



WE ENVISION A WORLD IN WHICH ALL WHO IDENTIFY AS A GIRL HAVE A CHANCE TO LIVE THEIR DREAM AND REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL.

FORECAST	joyful	strong	kind	awkward	fierce	passionate	adventurous
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## ETHELIND B. KABA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

be UNAPOLOGETICALLY you

Ethelind is passionate about many things and wears many hats with one purpose: to spark in others the same curiosity about advancing human equity, potential, and dignity that motivates her work and life.

As the Executive Director of the Ann Bancroft Foundation since 2021, Ethelind champions its vision—a world in which all who identify as a girl have a chance to live their dream and reach their full potential. Ethelind also previously founded The Stargirl Initiative, a nonprofit dedicated to empowering teen and tween girls, for which she was named a Changemaker by *MN Women's Press*. She has also received recognition by *Twin Cities Business* as one of the “100 Top People of 2024,” and by *Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal* as one of “50 Black Leaders To Know.” Ethelind offers her experience and talents to several organizations including The Jeremiah Program as a Board Member and serves on the Board of Regents at Augsburg University.



Ethelind is unapologetically

## ANN BANCROFT FOUNDER



Ann is unapologetically

Ann is one of the world's preeminent polar explorers and an internationally recognized leader who is dedicated to inspiring women and girls around the world to unleash the power of their dreams. At the age of eight, Ann's first expedition was in the backyard orchard during a subzero degree Minnesota winter. Many adventures later, further from home, she actualized her girlhood dreams of reaching the ends of the earth.

Ann's polar exploits created opportunities off the icecaps. In 2016, President Obama invited her to address scientists and educators from 25 nations for a unified response to climate change. Ann was one of *Glamour Magazine's* “Women of the Year” (2001), inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame (1995), named *Ms. Magazine's* “Woman of the Year” (1987), and is honored in the Minnesota Historical Society's permanent exhibit, “MN-150” honoring 150 people, places, and things that have shaped Minnesota, along with gear from her historic expeditions.

## LACORA BRADFORD KESTI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

LaCora Bradford Kesti serves as Vice President of Community Impact at the Women's Foundation of Minnesota. Hailing from Minneapolis, LaCora has over two decades of experience living, volunteering, and working in the Twin Cities metro area. She is a Northside Community Member in the Camden-Lind Bohanon neighborhood. She graduated from the College of St. Scholastica and completed two years of AmeriCorps, fulfilling over 3,400 service hours for the betterment of her community.

In June 2023, she accepted a role on the Ann Bancroft Foundation Board of Directors and is the current Secretary. She is also the Board Co-Chair for Hope Community, where she has served for six years.



LaCora is unapologetically

DEAR ANN BANCROFT FOUNDATION COMMUNITY,

be UNAPOLOGETICALLY you

We have been supporters of the Ann Bancroft Foundation for over 15 years. And we know this is an organization that leans in, drives with passion, and always finds ways to help create more possibilities. We are thrilled you joined us tonight as we find more ways to pave the way for Minnesota girls to dream big!

Your contributions this evening will support our mission of nurturing the limitless talents and invaluable voices of girls as they dream for themselves. Together, we provide girls with a supportive network and the resources to cultivate their confidence to dream and continually imagine something bigger.

What we have learned over the years is that every single girl we meet has a different story. Every girl's dream is different than the next and every time we grant a dream, we watch a girl discover something new and amazing about herself. AND those who support our grantees grow and become better in the process as well.

This year we wanted to celebrate all the girls we have met and the girls we get to meet in the future. Every single girl has brought something special and we just want to find more ways to let them share that something special with the rest of the world. And so our theme, Be Unapologetically You, is all about embracing who you are. When we mix our character with passion, drive and positivity, great things happen. So tonight Be You and watch as the power of our community lights up the night and creates more possibilities!

On behalf of our entire event committee, as well as the staff and Board of the Ann Bancroft Foundation, we extend our deepest gratitude to you! Enjoy the evening!

Sincerely,

Lisa Brezonik and Kris Petersen  
2025 Event Committee Co-Chairs

## LISA BREZONIK EVENT CO-CHAIR

Lisa Brezonik is a seasoned business strategist focused on driving growth for individuals and organizations with roles in business operations, executive coaching, and consulting at notable companies like RBC Dain Rauscher and Room and Board. Lisa's firm, Brezonik Consulting, guided various industries until she joined Salo as Chief Talent Officer, later becoming CEO and leading it to double in size through enhanced consultant and employee engagement. Currently, she is an Operating Partner at Carlson Private Capital Partners, helping Founder-based businesses grow while maintaining their vision. An accomplished author, she wrote “Fire Yourself! Reignite your career and live your life with intention,” guiding professionals through career transitions. She is also active in her community, serving on the boards of Bridgewater Bank, Kipsu, and The Washburn Center for Children, while supporting charities like the Ann Bancroft Foundation. As a mentor, she volunteers with Mentium and BestPrep, helping professionals navigate their careers.



Lisa is unapologetically

## KRIS PETERSEN EVENT CO-CHAIR

Kris Petersen is currently a board director for nonprofit and for-profit boards including the Board Chair for Friends of Ngong Road, think2perform, The Disruptive Element, and think2perform Research Institute. She recently completed three terms (or 9 years) as the Board Director and Finance, Audit and Investment Committee Chair for Hennepin County Medical Center. Kris is currently an Executive Coach with think2perform and The Disruptive Element. Earlier in her career, she was an executive with Ameriprise Financial, American Express Financial Advisors, and U.S. Bank. Joining in 2014, Kris loyally served 7 years on the Ann Bancroft Foundation Board of Directors and served as Board Chair for two of those years. She remains closely involved today.



Kris is unapologetically



MADELINE LEMMER HOST

be UNAPOLOGETICALLY you



Madeline is unapologetically

Madeline is a senior from Winona, Minnesota, whose bold dream is to shape a more just and connected world through connection — turning international diplomacy into a force for good. As a 2024 Trailblazer Fellow, she used her grant to attend a youth leadership conference in Washington, D.C., where she deepened her passion for advocacy, leadership, and global engagement. This fall, Madeline will attend the University of St. Thomas on a full-tuition scholarship through the prestigious GHR Fellows Program. She plans to double major in International Business and International Studies on a pre-law track, with the goal of using her education to make lasting change on a global scale.



TONIGHT'S PROGRAM

5:00 pm RECEPTION  
in The Conservatory & Great Northern

- Cocktails & Morsels
- Silent Auction
- Gift Card & Wine Walls
- Step and Repeat Selfie Station
- 'Be' Wing Wall with Hand Lettering
- 'Be Unapologetically You' Merchandise & Custom Screenprinting

6:45 pm PLATED DINNER AND DESSERT  
in Pavillion  
Host – Madeline Lemmer

7:15 pm PROGRAM

Entertainment – Known MPLS

Grounding – Ann Bancroft, Founder

DreamMaker Presentation –  
• Cheryl Reeve, Sienna Dhariwal

Remarks – Ethelind B. Kaba, Executive Director

'Be Unapologetically You' Photo Moment

Live Auction  
• Glen Fladeboe & LaCora Bradford Kesti

Fall Girlhood Summit Video

Fund-a-Dream  
• Glen Fladeboe & MN Roller Derby

Gratitude  
• Lisa Brezonik & Kris Petersen,  
Event Co-Chairs

Entertainment – Known MPLS

CHERYL REEVE

DREAMMAKER HONOREE



Minnesota Lynx Head Coach and  
President of Basketball Operations

Our 2025 DreamMaker honoree, Cheryl Reeve, is a trailblazer in professional sports. Coach Reeve's leadership—both on and off the court—truly embodies our mission. Not only does she inspire her players, she also impacts countless young women and girls who see her living authentically and leading unapologetically without hesitation. Reeve spent 12 years coaching collegiate ball, including a five-year stint as head coach at Indiana State. In 2001, she got her start in the WNBA with the Charlotte Sting and the Detroit Shock before joining the Lynx as their head coach in December, 2009.

The 2024 season marked Coach Reeve's 15th year as Lynx Head Coach and second as President of Basketball Operations. Under her leadership, the Lynx have compiled 330 regular season wins over the last 15 seasons—the longest tenure in WNBA history. Reeve's 330 wins (.647 winning percentage) are the most in league history and make her one of only two coaches to ever win more than 60% of their games. Reeve is the only head coach to reach the WNBA Playoffs in eleven straight seasons with the same franchise, the second-longest run in the league. Throughout her illustrious career, Reeve has won six WNBA championships and received the WNBA Coach of the Year Award four times. She holds three Olympic gold medals, and served as head coach of the US Women's National Basketball Team which clenched its eighth straight Olympic gold medal at the 2024 Summer Olympics. Simply stated, Coach Reeve continues to push the boundaries of what she, and the Minnesota Lynx, can achieve.

Cheryl is unapologetically unapologetic.

SIENNA DHARIWAL

RISING DREAMMAKER



ABF Grantee, Student and  
Entrepreneur (Bikini Blend)  
Age 17

High school senior, Sienna Dhariwal, is a successful entrepreneur, business owner, and Ann Bancroft Foundation grantee, as well as a 2025 Trailblazer Fellow. Her drive to create, innovate, and succeed is matched only by her determination to make the world a better place.

With the conviction that "all bodies are bikini bodies," Sienna launched Bikini Blend, an online enterprise promoting and selling body-positive swimwear, in 2021. "As a woman of South Asian descent from a family of entrepreneurs in both India and America, my identity was rooted in business. Yet, I wanted to be more than just an entrepreneur," said Sienna. "My goal was to be both a business owner and a changemaker—selling a product that promotes sustainability, gender equity, and body positivity for women of all colors, shapes, and sizes."

At school and in the community, Sienna has been a passionate advocate for racial and gender equity, mental health awareness, and environmental sustainability. In November 2024, she co-founded and co-chaired the first annual Twin Cities Girl Up Gala, an event celebrating female empowerment while raising funds for local nonprofits. The gala brought together United Nations Girl Up chapters from five area schools: Academy of Holy Angels, Breck School, Benilde-St. Margaret's, Blake School, and Woodbury High School. Girl Up, a United Nations Foundation initiative, empowers girls and women by providing access to education, healthcare, and leadership opportunities.

"This work matters to me because I believe a leader plays a pivotal role as a change agent for underrepresented communities—a voice for those without resources or advocacy in a world where change happens far too slowly," said Sienna.

Sienna is unapologetically ambitious.

Known MPLS ENTERTAINMENT

The choral ensemble, formed in late 2019 as part of Voicez, Inc., a nonprofit music organization, aims to train future singers and composers in the Twin Cities. Known MPLS's Creative Director, Courtland Pickens, uses performance-based education to inspire youth, foster self-esteem, leadership, cultural awareness, discipline, and a commitment to excellence.

Since its start, Known MPLS has shared the stage with renowned artists including Fred Hammond, Hezekiah Walker, Israel Houghton on the Festival of Praise Tour, and Shane & Shane for a National Live TV Broadcast. They've performed at various venues, including with the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra at Ordway Theater and at The Armory for the Annual Music for the Holidays Concert. Other live events include the Minneapolis Urban League Gala and MLK Breakfast at St. Cloud State University.



powerful!



# Live! AUCTION ITEMS



## 1 A Suite Power Lunch with Lynx Power Couple

Donated by: Carley Knox and Cheryl Reeve, David Fhima, and the Minnesota Timberwolves & Lynx

The winner and a guest will be hosted by Chef David Fhima at Fhima's in Minneapolis with Ann Bancroft Foundation Executive Director, Ethelind Kaba, for a private power lunch with Minnesota Lynx Head Coach and President of Basketball Operations, Cheryl Reeve, and Lynx President of Business Operations, Carley Knox. Hear from the 4-time WNBA Champion Minnesota Lynx leadership, the 4-time WNBA Coach of the Year, 2-time Basketball Executive of the Year, and the 2024 Twin Cities Pride Grand Marshall and Ann Bancroft Foundation long-time board member! Additionally, the winner and friends will enjoy a Minnesota Lynx 12-person suite for an upcoming 2025 regular season game, along with a \$500 food and beverage credit! This exclusive and once in a lifetime package is **valued at over \$20,000**.

## 3 Viking 8-Day European River Cruise for Two Guests

Donated by: Viking

The winner, and a guest, will embark on a 2025 or 2026 Viking European 8-day river cruise. Viking is renowned for their elegant, award-winning ships which allow guests to explore iconic cities, charming villages, ancient vineyards, and savor local cuisine. The winner will select from one of six spectacular itineraries with choices including the Danube, Paris & the Heart of Normandy, Rhine Getaway, and more! This package also includes guest meals, shore excursions, and tours and accommodations in a Viking standard stateroom.

Value \$7,398

## 2 Dinner with James Beard Nominee, Chef Ahmed, and Mezcal Tasting

Donated by: Ann Ahmed, Lisa and Nick Brezonik and Mary and Greg Sumners

James Beard-nominated Chef Ann Ahmed will prepare a private dinner for eight guests in the beautiful Minneapolis home of Annual Celebration Co-Chair, Lisa Brezonik, husband Nick, and Mary and Greg Sumners. Chef Ahmed is the owner of Minnesota's only restaurant to make the *New York Times*' 2023 list of America's 50 Best Restaurants. While the meal is prepared, the group will expand their knowledge of the spirits showing up on all of the mixologist menus. Guests will sample six different kinds of Mezcal and enjoy four different Mezcal cocktails. Cheers!

Value \$8,150

## 4 Katy Perry Lifetimes Concert and Transportation

Donated by: Sears Imported Autos and Target Center

The winner will receive 12 tickets to watch Grammy-nominated Katy Perry from a Target Center suite as she performs on May 13th, 2025. Katy has scored nine number one songs on Billboard's Hot 100 and three number one albums on Billboard's 200 in her illustrious career. She's known around the world for her catchy, anthemic songs. All 12 guests will be transported in style and the utmost comfort to and from the concert in a lavish sprinter van.

Value \$3,500

## GLEN FLADEBOE AUCTIONEER

Glen Fladeboe, Principal Partner and Auctioneer of Fladeboe Advancement, attended the World Wide College of Auctioneering in Mason City, Iowa immediately after graduating high school and has been part of the Fladeboe family business ever since. With over 25 years of experience as a professional auctioneer and fundraiser, he has been instrumental in building Fladeboe Advancement into a premier benefit auction and fundraising strategy consulting company. He credits the success of the business to his exceptional staff, time spent consulting with and getting to know clients, and a company philosophy that says, "if you focus on the mission of the organization, people will be inspired and support the cause."



Glen is unapologetically

authentic

## 5 One Week Stay in Mexican Villa for Six Guests

Donated by: Jane and Steve Cutler

Escape for a week to Villa la Chaya in Playa del Carmen, an exceptional three-story beach retreat featuring three bedrooms, three baths, and a private garden with a pool in an exclusive gated community. Guests can utilize the fully equipped kitchen which opens onto its own patio for al fresco dining and barbecuing. Villa la Chaya is mere steps from the best beach in Playa del Carmen – one of the most beautiful in the world. Stroll to town and experience world-class restaurants, nightlife, and shopping and all the Yucatán peninsula has to offer! Villa sleeps up to 6 guests and is available for one week between May 15-November 15, 2025.

Value \$5,600

## 6 6Smith Opulence Dinner for Six Guests

Donated by: 6Smith and Sears Imported Autos

The winner will tap into luxury with a Mercedes vehicle rental for a long weekend (Friday-Monday). Mercedes vehicles are known for setting a high standard in luxury, safety, performance, prestige, and advanced technology. Arrive in style at 6Smith in Wayzata on beautiful Lake Minnetonka for an Opulence Dinner of prime steak, seafood and lobster, and more! This is a four-course family style feast for up to 6 guests in one of 6Smith's private rooms. Guests will also have a mixologist pairing cocktails and specially selected luxury wines with their meal. All food, labor, tax & gratuity included.

Restriction: Vehicle drivers must be at least 25 years old, must have valid driver's license and proof of insurance.

Value \$4,000

## 7 Queen's View Bed & Breakfast in Bayfield, WI

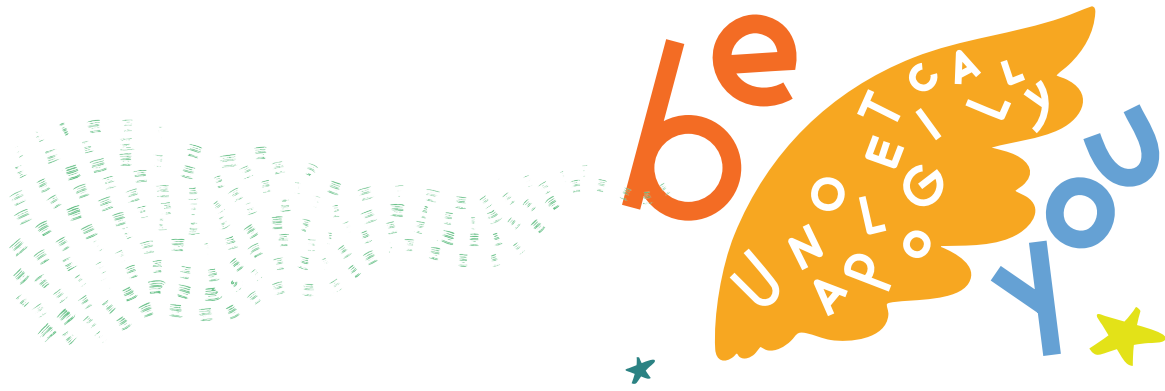
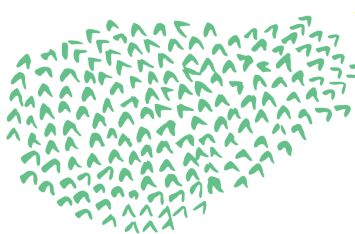
Donated by: Queen's View Bed & Breakfast

The winner receives a two night's stay for 14 guests in Queen's View Bed & Breakfast, a 7-bedroom historic hilltop estate overlooking Lake Superior in beautiful Bayfield, WI. Guests will experience sweeping views of the Apostle Islands, indulge in breakfast prepared onsite, and complimentary wine and charcuterie for one afternoon. Unwind on the wrap-around porch, dip your feet in the heated plunge pool, and wander the exquisite gardens before sight-seeing in Bayfield.

Value \$4,850



dream!



SPONSORS

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PIONEER



EXPLORER



ADVENTURER



JOHN SULLIVAN



PERFORCE



BMW OF MINNETONKA



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AUCTION, GIFT CARD, AND WINE DONORS

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Michelle Saatzer  
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Minnesota Frost  
Minnesota Historical Society  
Minnesota Landscape Arboretum  
Minnesota Lynx & Timberwolves  
Minnesota Orchestra  
Minnesota Roller Derby  
Minnesota Twins  
Minnesota Zoo Foundation  
Mitrebox Framing Studio  
MN Opera  
MT Feeders  
Nedia  
Nicole Fae LLC  
NineBloom  
Nothing Bundt Cakes  
Olive Garden

OMNI Viking Lakes  
OMNI Winery & Taproom  
Park Tavern  
Patina Stores  
Penumbra Theatre  
Pink Ivy Kitchen and Bar  
Pizza Luce  
Potekglass  
Public Lands  
Pumphouse Creamery  
R.F. Moeller  
Raising Cane's Chicken Fingers  
Red Cow  
Red Wing Shoe Company  
Riverview Theater  
Ronald A. Zamansky  
Royal Sonesta Hotel  
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Sarah Stout Miller  
Scheels Eden Prairie  
Sota Clothing  
Spavia  
Spyhouse Coffee Roasters  
St. Paul Saints Baseball Club  
Sweet Martha's Cookie Jar  
Tangletown Gardens  
Target Center  
Teresa Bruckner  
Texas Roadhouse Apple Valley  
The Grocer's Table  
The O.G. Coffee and Wine Bar  
The Renaissance Minneapolis Depot  
The Works Museum  
Tin Cup Design  
Tonkadale Greenhouse  
Topgolf Brooklyn Center  
Toro Company Foundation  
Total Wine & More  
Treasure Island Resort & Casino  
Triple S Woodcrafts  
Twin Cities In Motion  
Twin Cities Wine Education and Solo Vino  
Twin City Model Railroad Museum  
Union 32 Craft House  
USA Inflatables  
Veda Pai-Panandiker  
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LOFFLER

be UNAPOLOGETICALLY  
clear you

2025 ANNUAL CELEBRATION TABLE HOSTS

Alice Johnson, Amy Crawford  
and Friends  
Andy Steiner-Manning  
Angie Boelter and Kary Henri  
Ann Bancroft  
Ethelind B. Kaba  
Jill Romans

Jill Tokarczyk and Leah Masonick  
Joanne Grobe  
Joyce Spehar and Jill Pohzilla  
Julie Alkatout  
Kelly McNamara  
Kris Petersen  
Lisa Brezonik

Maribeth Romslo  
Mike and Amy Ruetz  
Pahoua Hoffman  
RSM  
Sara Armstrong-Nathan  
Sara Porter  
Sarah Strehl

EVENT COMMITTEE

Lisa Brezonik, Co-Chair  
Kris Petersen, Co-Chair  
Amy Eppen  
Amy Ebel  
Dr. Gigi Chawla

Ethelind B. Kaba  
Grace Schreder  
Joanne Grobe  
Kate Pearce  
Ki Kuhnly | Rosetree Events

Leah Masonick  
Leila Keita  
Paloma Rodrigues |  
Rosetree Events  
JP Porter

Robert Radtke  
Ruth Maynard  
Sara Janz

Ann Bancroft  
FOUNDATION

SUPPORTING A GIRL TODAY STRENGTHENS OUR COMMUNITY NOW, AND INTO THE FUTURE.  
WE ACHIEVE OUR MISSION BY PROVIDING GRANTS, MENTORSHIP, AND ONGOING  
DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES TO KINDERGARTEN-12TH GRADE GIRLS IN MINNESOTA.

Our heartfelt thanks to each and every guest in attendance tonight – donors, sponsors, Board of Directors, current grantees and alumna, parents, activity partners, staff, volunteers, and more! Your devotion to celebrating Minnesota girls being unapologetically themselves deepens our resolve to advancing this work. TOGETHER, we share the honor and privilege of uplifting girls from all corners of the state and ensuring they have ample resources to pursue their goals and dreams.

Tonight, in honor  
of Madeline, Sienna,  
and Coach Reeve,  
we ask you to  
make a financial  
contribution  
using the QR code  
and click on  
“Donate.”



ADDITIONAL WAYS TO DEMONSTRATE YOUR COMMITMENT TO  
THE ANN BANCROFT FOUNDATION:

- Check with your employer as many businesses provide matching gifts to nonprofit organizations. Double your impact!
- Personal checks made payable to the Ann Bancroft Foundation can be sent to: Ann Bancroft Foundation, 2356 University Ave. W., #404, St. Paul, MN 55114 and note “Annual Event” in the memo section.
- Set up a convenient recurring monthly gift providing a steady stream of revenue for grants and operations. To get started, go to: annbancroftfoundation.org and click on “Give Now.”
- Commit to including the Ann Bancroft Foundation in your will, trust, or other estate-planning instrument. Legacy Society members designate a portion of their estate, either a percentage or a specific dollar amount, to the Ann Bancroft Foundation.

Please contact Amy Eppen, Development Director at AmyE@annbancroftfoundation.org or (612) 361-8191 if you are interested or have questions.

Thank you again for providing excellent, meaningful opportunities and resources for Ann Bancroft Foundation grantees empowering them to uncover and chase their passions and be unapologetically themselves.

“We want our girls to think about life down the road and what it is they want to do and how it is they want to be in the world. When a girl has confidence, everything is possible. Everything. And we can’t even dream how big that possibility is for a girl. And that’s the way it should be. For all of us.”

ANN BANCROFT, FOUNDER

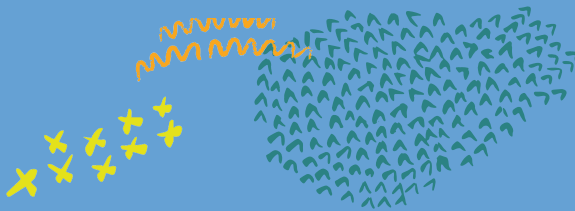
2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ann Bancroft, Founder & Director Emerita  
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Lee Vue, Vice Chair  
LaCora Bradford Kesti, Secretary  
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Grace Schreder, Operations Administrator  
Lauren Skar, Program Manager



# dreamers WANTED:

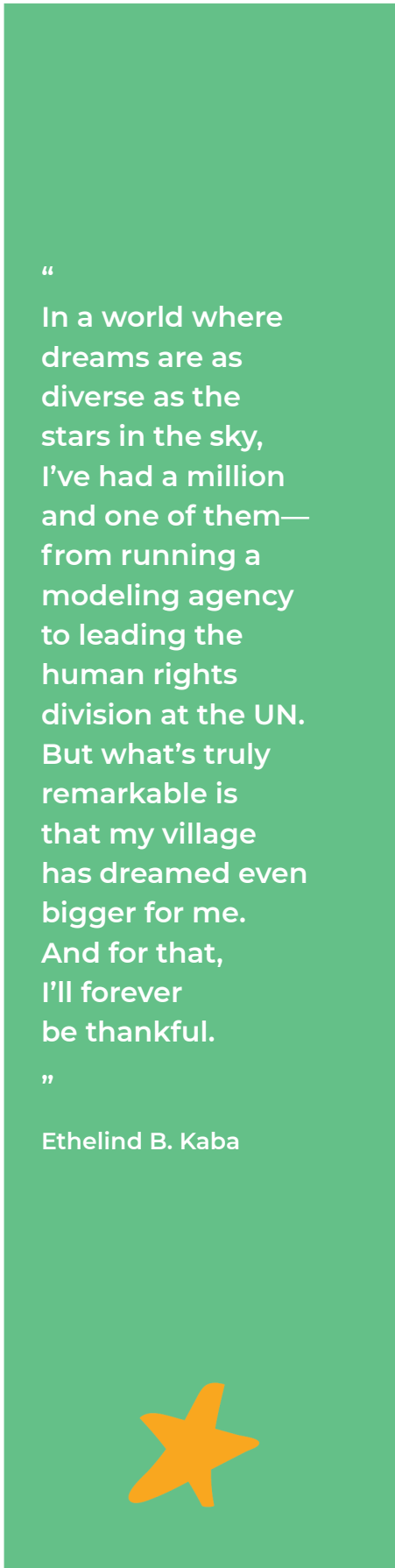


“  
My big, bold dream is to make it to the Paralympics on the US Para Nordic/Biathlon team. This season I accomplished my goal to race in my first international para Nordic skiing competition.  
”

Adelaide, 16, Washington County

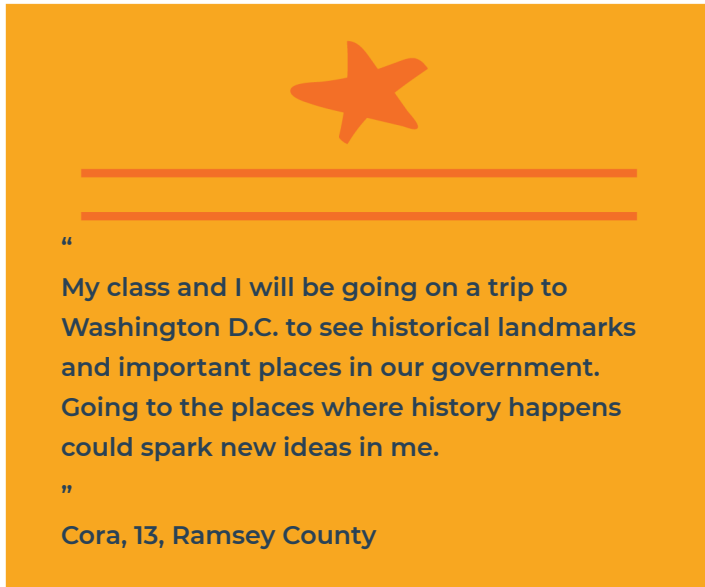
“  
My big dream is to reduce the gender gap across all areas of technology and promote equality at every level, especially the executive leadership level. I'm very passionate about encouraging other students, especially girls, to participate in STEM activities to reduce the gender gap in technology.  
”

Advika, 16, Dakota County



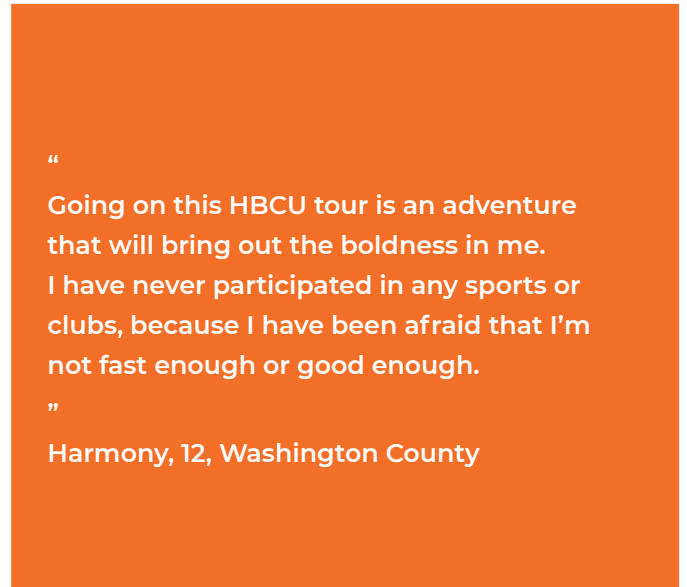
“  
In a world where dreams are as diverse as the stars in the sky, I've had a million and one of them—from running a modeling agency to leading the human rights division at the UN. But what's truly remarkable is that my village has dreamed even bigger for me. And for that, I'll forever be thankful.  
”

Ethelind B. Kaba



“  
My class and I will be going on a trip to Washington D.C. to see historical landmarks and important places in our government. Going to the places where history happens could spark new ideas in me.  
”

Cora, 13, Ramsey County



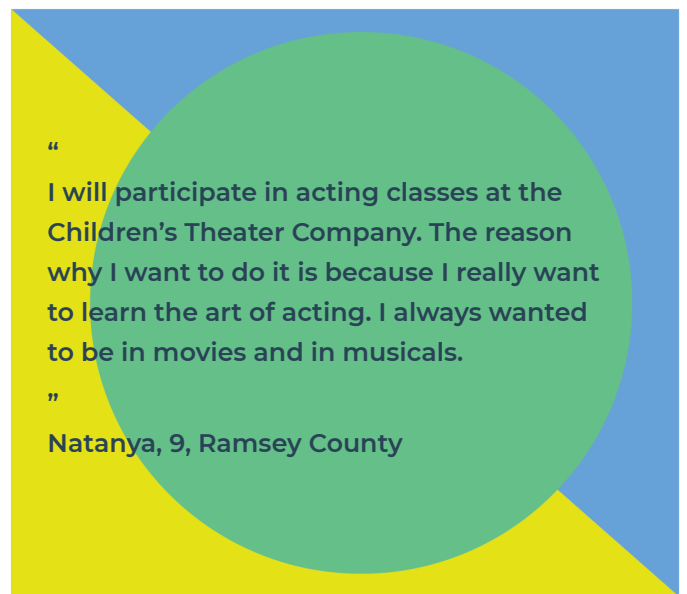
“  
Going on this HBCU tour is an adventure that will bring out the boldness in me. I have never participated in any sports or clubs, because I have been afraid that I'm not fast enough or good enough.  
”

Harmony, 12, Washington County



“  
I would like to participate in these classes because I want to show people the beautiful things that I make and encourage others to make their own beautiful clothes. I want people, especially women, to preserve their clothes and alter them to fit their bodies rather than change their bodies to fit into clothes.  
”

Henri, 11, Hennepin County



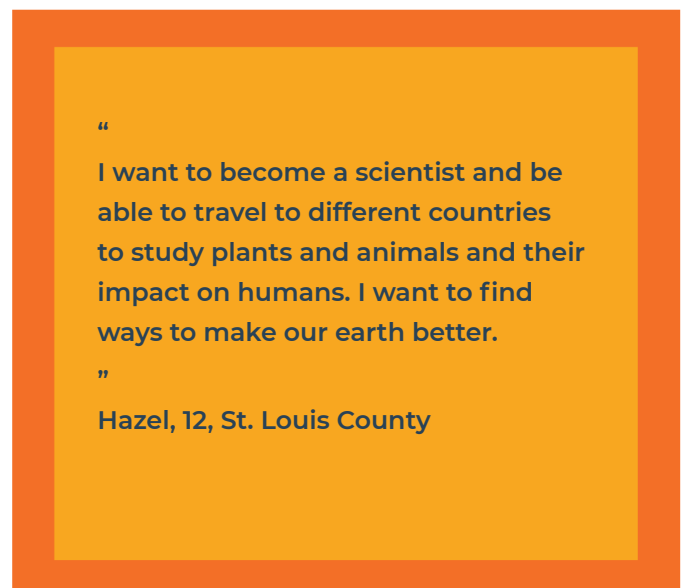
“  
I will participate in acting classes at the Children's Theater Company. The reason why I want to do it is because I really want to learn the art of acting. I always wanted to be in movies and in musicals.  
”

Natanya, 9, Ramsey County



“  
My dream is to one day climb mountains all around the world. I want to see amazing views, meet new people, and have unique experiences.  
”

Abby, 17, Hennepin County



“  
I want to become a scientist and be able to travel to different countries to study plants and animals and their impact on humans. I want to find ways to make our earth better.  
”

Hazel, 12, St. Louis County