

THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND
FOUNDATION & ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT



IMPACT REPORT

Rising Stars, Inspiring Leaders:
The Women Transforming Women Endowed Scholarship Fund

FALL 2023



WHY I GIVE TO THE WOMEN TRANSFORMING WOMEN SCHOLARSHIP

URI provided me with the tools to start my career on Wall Street. I want to make it easier for today's students to afford the same education and experiences."

Wendy P. Field '74, Member, Women's Philanthropy Circle, a dynamic community of top female philanthropists, who have supported URI with investments of \$100,000 or more.



Inspiring the Next Generation of Leaders

The Women Transforming Women Scholarship was established in 2006 to empower top female-identified students to work hard, get involved, and expand their skills and interests. Our deserving recipients aim high, excel academically, and bring credit to the University of Rhode Island. As you will see in this report, the impact of the Women Transforming Women Scholarship extends far beyond the University. These recipients and the inspiring women who support them are making their mark in business, the arts, and in society.



Today's Achievers...

Ibiolatiwa Akomolafe '24

"My goal is to get my master's in Labor Relations and Human Resources, which I will be obtaining at URI through their accelerated program. Here at URI, I am a part of a student organization called P.I.N.K. Women. This stands for Powerful, Independent, Notoriously Knowledgeable Women. Being a part of this organization has taught me so much about networking, giving back to the community, and putting your best foot forward in academics. In addition, I helped establish URI's first Arts and Crafts Club and served on the executive board as the Vice President. In my free time, I enjoy reading and writing poetry and meditating to help relieve stress. This scholarship opportunity has impacted me positively because it has removed a financial barrier that I thought could potentially deter me from pursuing my college education. Also, receiving this scholarship has motivated me to do my best academically. Thank you for believing in me and gifting me this opportunity."

...Tomorrow's Leaders

Aria Mia Loberti '20
Actress. Writer. Human Rights Advocate. Fulbright and Women Transforming Women Scholarship Recipient.



Aria Mia Loberti's star has risen farther and faster since we last profiled her as a Women Transforming Women Scholarship recipient in 2020. Since then, she landed the lead role in Netflix's new series, *All the Light We Cannot See*, based on the Pulitzer Prize-winning novel by Anthony Doerr. Loberti landed the role of Marie-Laure after a global search. She bested thousands in auditions to be cast in the internationally sought-after role, which marks her acting debut. In addition to her acting career, Loberti is pursuing a Ph.D. in ancient rhetoric at Penn State, after receiving her master's with distinction from the University of London on a Fulbright Scholarship. As a URI undergraduate, she tripled majored in philosophy, political science, and communication studies, while minoring in rhetoric and Ancient Greek. While at URI, Loberti, an advocate for people with disabilities and women's rights, was selected as the first legally blind youth delegate at the United Nations. She began speaking out for disability rights at just four years old and has since presented at several large forums, including TEDxURI.

Women Transforming Women Scholarship: Impact at-a-Glance



\$113,147
total market
value of scholarship
endowment

173
total
contributors

\$20,019
total amount
awarded



13
scholarship
recipients

THANK YOU.

The students, faculty, and alumni of the University have benefited significantly from your generosity.

We are grateful for the opportunity to work with you in advancing higher education. URI will continue to serve the state of Rhode Island as we expand our reach across the U.S. and around the world through education and research.



Scan to give to the Women Transforming Women
Endowed Scholarship Fund
or go to alumni.uri.edu/wtwfund

Big Ideas. Bold Plans.

The Campaign for the University of Rhode Island