



North Idaho College

2026 YEAR IN REVIEW

Alumni and Friends



Investing in Dreams

Alumni Association Board of Directors

The NIC Alumni Association Board of Directors consists of alumni and community volunteers who strive to keep those who have been part of North Idaho College connected to the college.

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NIC Foundation, Inc. Board of Directors

Founded in 1977 as an independent, 501(c)3 nonprofit charitable organization, the NIC Foundation encourages private support to enhance educational excellence and provide student scholarships.

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On the cover: Graduates 2026

"Alumni and Friends," September 2026

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Greetings from the Alumni Association and NIC Foundation



As I reflect on this year, I am reminded that the strength of our college has always been rooted in the people who believe in its mission. As an NIC alum, a longtime community member, and retired educator, I have seen firsthand the lasting impact this institution has on students, families, and our community.

Across campus, innovative programs prepare students to meet the needs of our region while creating opportunities for themselves and their families. These accomplishments are possible

because of the ongoing support and engagement of our community.

I invite you to extend that support and engagement by coming to campus and experiencing all that NIC has to offer. From athletics and student performances to community lectures and self-enrichment classes, campus is filled with opportunities to learn, connect, and gather.

I encourage you to attend an event, bring a friend to campus, and rediscover what makes NIC so special.

Jim Lien

North Idaho College Alumni Association President

NIC Alumnus, Class of 1982



As we look ahead to an exciting future, we are preparing to celebrate the upcoming 50th anniversary of the North Idaho College Foundation. Generations of donors, alumni, and community partners have helped make it possible for students to pursue their goals and overcome barriers.

In the past year, the Foundation funded 1,835 scholarship awards for NIC students, up 17% from the prior year. Total scholarship funding reached \$1,532,446, representing an 11% increase from the

prior year and an all-time record!

The impact of generosity can be seen every day across NIC campuses. From scholarships and emergency assistance to program support and new opportunities for learning, donor investments play a vital role in student success and strengthen the communities NIC serves.

While there is much to celebrate, there is still important work ahead. The need for affordable education and student support continues to grow. Together, we can ensure more students have access to the resources they need to succeed.

Thank you for believing in our students and our mission. The future is bright, and with your continued partnership, the best is yet to come.

Rod B. Colwell

North Idaho College Foundation President

NIC Alumnus, Class of 1975

Investing in Dreams

Thank you for Investing in Dreams!

Gifts to the *Investing in Dreams Scholarship* empower students to shape their futures by supporting their education and giving them the encouragement, confidence, and resources they need to achieve their goals.



Gerard

Business Management and Communication

"I am a local student in my freshman year at NIC. I am an aspiring film maker and entrepreneur excited to see what the world has in store. I am wholeheartedly grateful for this scholarship. In the future, I hope to give back to help my community."



Catherine

General Studies

"This scholarship and your support mean so much to me. My husband and I are both completing our college degrees while working part-time jobs. My goal is to continue my education and become an elementary school teacher. I can't thank you enough for helping me achieve my goals!"



David

Chemistry

"This scholarship has been tremendously beneficial. It helped alleviate financial stress and allowed me to stay in school and maintain my grades. I am studying chemistry, and my goal is to get a Ph.D. and do research."

Make a contribution in support of educational excellence and student success today! Use the enclosed envelope or contact the NIC Foundation office at (208) 769-5978. Gifts can also be made securely online at nic.edu/give.

Message from the College President



Great institutions thrive when they innovate, foster strategic partnerships, and create meaningful opportunities for students. That approach is a long tradition at North Idaho College.

On February 9, 2026, NIC's accreditation was returned to good standing, marking the successful conclusion of a multi-year review process with our accrediting body. This important milestone reflects the end of governance concerns and affirms the quality of our college.

We continue to experience strong enrollment growth as students choose NIC as their affordable, high-quality pathway to higher education. Additionally, we are strengthening partnerships with employers, industry leaders, and community organizations to align programs with workforce needs and support the economic vitality of our region.

Through the *NIC Guarantee*, we boldly stand behind the quality of our programs and the readiness of our graduates.

As alumni and supporters, you are essential to NIC's future, and I am grateful for your continued engagement and belief in NIC. I invite you to stay informed and involved. Visit nic.edu/president for updates.

Nick Swayne, Ph.D.

North Idaho College President

Alumni Award Recipients Honored

Each year, the North Idaho College Alumni Association Board of Directors recognizes outstanding individuals who greatly enhance NIC and the Alumni Association through their commitment and service. The Alumni Association is proud to honor Noppadol Paothong with the Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award, Dennis Grant with the Alumni of the Year Award, and Chief Allan with the Honorary Alumni Award. The awards were presented at the annual Scholarship Celebration and Alumni Award Ceremony in November of 2025.



Noppadol Paothong

Distinguished Alumnus

Noppadol Paothong was selected as Distinguished Alumnus for his work as a photographer connecting people with nature and inspiring conservation.

Noppadol was raised in Bangkok, Thailand, and left the country for the first time at age 19 to study at North Idaho College. He had never been abroad and spoke little English, so his first two years were spent in NIC's Intensive English program.

Initially, Noppadol planned to study graphic design, but thanks to the encouragement of his girlfriend (now wife) and supportive and influential instructors, he switched to journalism and communication. NIC is also where he discovered his gift for storytelling through photography, which gave him the foundation and confidence to pursue a career in photojournalism. After leaving NIC in 1998, Noppadol continued his education at Missouri Southern State University, earning a degree in photojournalism.

Noppadol is part of an elite group of the world's leading wildlife, nature, and culture photographers. He has earned numerous national and international honors, and his work has appeared on more than two hundred covers of *Missouri Conservationist* and has been featured in well-known publications such as *Smithsonian*, *Ranger Rick*, *National Wildlife*, and many other magazines. Additionally, Noppadol has dedicated nearly two decades to documenting North America's grassland grouse, publishing two books focused on their fragility and vanishing habitats. These examples only scratch the surface of his many accomplishments.

One of Noppadol's fondest memories of NIC is its setting along Lake Coeur d'Alene. He believes that being surrounded by the stunning landscapes of North Idaho deeply influenced his appreciation for nature and helped shape his passion for conservation.



Dennis Grant

Alumnus of the Year

Dennis Grant was honored as Alumnus of the Year for his unwavering dedication to NIC and the community.

Dennis is one of the few who were born and raised in Coeur d'Alene who still call it home. Dennis is a Coeur d'Alene High School graduate and attended NIC to study engineering. He played trombone in the orchestra, symphony, and jazz band and was elected president of the Associated Students of NIC. Before completing his degree at NIC, Dennis transferred to University of Idaho and earned his bachelor's degree in mathematics. He is currently a project manager for the City of Coeur d'Alene Engineering Department and has been employed there for 27 years.

NIC is a tradition three generations strong in Dennis' family. His father played basketball at North Idaho Junior College and Dennis' three children also attended school at NIC. In 2025, Dennis initiated a reverse transfer of his bachelor's degree to receive an associate degree from North Idaho College. He proudly walked in the NIC commencement ceremony alongside his youngest daughter and was honored to be selected as the keynote speaker that year as well. It was another special NIC memory that he said he will never forget.

Dennis has been a director on the NIC Alumni Association Board for more than 18 years. Dennis served as president and has held many leadership roles for both the board and committees. He is always willing to step in wherever there is a need and is ever present at campus events to engage with students and community members.



Chief Allan

Honorary Alumnus

Chief Allan was chosen as Honorary Alumnus for his impact in the community, particularly through his significant support of education.

Chief is Chairman of the Coeur d'Alene Tribe and has served multiple terms since 2005. He has been a long-time partner and supporter of North Idaho College, demonstrating his belief in education as a powerful equalizer. Throughout his career, Chief has emphasized that investing in youth and education is not only a tribal priority but a community-wide responsibility. His leadership has ensured that all students across the region have greater access to scholarships, workforce training, and cultural education. As the keynote speaker at the North Idaho College 2025 Commencement ceremony, Chief shared that he values education because it's something you work for that you can never lose.

Through his successful leadership and passion for education, Chief has demonstrated a strong commitment to strengthening educational opportunities across North Idaho. As one of many examples, the Coeur d'Alene Tribe partnered with the Coeur d'Alene Regional Chamber in 2020 to revitalize the chamber's declining scholarship program. A matching partnership was created to encourage local businesses to support local students pursuing higher education. Now, for every \$1,000 a business contributes, the Tribe will match it, doubling the financial impact for students. In 2025, more than \$400,000 was raised and awarded in scholarships to graduating seniors, an impressive increase from the \$5,000 awarded in 2021.

Through this wildly successful program, the Tribe has generously given hundreds of thousands of dollars in scholarships to students, granting them opportunities to pursue an education that may have otherwise been out of reach.

Chief's belief in education and support of students is undeniable. Through his vision of creating opportunities for all students, he exemplifies what it means to give back to North Idaho.

To nominate an individual for an Alumni Award in recognition of their commitment to NIC and the community, visit nic.edu/alumni. Alumni Award nominations are accepted year-round.



Join the NIC Alumni Association

Join thousands of alumni who stay connected with North Idaho College. Membership is free!

The Alumni Association is open to anyone who has completed at least 12 academic credits or the first semester of a certificate or apprenticeship program at NIC. You don't have to be a graduate to become a member.

Benefits include membership eligibility at the Student Wellness and Recreation Center, 50% discount for home athletic events, 10% discount on logo merchandise at the Cardinal Bookstore, and more!

JOIN TODAY!

Visit nic.edu/alumni or scan the QR code.





Retiree Spotlight – Tim and Kathleen Christie

The Christies' story as a couple began at North Idaho College. Shortly after being hired at the college, Kathy was sent to have her employee photo taken. The photographer was Tim Christie, a young faculty member at NIC.

What began as a brief interaction grew into decades of friendship, professional respect, and a shared commitment to students and education. After the loss of Tim's wife, Mary, Kathy's friendship became a source of support to him. In time, their friendship blossomed into love. NIC gave them meaningful careers, but it also brought them together.

Tim's 35-year career started with four years as NIC's first Public Relations Director, followed by 31 years teaching communication and photography. His passion for education was shaped by a discouraging encounter with a high school counselor who suggested his dreams were out of reach. Rather than letting those words define him, Tim dedicated his life to helping others recognize their potential and pursue their goals. In his 2006 NIC Commencement address, he spoke about his belief that it only takes one person to make a difference in the world, which he embodied through decades of teaching and mentorship.

Kathy's journey to North Idaho College was similarly shaped by both purpose and service. After earning her degree, Kathy taught in rural West Virginia, where she witnessed firsthand the life-changing impact of education. She later joined NIC as Director of Adult Basic Education and GED Programs and went on to serve in several leadership roles over a 31-year career, including Associate Dean of Instruction and Interim Vice President of Instruction.

What Tim and Kathy valued most was NIC's commitment

to students. Kathy championed innovative programs like Service Learning and Team Teaching, while Tim helped students build communication skills that strengthened both careers and relationships. Together, they believe education has the power to change lives, and they dedicated their careers to making that difference for others.

The impact Tim and Kathy made on students did not end when their careers concluded. Together, they established the Tim and Kathleen Christie Scholarship and the Mary Christie Memorial Scholarship, created in memory of Tim's late wife.

Kathy finds great joy in hearing how scholarships impact students' lives. For Tim, scholarships hold special meaning because receiving one as a college student showed him that someone beyond his family believed in his worth and potential.

Because Tim and Kathy met while working at NIC, their story became inseparable from the college they served for so many years. Their connection is evident in the way they speak about their careers, their friendships, their challenges, and their growth. Together, they helped shape and strengthen a college community that meant so much to them.

Today, Tim continues to pursue another lifelong passion as an accomplished wildlife photographer, traveling to remarkable places to photograph animals and landscapes through his lens. Yet, whether behind a camera or not, their underlying mission remains unchanged: recognizing potential, nurturing growth, and proving that one person (or two!) can truly make a difference.

Make a contribution in support of educational excellence and student success today! Use the enclosed envelope or contact the NIC Foundation office at (208) 769-5978. Gifts can also be made securely online at nic.edu/give.

You're Invited – North Idaho College Events

North Idaho College is where our community comes together. Bring your family and friends to enjoy performances, exhibits, athletics, lectures, and special events happening throughout the year. See what's happening on campus and make NIC events part of your tradition!



Join students and the community as they walk, jog, or run through North Idaho College's beautiful Coeur d'Alene campus while being showered with bursts of color powder in the NIC Color Fun Run 5k.



Musical Performances

Concerts hosted by the NIC Music Department warm the hearts of the community throughout the year. Stay updated by visiting the NIC website for a list of upcoming Fine Arts events.



Culinary Arts

Experience the talents of NIC Culinary Arts students at three public dining locations: Emery's Restaurant, the Lakeview Sip 'N' Study coffee shop, and the Food Truck. For hours and rotating menus, visit nic.edu/emerys-and-lakeview-sip-and-study.



Outdoor Rentals

NIC Outdoor Pursuits offers equipment rentals from two locations, making it easy for students and community members to find what they need to gear up for their adventures year-round! For all rental options, visit nic.edu/op.



Performances in Schuler Auditorium

The NIC Theatre program offers classes and produces two plays at the Schuler Auditorium each year. Auditions are open to NIC students as well as the community. Come enjoy a performance on campus! Visit the NIC website for a list of upcoming Fine Arts events.



Cardinal Athletics

You've seen the signs – this is Cardinal Country! Grab a friend and come to campus to watch one of many athletics events and cheer on these local Cardinal athletes. To view the NIC athletics schedules, visit nicathletics.com.



"Ever since I was a little girl, walking hand in hand with my father on his college campus, I have dreamed of going to college. I married my sweetheart after high school and together we grew a big, beautiful family. Now that our children are in school, it is my turn to go to college. I am so excited for what the future holds for me as I continue working hard toward my degree. I would love to work in higher education. Thank you for making my dream, and my family's dream, a reality!"

Mallorie
English

Investing in Dreams

Your support is vital to the overall success of NIC and the students. Make a gift today!

WAYS to give

- Mail your check in the enclosed envelope.
- Give securely online at nic.edu/give.
- Donate gifts of appreciated assets, such as stock or real estate.
- If you are 70½ or older, make a tax-favorable contribution directly from your IRA.
- Designate the NIC Foundation as a beneficiary in your will, trust, retirement account, or life insurance policy.
- Establish a named scholarship for your social organization, business, or family.
- Make a contribution in honor or in memory of a loved one.

MAXIMIZE your tax benefits!

The NIC Foundation is a qualified 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Starting in 2026, new federal tax rules allow non-itemizers to deduct up to \$1,000 (\$2,000 for joint filers) for cash donations. Idaho taxpayers also qualify for the Idaho Education Tax Credit – a 50% state tax credit for charitable contributions to education. Consult your tax advisor for more information.

NIC Foundation Honor Roll of Contributors

THANK YOU for your investment through the North Idaho College Foundation. Your contribution directly helps students in their pursuit of a quality education and bright future.

Recognition in Gift Societies reflects total cash and in-kind gifts received between July 1, 2025 and June 30, 2026. If your name was omitted, misspelled, or listed incorrectly, please contact the NIC Foundation at (208) 769-5978.

Gift Society

College by the Lake (\$250-\$499)
Fort Grounds (\$500-\$999)
President's (\$1,000-\$4,999)
Lee Hall (\$5,000-\$9,999)
Cornerstone (\$10,000+)
Coeur (cumulative gifts of \$100,000+)
Legacy (NIC named in estate plan)

Perks (invitations to):

Scholarship Celebration and Alumni Awards
+ Donor Socials
+ Lunch with the President
+ VIP Reception
+ Special Recognition
+ Exclusive Privileges
+ Exclusive Privileges

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*Signifies three or more years of consecutive giving. If you've inadvertently missed a year in your consecutive giving, it's not too late to update your giving history. Make your contribution today at nic.edu/give and note the year to which you want the gift applied.

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IN HONOR OF

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Drive Your School Pride



Show your college pride wherever the road takes you with an official North Idaho College license plate! It's a simple way to celebrate your connection to NIC while supporting the NIC Alumni Association Scholarship. Every mile is a reminder that you are part of something that lasts!

Show your college pride wherever the road takes you with

NIC Alumna **Rhoda King** says, "I graduated from NIC in 1995 with an associate degree in Nursing. This degree changed my life by lifting me out of poverty, and I will always be grateful to the college and the wonderful staff who supported me. I chose to purchase an NIC license plate to show that I am a proud alumna and to support the school."

To show your college pride with your own NIC license plate, visit dmvonline.itd.idaho.gov.



Rhoda King

Donor Spotlight – Charles Best



For Charles “Chuck” Best, North Idaho College has always been part of his story.

Born and raised in Coeur d’Alene, with deep family roots in North Idaho, Chuck spent his childhood summers on Hayden Lake at a property his grandfather, Walter J. Burns Sr., purchased during the Great Depression. A successful miner and photographer, Burns was also a dedicated supporter of education, serving as a trustee of North Idaho Junior College, now known as North Idaho College. Today, Chuck and three of his four children live on the property enjoying this family treasure.

When it came time to consider college, North Idaho Junior College was the natural choice for Chuck. In fact, he credits NIJC with helping him continue his education at all. “I didn’t love school,” Chuck admits, “but I had the mind for it.” After graduating, he transferred to

the University of Idaho, where he earned degrees in law and psychology, thanks to the influence of a professor who believed in him.

During his time at NIJC, Chuck met Shirley, who became his wife and partner for 64 years. Unwaveringly supportive, Shirley encouraged him through every stage of his education and career.

Curious by nature, Chuck has always enjoyed trying new things. After college, he worked as a lumberjack, and then at the suggestion of a friend, took a chance on teaching fourth grade.

“I fell in love with those kids,” he recalls. “They absolutely captured me.”

That chance led to advanced degrees in education at Eastern Washington University and Washington State University. Over time, he became involved in curriculum and program development, rising to the role of assistant superintendent.

As opportunities took Chuck further from the classroom, his job satisfaction decreased. At Shirley’s suggestion, he changed direction. His curious nature resurfaced and he took on a new challenge in the pollen industry. In time, this venture proved successful and he still owns and serves as president of Antles Pollen Supplies and Pollen Control.

In 2018, Chuck and Shirley returned to Hayden Lake and the property that had shaped so many of his childhood memories. After Shirley’s passing, Chuck felt fortunate to reconnect with longtime friend Joanne Sutton (Smock) at their high school reunion. They married and enjoyed traveling and life together before Joanne’s passing in winter 2026.

Today, Chuck remains grateful for the educational opportunities that opened doors throughout his life. He is a proud supporter of the NIC Foundation and believes strongly in the transformative power of education.

When asked why he chose to create a scholarship endowment, his answer is simple:

“It seems appropriate to give back. I have a belief in it, and it feels good.”

Make a contribution in support of educational excellence and student success today! Use the enclosed envelope or contact the NIC Foundation office at (208) 769-5978. Gifts can also be made securely online at nic.edu/give.

A Legacy for Education – Carol Jones



Carol Jones believed in the power of education and the value of the arts. Her life was a symphony of generosity, talent, and resilience, with a melody that continues to inspire others through her legacy gift to North Idaho College Foundation.

Carol's love for music began early. Gifted with a stunning singing voice and mastery of piano and clarinet, she shared her talents with the North Idaho College Music Department for many years, creating friendships and enriching the campus community. Music was not just her passion, but her way of connecting and giving back.

Carol's commitment to students extended far beyond performance. Through legacy planning, Carol created a scholarship for students that opens doors for learners at NIC to pursue their dreams. Her generosity reflects her belief that education transforms lives, and her philanthropy will echo for generations.

Professionally, Carol dedicated 42 years to Grannis Petroleum, where her loyalty and humor made her a cornerstone of the team. Personally, she embraced life with curiosity and is remembered by many for her kindness, support of Gonzaga basketball, and her love of rescuing and caring for cats.

Carol faced challenges with grace and strength. She was a gentle soul and a champion for opportunity. Today, we honor Carol not only for her love of music and community but for the legacy she leaves – a legacy of hope, education, and the belief that giving changes lives.

Your gift to the NIC Foundation can help students achieve their dreams. For more information on how you can leave your legacy in support of education, contact the NIC Foundation at foundation@nicfoundation.org or (208) 769-5978. Explore our free planning resources at nic.planmylegacy.org.

LEGACY SOCIETY

A special thanks to the following supporters for designating the North Idaho College Foundation as a beneficiary of their will, trust, retirement account, or life insurance policy.

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If you have included the North Idaho College Foundation in your estate plan, please notify the NIC Foundation so your commitment is properly honored.

Program Highlight – Radiography Technology



North Idaho College has a history of providing educational excellence, and NIC's Radiography Technology program is no exception.

The program has a track record of student achievement, boasting a 100% first attempt pass rate on the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists national board exam since 2018, as well as a 100% job placement rate after graduation. The impressive statistics do not stop there. In 2025, all students in the graduating cohort scored in the top 10% in the nation on the ARRT certification exam.

So, what makes this program and its graduates so successful?

Program Director Kristina Cliff cites several reasons for the program's strong student outcomes. One of the most important, she says, is that "students are already amazing by the time they get to this program." She credits NIC's faculty in prerequisite general education courses, as well as

the college's advisors and student support services, with helping students build a strong foundation before beginning the intensive two-year experience.

Cliff also notes that from a curriculum standpoint, the program begins with one semester of classroom instruction focused on everything students need to be successful in a clinical setting, followed by four semesters that combine clinical experience with lab and classroom work. This structure keeps students regularly engaged with the curriculum through hands-on training, both in clinical placements and in the simulation lab, which features state-of-the-art radiography equipment in a safe and controlled learning environment. Additionally, due to national accreditation standards, enrollment is capped at ten students per cohort each year, allowing for small class sizes and direct access to instructors.

While the program demands hard work and significant sacrifice over two years, students are supported by an affordable, high-quality learning environment. As Rich Pruden, Assistant Professor, noted, "This truly is a beautiful campus, with an incredible tuition rate, for these students to come and study and graduate with so much opportunity for employment in a variety of settings."

Throughout the program, students rotate through a variety of local clinical sites, gaining experience with different healthcare settings, patient populations, and management styles. These experiences allow them to explore areas of interest and discover potential career paths within the profession.

The Radiography Technology program provides students with a pathway to achieve their goals with an exceptional record of success. This is a win for the community as graduates help fill a significant workforce need among local healthcare employers seeking highly skilled radiologic technologists.

Make a contribution in support of educational excellence and student success today! Use the enclosed envelope or contact the NIC Foundation office at (208) 769-5978. Gifts can also be made securely online at nic.edu/give.



"I was born and raised in Coeur d'Alene and am a first-generation college student. I began my college career pursuing computer science. I soon came to the realization that I wanted to pursue a different career and chose the Radiography Technology program at NIC. Thank you for this scholarship! I hope that through my career of serving the community, I can repay your kindness and make you proud of your investment in me."

Zackary
Radiography Technology

NIC Foundation Scholarships and Funds

The following funds have been established to benefit deserving students and specific areas of need. The criteria of each varies. To name a fund for your social organization, business, or family, or in honor/memory of a loved one, contact the NIC Foundation office at (208) 769-5978 or email foundation@nicfoundation.org.

ENDOWMENTS

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Wally and Pamela Adams
Adams – Whitley
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BDK/AKV
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NIC Employees' Providing Opportunities
NIC Foundation Investing in Dreams
NIC Library
NIC Retirees Scholarship for Students

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Students are at the heart of the North Idaho College Foundation's mission.

North Idaho College welcomes students from all walks of life. Some are recent high school graduates taking their first steps toward a career, while others are returning to complete an educational journey they began years ago. They are our friends, neighbors, coworkers, and family members. They are the people who make up our community and the people we would readily support when they need a helping hand.

These students represent the future of North Idaho. They are preparing to become the healthcare professionals who will care for our families, the teachers who will inspire the next generation, the skilled tradespeople who will build and maintain our communities, and the innovators who will help shape our region's future.

Rising enrollment in both academic transfer and career and technical education programs demonstrates the value students see in an education from North Idaho College and the growing demand for accessible, high-quality training

opportunities. As students pursue their educational goals, they face increasing financial pressures driven by the rising cost of living and the expenses associated with earning a degree or technical certification.

Through the generosity of donors, the North Idaho College Foundation funded 1,835 scholarships during the 2025-26 academic year. These scholarships help students remain focused on their studies, complete their programs, and achieve their dreams. Yet the need continues to grow, and many deserving students still face financial barriers that threaten their ability to persist and succeed.

Partner with us by Investing in Dreams!

With your investment, we will create opportunities for students, our college, and ultimately, our community.

Please join us in these efforts. Contributions of any size make a huge impact in reaching more students, changing more lives, and fueling more futures.

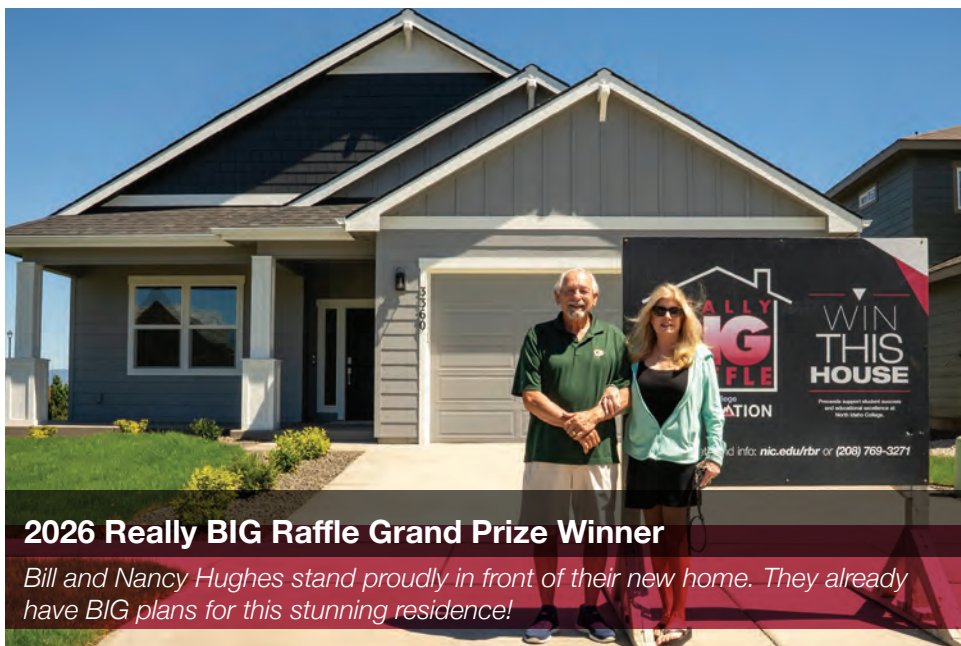
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————— Contact us at foundation@nicfoundation.org or (208) 769-5978. —————



This year marked the 33rd consecutive year of an early ticket sellout for the NIC Foundation's annual Really BIG Raffle fundraiser. More than \$600,000 in prizes were given away on July 8, 2026, to the lucky winners. Bill Hughes was the winner of the Grand Prize new home in Post Falls with ticket #2500. The Really BIG Raffle will be back again on July 7, 2027, with another life-changing opportunity to win a new home in the highly desirable Coeur d'Alene Place neighborhood, plus other amazing prizes. Proceeds of the raffle support student success and educational excellence at North Idaho College.

Visit nic.edu/rbr or call (208) 769-3271 for more information about the Really BIG Raffle.



2026 Really BIG Raffle Grand Prize Winner

Bill and Nancy Hughes stand proudly in front of their new home. They already have BIG plans for this stunning residence!