

2023

Annual Report





Khani Sahebjam President

In 2023, I had the privilege of serving as the president of MSES, and it was an incredible year filled with numerous achievements that will continue to strengthen our organization. One of the key accomplishments was the partnership between MSES, WBS, and SRF to develop a strategic planning roadmap. I am thrilled to announce that we are now moving from strategic planning to the final phase of execution. Read on for further details regarding the progress of the rebranding initiative and what's next.

Our members have played a vital role in achieving these successes. Membership has continued to increase for two years in a row, and we had the highest turnout at the spring golf outing. We also enjoyed the fall outing, which was an excellent opportunity to connect with our sponsors, partners, and industry peers.

I am proud to be part of an organization that gives back to the industry. With the addition of the 125th funds, we were able to support more students by teaming up with industry partners to give out more scholarship funds than ever before. Please read on to see the list of MSES scholarship recipients and the additional scholarships that MSES supported.

We could not have achieved so much without the help of our members. Therefore, I want to express my gratitude to the board of directors, volunteers, committee chairs, and committee members who make up this dynamic organization. Let us celebrate the accomplishments we have achieved together.

Khani Sahebjam
2023 President

Our Mission

Established in 1895, MSES is a professional non-profit organization dedicated to investing in Minnesota transportation infrastructure professionals. With over 600 members spanning the public and private sector fields, MSES members contribute professionally as engineers, surveyors, planners, technicians, administrators, sales representatives, contractors, and construction personnel.

Investing in Minnesota Transportation Infrastructure Professionals ensures continued industry excellence, innovation, integrity, and leadership through:

- Attracting and Building Tomorrow's Leaders
- The MSES Annual Scholarship Program awards scholarships to deserving college students who demonstrate strong academic performance along with an interest in working in the Minnesota transportation infrastructure industry.
- Connecting and Engaging Professionals
- MSES values the importance of connecting industry professionals through a variety of networking, social, and educational events offered throughout the year.
- Developing and Growing Meaningful Relationships
- MSES members improve their current industry effectiveness through camaraderie fostered by active event participation, volunteer service, and fundraising opportunities.



Our Accomplishments

- Highest ever turnout for our Spring Golf Outing – 286 people
- Great turnout for our annual Fall Outing – 254 people
- Increased membership numbers again! (2020 – 611; 2021- 547; 2022 – 618; 2023 - 658)
- The 125th Invest fund, created out of the 125th Anniversary Effort, began investing in additional students and DEI work – \$13,500 and 2024 will be \$20,000
- Gave away \$34,000 to 17 deserving students through the Scholarship Program
- 1045 people attended MSES events in 2023
- Future Strategic Planning Efforts began in Fall of 2023





Board Members

- Khani Sahebjam, President
- Chris Kufner, Past President
- John Crawford, Second Past President
- Mike McCurdy, Vice President
- Brad Estochen, Secretary/Treasurer
- Keith Farquhar, Membership Committee Chair
- Gus Perron, Emerging Professionals Chair
- Kelly Agosto, Scholarship Chair
- Wendy Schmidt, Events Chair

Committee Chairs

Membership Committee

Keith Farquhar, Chair
Justin Sebens, Vice Chair

Fall Outing Committee

Mike McCurdy, Chair
Heidi Sedlacek, Vice Chair

Spring Golf Outing Committee

Evan Schnitker, Chair
Nik Costello, Vice-Chair

Winter Event Committee

Wendy Schmidt, Chair
Travis Reff, Vice-Chair

Scholarship Committee

Kelly Agosto, Chair
Jake Bongard, Vice Chair

125th Invest Fund

Mike McCurdy, Co-Chair
Chris Kufner, Co-Chair

Emerging Professionals Committee

Gus Perron, Chair
Dick Chng, Vice-Chair



Financials

Members	658
Membership Dues Revenue	\$23,320
Expenses	\$121,404.77
Total Revenue	\$134,294.41
Blaze 125th Investment Fund	\$173,110
Blaze Checking	\$41,538
Blaze Savings	\$5.00
US Bank Legacy Trust	\$841,192
TOTAL ASSETS	\$1,055,845

Scholarship Program

MSES is honored to congratulate each of the following 17 scholarship recipients, reflecting a total of \$34,000 awarded for the 2023-2024 academic year.

South Dakota State University

- Hunter Williamette**
- Ryan Borris

Minnesota State University Mankato

- Raissa Natacha Ineza
- Will Tracey

Iowa State University

- Ryan Millington
- Savannah Larocque

University of Minnesota - Duluth

- John Van Kempen
- Julia Olson
- Owen Wikstrom

North Dakota State University

- Katrina Dietz**

University of Minnesota Twin Cities

- Hans Lagerquist
- Ian McPhee***
- Kenny Hoang

University of St. Thomas

- Olivia Ohnstad
- Laura Hernandez Cancelado*

University of Wisconsin - Madison

- Casey Nill

St. Cloud State University

- Harley Smith

Each year the scholarship committee highlights winners of these scholarships to honor the recipient and the wishes of the donors. The designation comes with high distinction.

*Winner of the McGray Scholarship Designation

** Winner of the Ulland Scholarship Designation

*** Winner of the Weinel Scholarship Designation





It was a great year!

Thank you

Thank You to our 2023 Volunteers!

Board Members
Committee Members
Scholarship Interviewers
Event Volunteers
Financial Donors
Event Sponsors
Strategic Planning Volunteers
125th Advisory Committee Volunteers

Connect

BEFORE YOU GO, BECOME A MEMBER!

We'd love to welcome you to the MSES family, please reach out or visit mSES.org to sign up today! We can't fulfill our mission without dedicated people like you!

Follow us on social media! Like, share and comment on MSES posts and events.



We encourage you to use #MSES when you share and post!