PM Philanthropist
Your Gifts in Action | March 2017

CHANGING THE WORLD ONE SCHOLARSHIP AT A TIME

Apply for 2017 PMIEF scholarships!

DONOR SPOTLIGHT:
MITCHELL FONG, PMP

Are you passionate about PMIEF? You will be!

PMIEF AWARDS PROMOTE PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Application deadlines are coming up fast...don't miss the opportunity to apply!

TELL US ABOUT YOURSELF

We'd love to know what motivates you to give to PMIEF. Please respond to a few brief questions about yourself and what PMIEF means to you.
CHANGING THE WORLD ONCE SCHOLARSHIP AT A TIME

How can we better equip project managers around the world? How can we contribute to the growth of project management as a field? How can we prepare the next generation of project managers?

Here at PMIEF, we believe that the answer to those questions is deceptively simple: Give as many people as possible the resources and opportunity to study Project Management.

That's what the PMIEF Scholarship Program is all about!

In 2017, PMIEF will provide undergraduate and graduate-level scholarships, as well as professional development scholarships, to more than 400 students, teachers, and nonprofit leaders in the United States and many countries around the world. These scholarships are valued at over $500,000.

Maria Astudillo lost her job during the 2008 recession, and then she was injured in a cycling accident that made work difficult. During her convalescence, Maria joined PMI as a volunteer. She shares, “I wanted to spend my downtime in a productive way, learning new skills and encouraging others to learn project management as well.

She continued to hone her skills. And when she discovered the Scholarship Program at PMIEF, Maria immediately applied:

“I was awarded a Milestones Scholarship, which enabled me to take a course called ‘Project Management Core Principles.’ I discovered new abilities I didn’t know I had…as well as a love of project management as a profession. Right now, I have a great PM job at the University of Chicago in the IT department. Soon, I’ll be moving to Boulder, CO, to work with teams of data scientists. I can’t wait!”

As scholarship recipients understand and apply new knowledge and skills, they help fulfill several of PMIEF’s main objectives—from creating a workforce that is better prepared to handle needs from organizational challenges to helping youth build the skills required to succeed in life.

Better still, they return with a deep desire to give back. Maria shared,

“The more I learned, the more I wanted to learn…the more I wanted to give back. I want others to have the experience and encouragement I did.

And I want donors to know the difference they made in my life by providing that scholarship for me. When you support PMIEF, you are impacting a specific person—a real person’s life. We learn skills that will carry us through any kind of professional endeavor…when you give, you transform lives.”

Your financial support provides much-needed scholarships for students who are pursuing a career in Project Management, as well as those seeking to improve their project management skills. In other words, your gift is raising up the next generation of talented project managers!

The deadlines to apply for a professional development scholarship is April 1 and an academic scholarship is May 1. If you are interested in applying, or if you know an eligible applicant, be sure to visit here today.
DONOR SPOTLIGHT: MITCHELL FONG, PMP

Mitchell’s passion for project management is contagious! In a recent Q&A session, he shared his personal experience with PMIEF…and his story will inspire you:

Q: How did you originally become aware of project management principles?
A: I was pursuing dual degrees in Software Engineering and Political Science at Western University. One of my professors suggested I take a course in Project Management. I had no idea that field even existed! But I knew from the very first day that I absolutely wanted a career as a Project Manager. Today, I not only apply project management principles professionally…I eat, sleep, and breathe them in my personal life!

Q: Please describe your current involvement with PMIEF both as a donor and volunteer.
A: Right now, I am heavily involved with the PMI chapter in Toronto. We are working with schools in the region, providing PMI and PMIEF project management resources to train teachers and teach students. We started with just one school, and will expand across the board and hope to be presenting PMIEF resources at a national school conference this year. I’m ecstatic that students are able to add discipline, structure, and project management principles to their lives. How far they can go!

I have seen firsthand the difference project management skills can make in the education process for both students and teachers. Because of this, it was a natural next step for me to begin financially supporting PMIEF. Recently, I decided to become a PMIEF Leadership Society donor, so that even more teachers and students will be equipped with project management “tool belt”.

Q: Please share a favorite story about the impact of PMIEF on your community.
A: PMIEF is committed to educating primary and secondary students in project management as a life skill. I live in Toronto, and part of our work here involves supporting student competitions like “Future City.” I served as a judge in the most recent competition for 12-14 year olds.

Their abilities just amazed me! Part of their submission was a project plan. At that age, they already knew what a project plan is and how to execute it! Incredible!

One particular school was among the roughest in the district. Most of the students attending the school face many challenges, and yet they fielded a terrific team that made the Finals! I reached out to the teacher serving as their adviser and congratulated her. Then I offered to come talk to her classes, teach project management skills, and make sure they received additional resources.

She started to cry and I started to get emotional. She has such a desire to help her students succeed. And the fact that PMIEF would get involved…would help…would care…she was just blown away. Really special moment!

Q: Why would you tell someone to invest in PMIEF and our work?
A: I believe it is critical to build a pipeline of young, talented project managers—starting with today’s students. If we want to continue to see nonprofit organizations and businesses be as successful as possible, the profession must keep growing.

PMIEF is uniquely set up to be a catalyst for long-term growth. With help and financial support from all of us, we can do two critical things:

1. Expose younger and younger students to project management principles, helping them to understand and use them in school and in life.
2. Help good project managers to become extraordinary! By supporting PMIEF financially, you and I can provide training, opportunities to volunteer, and ways for Project Managers to enhance their talents.

Do you love Project Management? Are you passionate about it? Then it’s only logical to invest in PMIEF. Give Now!
PMIEF AWARDS PROMOTE PROJECT MANAGEMENT

PMIEF Awards are designed to encourage talented Project Managers to reach higher, dream bigger, and achieve more for the profession. Every year, our award recipients contribute new breakthroughs…and advance project management for social good®.

For example, our Community Advancement through Project Management Award emphasizes pro bono/volunteer project management contributions that increase the capacity of nonprofit organizations to serve communities and provide critical services.

PMIEF also administers the prestigious Kerzner Award for Excellence in Project Management. This highly sought after award, sponsored by International Institute for Learning, recognizes a project manager who emulates the professional dedication and excellence of Dr. Harold Kerzner—a globally recognized authority in the field.

Award recipients will receive their awards at the 2017 PMI Global Conference this October.

Application deadlines are approaching fast.

- The Kerzner Award deadline: May 15.
- The Community Advancement Award deadline: May 20

If you are interested in learning more—or want to nominate a colleague, friend or other project manager—simply click here.

Donors like you make our scholarships and awards possible…You are growing and shaping the future of project management around the world.