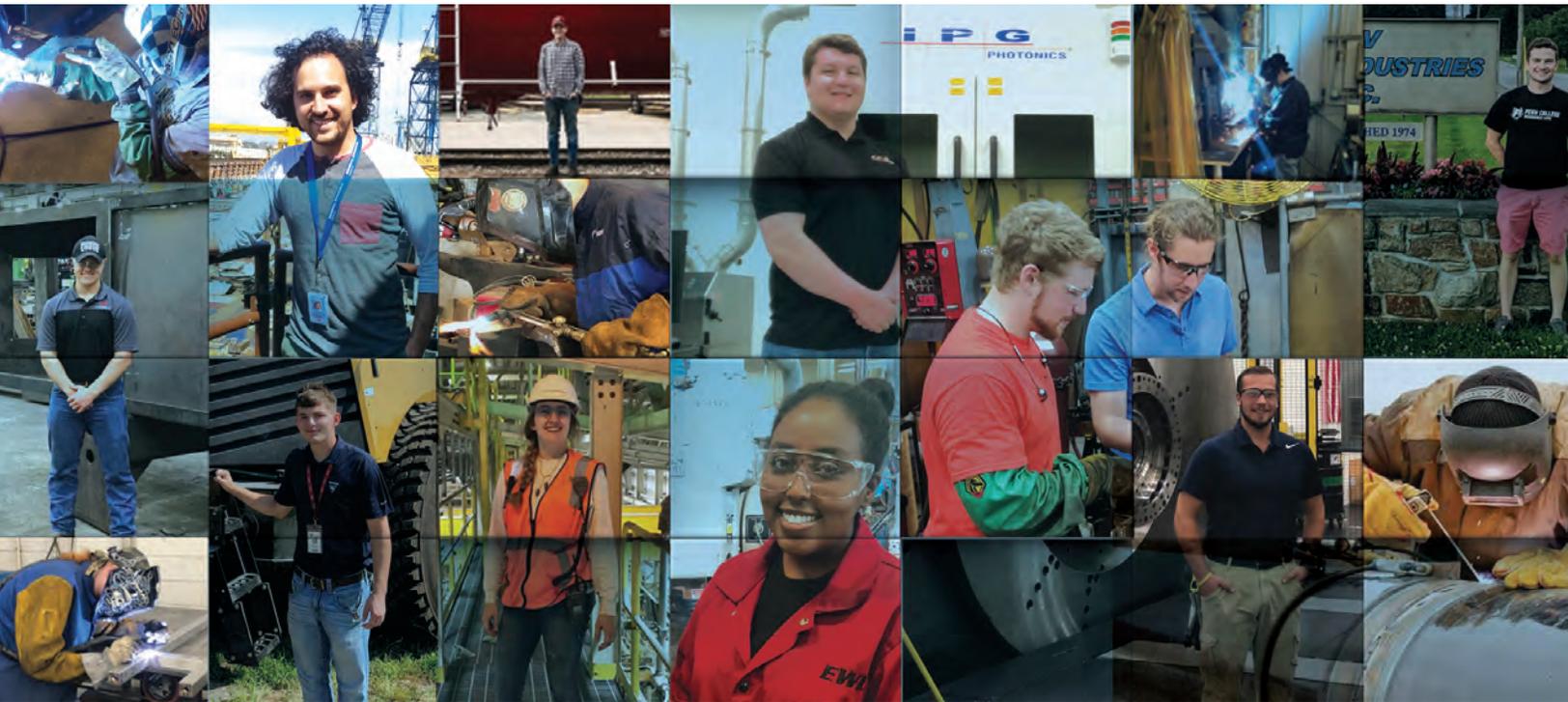




American Welding Society®
FOUNDATION



2019-2020 ANNUAL REPORT

aws.org/foundation



William A. Rice
Chairman, AWS Foundation

Message from the Chair

The year 2019 was not only a year of celebration for the 100-year-old American Welding Society, but also a celebration of the 30th anniversary of the American Welding Society Foundation.

In 1989, the AWS Foundation was established to support welding education and research, starting with one \$20,000 research fellowship. In 1993, the

AWS Foundation awarded its first scholarships to 82 welding students totaling \$59,000.

Thanks to the ongoing support of our donors and members of the American Welding Society, we have been able to greatly expand our programs from those humble beginnings. I'm pleased to report that in 2019 the AWS Foundation awarded over \$1.5 million in scholarships to more than 1,000 welding students.

Add research fellowships (\$120,000) and grants to schools (\$200,000), and the AWS Foundation provided more than \$1.8 million dollars to impact welding education in the past year.

Last year also included numerous new initiatives, such as: scholarships for welding contest winners; the relaunch of *CareersinWelding.com* as a modernized, mobile-friendly site; and the creation of engaging articles, videos, and blog posts for *WeldingDigest.com*, aimed at educating targeted audiences about opportunities in welding.

With your support, we will continue to expand our mission to support and inspire the next generation of welding professionals. If you have the means, please consider establishing a new scholarship or grant, or donate to an existing fund or initiative. Contributions towards new or existing scholarships are matched by the AWS Foundation at 100%, and no portion of any donation goes towards overhead or operating expenses.

To establish a scholarship or grant endowment, or make a general donation, please contact Monica Pfarr, Executive Director of the AWS Foundation, at 800-443-9353 Ext. 461 or mpfarr@aws.org.

Thank you again for your support. Because of you, the AWS Foundation is as strong as ever, and the next decade shows the promise of continued growth and unprecedented impact on the future of our industry.

2019-2020 AWS Foundation Board of Trustees

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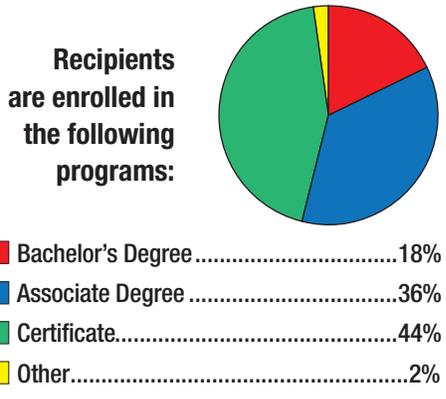
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AWS Foundation awards \$1.5 million in scholarships to more than 1,000 students

- Scholarship recipients attend more than 400 different academic and training institutions.
- Recipients are 19% Female – According to Emsi, 5% of the current welding workforce are women. AWS Foundation scholarships continue to help provide opportunities for women in welding.



Liya Amanuel
The Ohio State University

2019-20 Recipient – John C. Lincoln Memorial Scholarship

“Being the oldest of my siblings and the first to go to college, I hope to make my family proud with the opportunities I have been given. Additionally, I hope to one day give back by giving someone the gift of pursuing education. I am excited to continue my fourth year at OSU and I am optimistic of what this year will hold.”



Callahan Jobe
Santa Fe Community College

2019-20 Recipient – Air Products Women of Gases and Welding Scholarship

“I am very excited about learning how to weld this fall at the Santa Fe Community College and would like to thank you again for selecting me for this scholarship! Ultimately, I want to use welding to teach other women how to weld.”



Braxton Boothe
Front Range Community College

2019-20 Recipient – Jack and Jo Dammann Technical Scholarship

“I plan to make the most of this opportunity you have afforded me to help attain my goals of using my education to one day start my own business in custom fabrication and design of commercial and residential products, including furniture, art, and decor.”



Austin Turner
Brigham Young University

2019-20 Recipient – Richard J. Seif Technical Sales & Marketing Scholarship

“I cannot thank you enough for awarding me this scholarship! Thank you so much for supporting me in educational pursuits and my professional goals to help advance the welding industry as I prepare to enter the welding workforce as a technical sales representative.”

\$120,000 in Graduate Research Fellowships

In 2019, three graduate students from Ohio State University and one from Penn State University each received a \$30,000 fellowship to support research projects in welding, additive manufacturing, and other allied technologies.

Grants/Competitions

\$750,000 in Grants Awarded Since 2017

The following schools were awarded grants of up to \$25,000 in 2019

- Alma High School — Alma, MI
- Diman Regional Vocational Technical High School — Fall River, MA
- Midlands Technical College — West Columbia, SC
- Mountainland Technical College — Lehi, UT
- Northampton Community College — Bethlehem, PA
- Rowan-Cabarrus Community College — Salisbury, NC
- San Jacinto College Central — Pasadena, TX
- St. Charles Community College — Cottleville, MO

“Our program was hampered in the past by only having eight multi-process machines, thus limiting what we could offer for classes. Once we received the AWS grant, we used that money to help purchase seven new multi-process machines. Now we can offer up to 30 students SMAW, GMAW and GTAW which helps those students obtain a welding certificate, giving them the skills to start an entry-level welding job.”

- JAK Keller, Welding Instructor, Hutchinson Community College 2018 Welding Workforce Grant Recipient



Students in the welding lab at Alma High School



Students watch a welding demonstration at Northampton Community College



Welding Summit Conference Co-Chair Scott Witkowski and District 18 Director Tom Holt present a plaque to Les Crnkovic, Department Chair, Industrial Technology at San Jacinto College Central

Welding Competition Scholarships

In 2019, AWS District Directors awarded more than \$77,000 in scholarships to winners of welding competitions in their respective districts. The program was a huge hit and will continue in 2020!

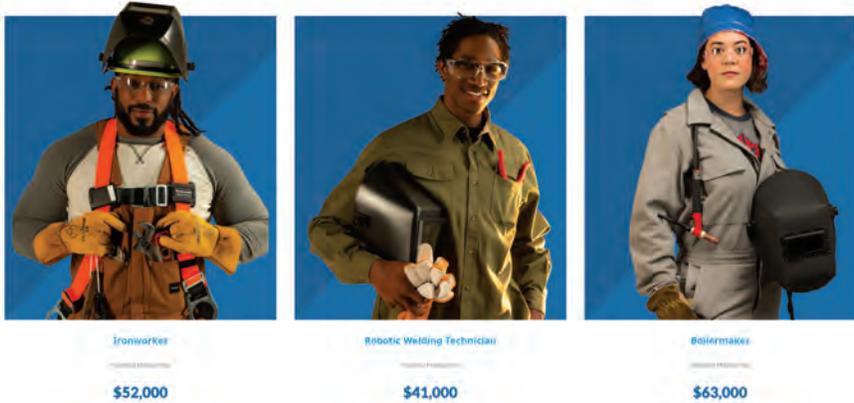




Launched in 2019 – a new *CareersinWelding.com* website!

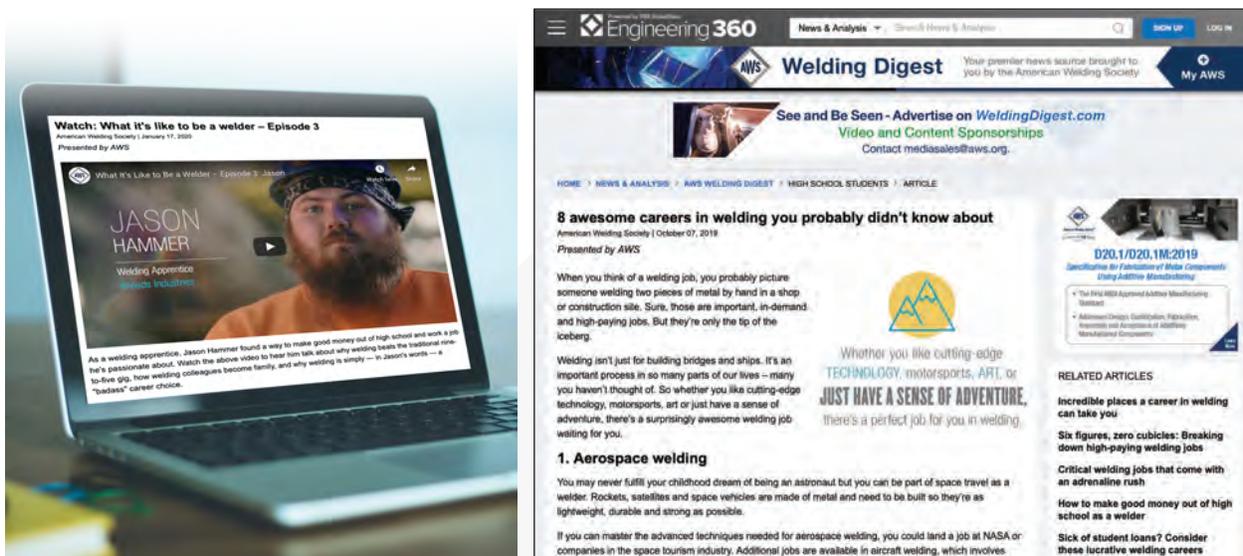
The site has an all-new look with refreshed content to appeal to the next generation of welding professionals. The mobile-friendly website includes:

- A Career Assessment Quiz
- In-Depth Career Profiles and Salary Data
- Education and Training Opportunities
- Job Openings Search



Careers & Education Content on *WeldingDigest.com*

The Careers & Education segment on *WeldingDigest.com* launched in November 2019 as a digital presence to promote welding careers to multiple audiences, including students, career changers, parents, and veterans. Site visitors can view engaging blogs, articles, and videos, with new content released weekly to maintain and engage new/existing users.



Careers in Welding Trailer

2019 was a great year for the Careers in Welding Trailer.



- 27,405 Visitors
- 11 States
- 46 Event Days

46 - \$1,000 Scholarships Awarded!

The highest scorer each day on the VRTEX 360 virtual reality welding simulator received a \$1,000 welding scholarship.



Since the trailer hit the road in 2011 there have been more than 240,000 total visitors at 136 Events in 38 States!

In Memoriam



John M. Stropki Jr., former chairman, president, and CEO of The Lincoln Electric Co., Cleveland, Ohio, passed away on May 11, 2019. Stropki had a successful career at Lincoln Electric for 41 years and served as the company's CEO from 2004 to 2012. He started at the company as a summer intern while attending college and rose through the sales organization to become executive vice president and president, North America, in 1996. He joined the board of directors in 1998 and was promoted to chairman, president, and CEO in 2004. During his tenure, he transformed operations, oversaw numerous acquisitions and product innovations, and expanded the company's global footprint. Additionally, he served on the boards of The Sherwin-Williams Co., Hyster-Yale Materials Handling Inc., and Rexnord Corp. He also dedicated his time and efforts to support numerous industry associations and nonprofit organizations. He is survived by his wife, Liz, and many friends and family.

Significant Contributions to the AWS Foundation

- Instrumental in Lincoln Electric Company's sponsorship of the AWS Careers in Welding Trailer. Since its inception in 2011, the interactive, mobile virtual reality lab has introduced nearly 250,000 to career opportunities in the welding industry.
- Contributed more than \$100,000 to establish the John M. Stropki Scholarship, which awards more than \$20,000 annually to the children of Lincoln Electric employees and other outstanding students in welding and related fields.
- Spearheaded the Lincoln Electric Foundation's commitment of \$250,000 towards the AWS Foundation Workforce Development Program.



Dietrich K. Roth, co-founder of RoMan Manufacturing, passed away on November 15, 2019. After receiving his electrical engineering degree in Germany, Roth emigrated to Grand Rapids, Mich., in 1959 and went to work for the Kirkhof Manufacturing Co. as an electrical engineer. He rose up through the company, becoming the chief engineer and later the division general manager. He met his business partner, Robert Hofman, at Kirkhof, and they started RoMan Manufacturing in 1980. Roth was a Life Member of the American Welding Society (AWS) and the Resistance Welding Manufacturers Alliance (RWMA). He was inducted into the Ferris State University Welding Hall of Fame for his contributions to the school's welding engineering program and to the industry. He was also a recipient of the Elihu Thomson Resistance Welding Award. His contributions to the science of resistance welding are numerous, and he was a significant contributor to the industry codes and standards authored by the RWMA and published by AWS. He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Betty Lou, their three children, five grandchildren, brother-in-law, and sister-in-law.

Significant Contributions to the AWS Foundation

- Contributed more than \$50,000 to establish the Dietrich & Betty Roth Scholarship for welding students in West Michigan interested in the field of resistance welding.

2019 AWS Foundation Contributors



THANK YOU to our Donors for another incredible year. It's their support that helps to prepare the future generation of welding professionals and ensures our industry remains strong.

The AWS Foundation received \$889,836 in donations in 2019, and the following companies, members, individuals, and AWS Sections donated over \$1,000 to support scholarships, grants, and other workforce development initiatives.

\$200,000+

The Lincoln Electric Company

\$50,000+

Aim High Jerry Clay Scholarship, LLC
Estate of Glenn J. Gibson
LeTourneau University
The Lincoln Electric Foundation

\$20,000+

Laura Cederquist
Richard & Maria Scheff
In memory of John M. Stropki
Rexnord Industries LLC
The Sherwin Williams Foundation

\$10,000+

BAE Systems
Lowbrow Customs LLC
Marsha Ferguson
Miller Electric Manufacturing Co.
Sayee P. Raghunathan
Women of Gases and Welding
AWS Acadiana Section
AWS Alberta Section
AWS Atlanta Section
AWS Central Arkansas Section
AWS Long Island Section
AWS New Mexico Section
AWS York-Lancaster Section

\$5,000+

Arc3 Gases
Fluor Corporation
Marie Lipphardt
Carl S. Mitchell
Robert & Annette Pali
AWS Central Michigan Section
AWS Houston Section
AWS Philadelphia Section
AWS Reading Section

\$1,000+

Aecon-Wachs
Josh Armstrong
B & H Rig and Tong Sales, Inc.
Jack & Jo Dammann
Dwelle Family Foundation
Euroweld Ltd.
Huntington Ingalls Industries-Newport
News Shipbuilding
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In memory of John M. Stropki
Jill Aleo
Lawrence & Sarah Cruise
Hyster-Yale Group
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Michael Mintun
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James & Lenore Schilling
Steven T. Smith
John & Mary Strachan
Colin & Lorna Wilson

Special thanks to the staff of the American Welding Society, who raised over \$13,000 during the annual staff campaign.

Please consider joining us as we work to inspire a new generation of welding professionals.

Donate today at www.aws.org/donate.

If you are interested in establishing a scholarship or grant endowment, contact Monica Pfarr, Executive Director of the AWS Foundation, at 800-443-9353 Ext. 461 or mpfarr@aws.org.

All donations to scholarships and grants are matched 100% by the AWS Foundation.