Croatian Ministry of Education, which helped with the recruitment of student applicants.
- Continue to collaborate with CSF Croatia graduates and Bozo Skoko, especially in recruitment of students.
- Received over 100 applications and ensured that student selection process was accomplished fairly, efficiently and on time.
- Ensured funding and accepted 26 new students into the program.
- Implemented Rados Endowment Program for Theatre Arts and Music Academy students at the University of Zagreb and established contact with the Professors in each discipline. Accepted 4 students.
- Continues to oversee the administration of CSF Grgich Endowment Fund. Continues to collaborate with the faculty at the University of Zagreb Viticulture and Enology Department to ensure smooth selection process. Ensured funding, initiated application process and selection of Grgich interns and scholarship recipients.
- CSF's support staff was very busy performing their assigned tasks.
 - **CSF welcomed Mrs. Josipa Verkic** as our new Administrative Assistant. This position has been vacant for several years and the Board is delighted to have Josipa join the CSF team. She is a great support to the Board members especially the President.
 - **Our Student Liaison, Ms. Veronika Skalar** successfully performed her duties and stayed in regular contact with the students. She closely monitored student's academic work and all scholarship payments were distributed to students on time.
 - **Mrs. Slavica Skracic, CSF's Graphic Designer** continues to keep CSF looking professional and maintains a highest standard in printed, electronic and marketing materials. She designed and published our well-known December Newsletters.

The Executive and Advisory Board Members for 2022

Executive Board:

Mary Ann Pavic----- President
 Nina Jurjevic ----- Vice-President
 Chip Kumparak----- Secretary
 Barbara Jagiello----- Treasurer
 Branko Barbir (resignee)--- Member At Large
 Marko Buljan (resigned)---- Member At Large

Advisory Board:

Serge Barbir	Bobby Kumparak
Vesna Brekalo	Cecilia Miskić
Liz Buljan	Zeljko Pavić
William Cumbelich	Matt Darko Sertić
Vera Duplančić	Marina Sertić

Robert Wilson
Heidi Granic

The CSF leadership expresses a sincere THANK YOU to all sponsors, benefactors, contributors, and volunteers.

For more information:

Please visit CSF web site: croatianscholarship.org

Send us an email at: info@croatianscholarship.org

Call CSF - 530 392 2467

Contact us via regular mail: CSF PO Box 290 San Ramon, CA 94583

Respectfully submitted

Marijana Pavić,

CSF President