

2023

Annual REPORT



PRESENTED BY

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2023: A YEAR OF GROWTH



The MAC Foundation, Inc. is proud to present its Annual Report for the fiscal year 2023. We made significant strides in establishing new programs and forging strategic partnerships:

- **Establishment of the MAC Foundation Scholarship Fund:** Providing 12 scholarships of \$1000 each in to BIPOC refugee, and immigrant students pursuing degrees in Accounting, Finance, Law, and STEM fields.
- **Launch of the Umoja Unity Forums:** A platform dedicated to fostering unity, collaboration, and fellowship among African immigrants and African American communities.
- **Expanded Partnerships:** Engaged in strategic partnerships with over a 100 businesses and organizations, strengthening our network and expanding our reach.

Karine Sokpoh

Karine Sokpoh

President, MAC Foundation, Inc.
CEO, Midlands African Chamber, Inc.



Mission & Vision

Mission

The MAC Foundation is the fundraising arm of the Midlands African Chamber organized as a 501(c)(3) corporation exclusively for charitable, educational, and cultural purposes in the state of Nebraska.

Our mission at the MAC Foundation is to connect, empower, and elevate underrepresented entrepreneurs.

Vision

Equal Economic Opportunity for all

We envision a world where we can help empower, connect, and elevate underserved entrepreneurs and promote cultural awareness, diversity, equity and inclusion. Our commitment to these goals drives our work and shapes our strategies.

Board

Karine Sokpoh, President
Jordan Young, Secretary
Dr. Albert Kate, Treasurer
Tierra Nesbit, Member at Large
Obiozor Okolo, Board Member at Large
Dr. Matthew Omojola, Member at Large



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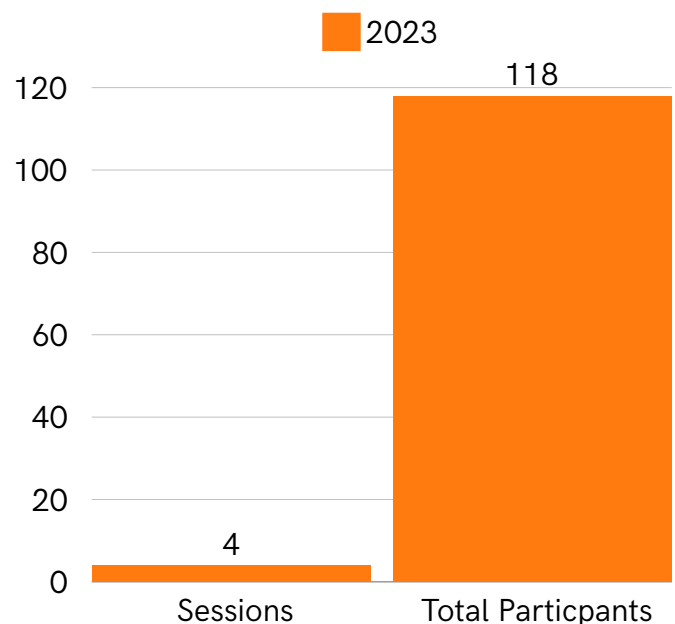
Success Starts Here



The MAC Foundation’s Suit Up Program is dedicated to empowering young men and women from underserved communities to achieve economic independence. Our comprehensive approach provides a supportive network, professional attire, headshots, and essential job readiness training. By focusing on the Black, Brown, immigrant, and refugee communities, we aim to create opportunities, inspire future leaders, and cultivate a diverse and thriving workforce. In 2023, we served 118 participants over 4 sessions in collaboration with over 24 community partners.

Participation and Demographics

Label	%
Black/African American	85.7
White/Caucasian	3.57
Native American	3.57
Mixed	3.57
Hispanic	3.57



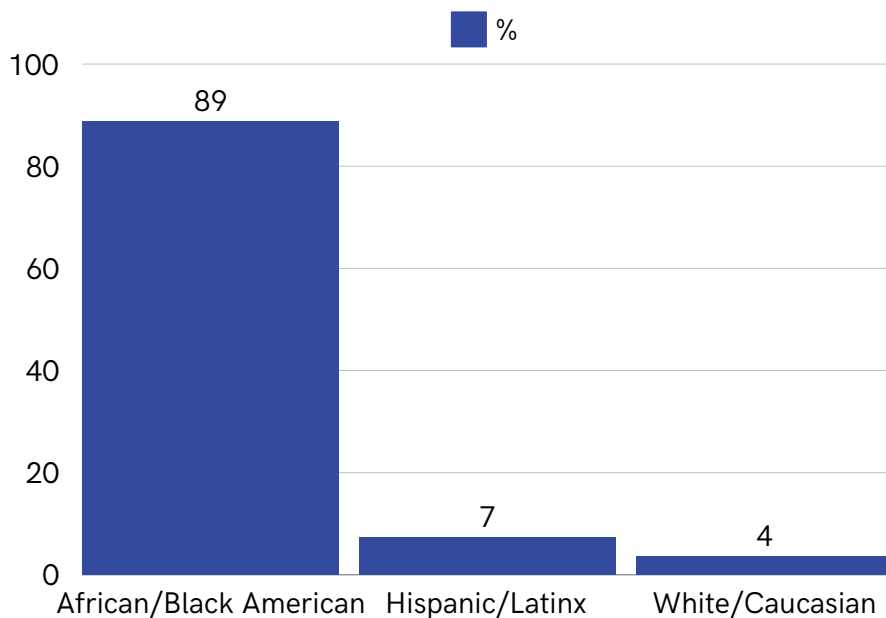


- All participants were new to entrepreneurship, and 44.44% driven by a desire to learn about business.
- The majority found the program highly relevant (66.67% rated it 5)
- All participants agreed the program helped them achieve their business goals, particularly and 66.67% noted the impact of sessions with Bank of America.
- 100% of parents said their child became more confident in public speaking and presenting their ideas after participating in the Rising CEO's Program.

Rising CEOs is a leadership and entrepreneurship program for BIPOC, refugees, immigrant, and underserved youth, ages 14-19.

It fosters entrepreneurial spirit, technology skills, college preparation and leadership development, aiming to inspire future minority entrepreneurs and contribute to a more inclusive economy.

Since inception, 36 youth have taken part in the 10 weeks program building their business plans and pitch decks and participating in financial literacy and leadership training workshops.

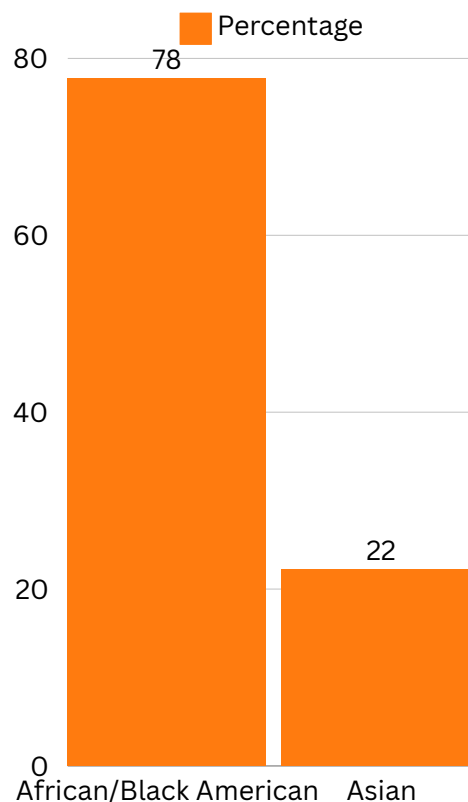


ANNOUNCING THE MAC FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS



The MAC Foundation Scholarships were established to support Black, refugee, and immigrant high school seniors and college students pursuing degrees in Accounting, Finance, Law, and STEM fields.

We are committed to providing financial assistance to deserving students who demonstrate academic excellence and a passion for their chosen disciplines.

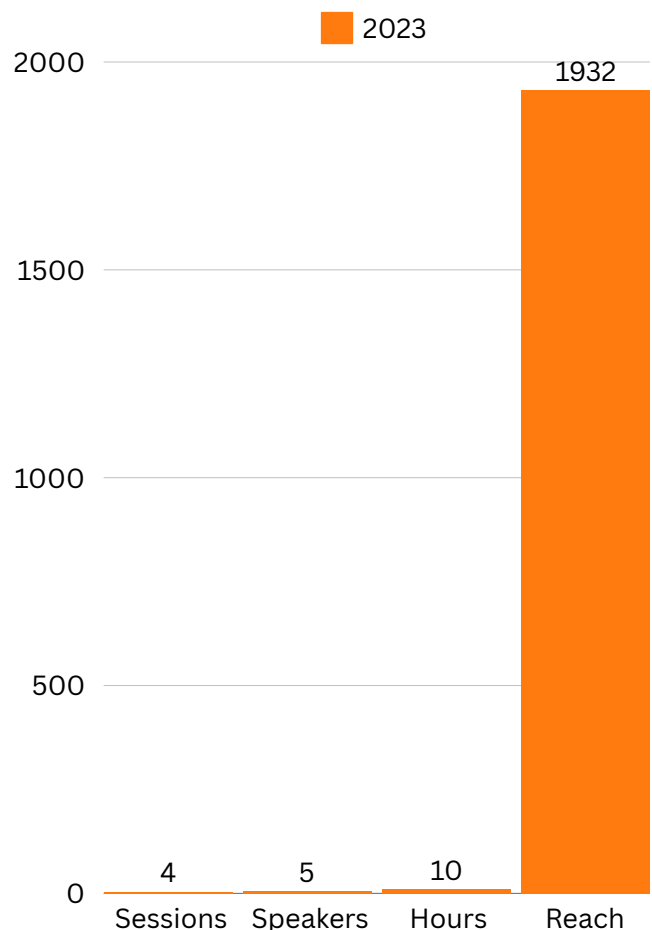


- 77.78% of recipients used the scholarship for tuition, housing, and books, while 22.22% found it relieved financial stress, helping them focus on their studies.
- 75% of recipients received additional scholarships, such as the Bobby Byars Foundation and WTS Women in Transportation, highlighting how the MAC Foundation Scholarship fueled further academic success.
- 22.22% of recipients plan to advance in the medical field, while 11.11% aim to pursue a master's in city and regional planning, focusing on urban development.



Umoja Unity Forums

The MAC Foundation's Umoja program is dedicated to strengthening the bonds between African American and African immigrant communities in the Midwest. Recognizing the power of unity and collaboration, we believe that by bringing these communities together, we can create a more powerful force for positive change.

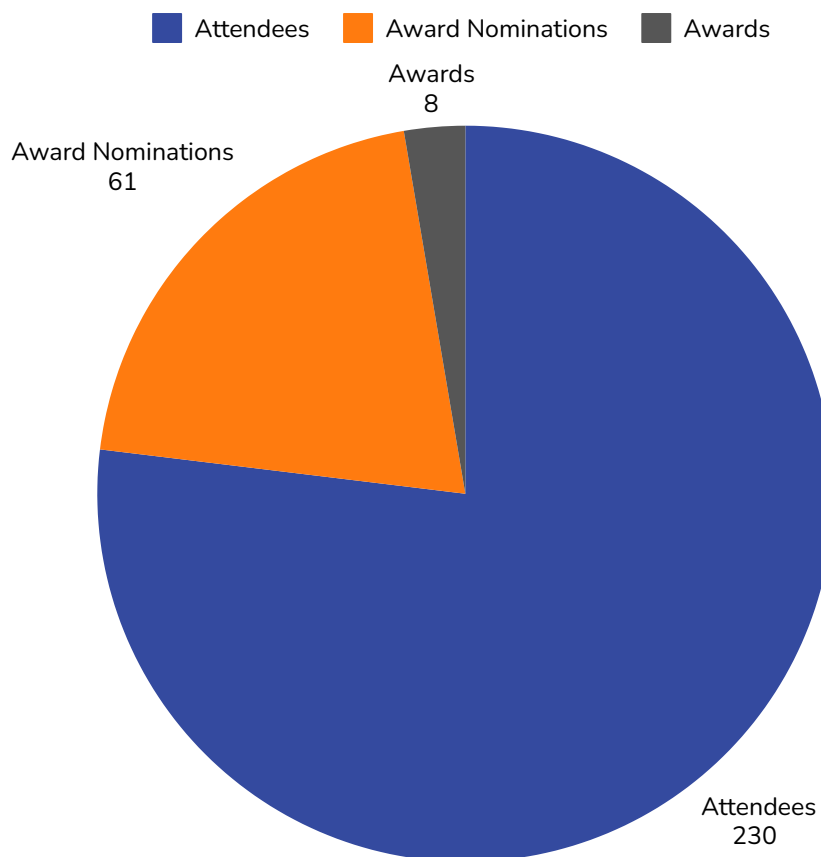




2023 Awardees

- **Founders Award:** Adama Sawadogo - African Immigrant Family Services, Inc.
- **MAC Champion:** Jim Reiff - Nebraska Enterprise Fund
- **Small Business of the Year:** Sarah Videgla - Kreative Ways LLC
- **Inclusion Leader Award:** Hayes & Associates, LLC - Frank Hayes
- **Philanthropic Star of the Year:** Room for Roots - Bridgett Belsky
- **Large Business of the Year:** Wells Fargo - Cristina V. Castro Mutakewicz
- **Volunteer of the Year:** Lena Riley - LinkedIn
- **President's Volunteer Services Award:** Oluseyi Olowolafe- Olo Law

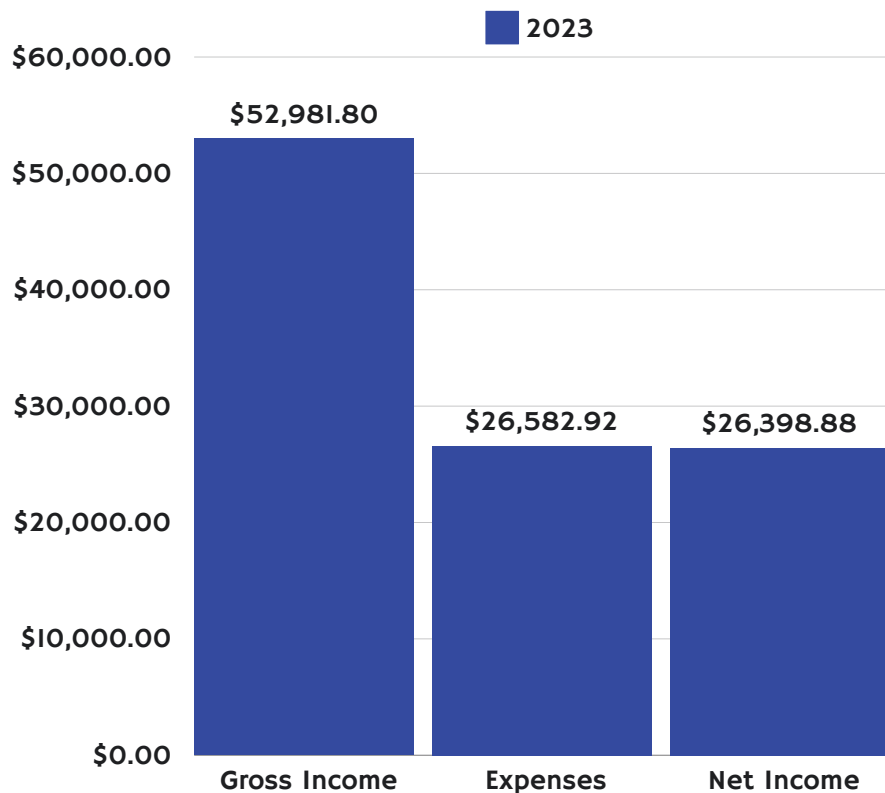
The Gratitude Gala serves as a powerful platform for recognizing exceptional individuals and organizations, while also serving as a significant fundraising event for both the MAC Foundation and the Midlands African Chamber Inc.





Financial Performance

As the fiscal arm of the Midlands African Chamber Inc., the MAC Foundation played a pivotal role in securing funding, managing resources, and ensuring financial transparency for the organization. In 2023, the Foundation achieved the following financial milestones:



- Gross Income:** The Foundation generated a total gross income of \$ 52,981.80 from Fundraising, Grants, and Sponsorships.
- Expenses:** Operating expenses for the year amounted to \$26,582.92
- Net Income:** The Foundation achieved a net income of \$26,398.88 demonstrating a healthy financial position.

Donor Recognition

As we continue to build the MAC Foundation, we extend our deepest gratitude to our donors and supporters who made our work possible this year.



United Way
of the Midlands



LAW OFFICE OF
CHRISTOPHER ODIGBO





Looking Ahead

As we look ahead, the MAC Foundation is committed to expanding our reach and deepening our impact on the communities we serve. Building upon the success of our existing programs, we aim to:

- **Strengthen the Umoja Program:** Foster even stronger connections and collaborations between African American and African immigrant communities through expanded Umoja initiatives.
- **Increase MAC Foundation Scholarships:** Award more scholarships to deserving students, providing them with the financial support they need to achieve their academic goals.
- **Enhance the Member Emergency Fund:** Expand our capacity to offer greater assistance to members facing financial hardship.
- **Expand Our Team:** Hire additional staff to increase our operational efficiency and improve our ability to serve our members.
- **Diversify Fundraising Efforts:** Explore new fundraising opportunities to secure sustainable funding and support our growth.
- **Develop Innovative Programs:** Create new initiatives that address emerging needs and challenges within our community.



As we reflect on 2023, we are deeply grateful for the unwavering support of our donors, partners, and community. Your generosity and dedication have been essential in helping us achieve our goals and create meaningful change. Whether through financial contributions, volunteering, or sharing your expertise, each act of support has made a lasting impact.

2023 Rising CEOs Winners

First Place: Bristol Ebeigbe

Runner_Up: Ryan Dawo

Follow us



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Thank You!

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