

IKE INSIGHT

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You Did It!

IKEducation Goes Global with \$25,000 Matching Gift

IKEducation is finding new and exciting ways to serve students during the fall semester of the 2021-22 academic year. So far, IKE Online, our virtual K-12 education program, has reached 11 states and 3 countries. Additionally, IKE Express is taking programs into classrooms throughout the state of Kansas. This global growth would not be possible without the support from donors across the country.

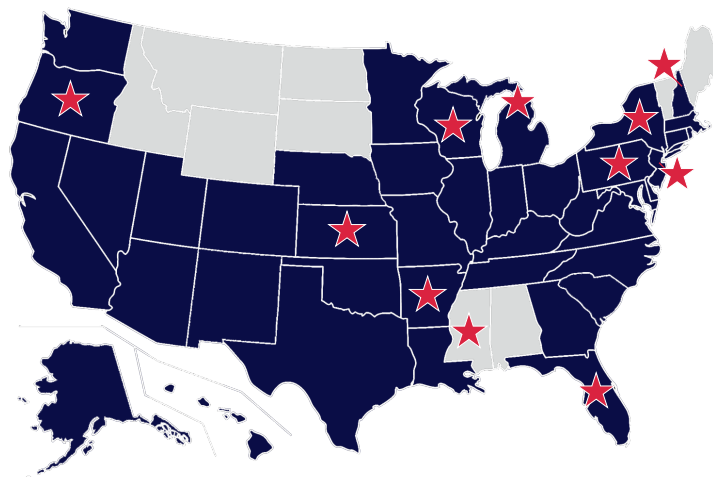
In November 2021, we announced a special \$25,000 matching gift opportunity to help fund IKEducation during this current academic year. True to form, our supporters responded and the \$25,000 match was secured. Gifts were received from 40 states and Washington, D.C. — a testament to how much Americans still like Ike.

As we look toward a new year with new beginnings, we are confident that the transformation the Eisenhower Foundation has experienced in the last decade is only the start. Over the next months, we will be sharing plans for our organization that will secure the legacy of Dwight D. Eisenhower well into the future.

Together, we are building a movement — an Eisenhower movement — for the 21st century.

Top right: A student painting during a “Little Ike Story Time” program.

Bottom right: IKEducator Maria Nuss facilitates a “Little Ike Story Time” at a local Kansas elementary school.



States where IKEducation programs have been facilitated (red star) and states from which gifts were received (blue).



Meredith's Memo

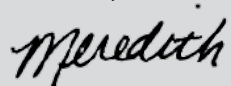
Dear Friends,

Last fall, the Board of Directors held their annual meeting in Washington, D.C. I would like to extend a special thanks to the Eisenhower Institute for hosting us for the business meeting and the Trust for the National Mall for providing a personalized tour of the Eisenhower Memorial.

During the meeting, the board reviewed the five-year strategic plan. Our virtual IKEducation programming has exploded since 2020 which has resulted in reaching classrooms across the U.S. and even other countries. Accordingly, one of the strategic priorities is to explore the Eisenhower Foundation's space needs for both IKEducation and administration so that we can continue to grow and share Ike's legacy.

In that spirit, I am pleased to share that Mr. Robert Tointon provided an exploratory gift to help us do just that. Over the past several months, his gift — in memory of his wife, Betty — has allowed our staff and board to visit best-practice educational facilities to help define our space and technology needs and explore site locations. Now we are in the process of vetting architects to help us conceptualize the space. I look forward to sharing the concept with you in the coming months.

Sincerely,



Meredith Sleichter
Executive Director

Special Recognition

Research Travel Grant Recipients Selected

The Eisenhower Foundation funds and administers a Research Travel Grant Program each year. The program assists scholars' research of primary sources in the Eisenhower Presidential Library, Abilene, Kansas. Grants are awarded to individual researchers on a competitive basis to cover a portion of expenses while in Abilene. The grant applications are reviewed by a committee and awarded according to their subject, presentation, need and writing samples. If a grantee's research results in a thesis, dissertation book or article, a copy of the final product is requested to be submitted to the Eisenhower Foundation with the publication placed in the Eisenhower Presidential Library.

The Presidential Library Research room is presently closed due to COVID-19, but looks forward to reopening in the near future.

2021 grant winners and their topics:

Elizabeth Bishop, Texas

Book: *The Iraqis Expect it of Us, Loy W. Henderson The US Mission to Iraq and Blood Sports*

Austin Schwartz, Michigan

Book: *Newsman: Edward R Morrow and the Invention of Truth*

Robert Williams, Ohio

PhD Dissertation: *The Airborne Mafia: Organizational Culture and Institutional Change in the US Army 1940-1965*

Tristian Williams, West Virginia

PhD Dissertation: *The State in the Middle: Civil Defense in the Cold War West Virginia*

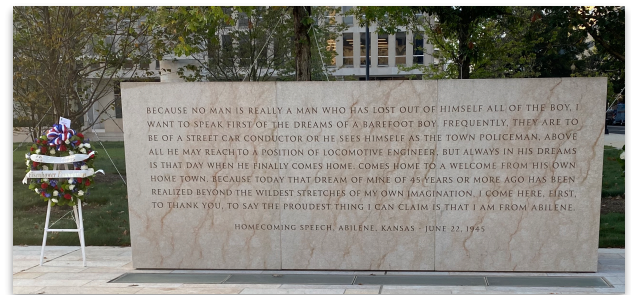
David Vale, Nebraska

Book: *Vulnerable Harvests: Risk and Resiliency in the Cold War Great Plains*

Spotlight Event

Laying of the Wreath Tradition Continues

Since Dwight D. Eisenhower's death in 1969, the Eisenhower Foundation has an annual tradition of laying a wreath at the Place of Meditation — Ike's final resting place in Abilene, Kansas — on his birthday, October 14.



With the completion of the Eisenhower Memorial in Washington D.C., the Eisenhower Foundation has expanded the gesture by including an honorary wreath delivered to the site. This year the patriotic wreath, pictured, was placed near the stone which commemorates Ike's 1945 *Homecoming Speech* in Abilene.

Ike's Soldiers

Corporal H. Marvin Bastian



Marvin grew up in Atwood, Kansas. For his senior year in high school, he attended Kemper Military Academy in Missouri. He then enrolled in the University of Kansas (KU), majoring in business administration and completing two years in the Army ROTC program.

In the fall of 1942, following his third year at KU, Marvin decided to move to Wichita and join the Cessna Aircraft Company. He received training in blueprint reading and became a chief dispatcher in the production control department. At the time, Cessna was building the CG-4, a military glider, and Marvin aspired to join the Army's Glider Corps. Perhaps fate was on his side as he was turned down due to his poor eyesight. The gliders, being made of inexpensive wood and metal, proved to be perilous to those who flew them in the European theatre.

*H. Marvin Bastian served
Dec. 1942 - January 1946.*

Three weeks after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, Marvin was inducted into the Army Air Forces at age 22. He served for three years and 18 days. Most of his time was spent training pilots in a "Link Trainer," a flight simulator made famous during World War II as a key pilot training aid by almost every combatant nation. Created out of the need for a safe way to teach new pilots how to fly by instruments, more than 500,000 U.S. pilots were trained on Link simulators, as were pilots from Australia, Canada, Germany, Great Britain, Israel, Japan and the USSR. Marvin became certified as a Link Trainer Instructor in both instrument flying and celestial navigation. He was assigned to several stations: Chanute Field in Illinois (130 miles south of Chicago); Geiger Field, in Spokane, Washington; and Peterson Field, near Colorado Springs.

Following the Japanese surrender in September 1945, Marvin, perhaps out of a desire to do greater good, joined the Army's Counter-Intelligence Corps and received special training in Camouflage, Demolition, and Mines at Holabird Signal Depot in Baltimore. We remember him sharing how, in the middle of a class session, a man ran in, fired a 45 automatic pistol several times at the instructor and ran out. The instructor, who had collapsed on the floor, rose to his feet and said, "OK – write down the details of what you just witnessed." Marvin explained, "We learned some Japanese, how to cover our tracks when doing counter-intelligence work, and other 'cloak and dagger' secrets."

When his service ended in 1946, Marvin returned to Wichita and went to work in his father's mortgage finance business. Over the next 60 years, he transformed the family business into Fidelity Bank, which today is in its fourth generation of Bastian family ownership with his grandson, Aaron, at the helm.



Our Partners

Fidelity Bank Foundation

The Fidelity Bank Foundation has joined in the Eisenhower Foundation's mission to honor the stories of World War II veterans by supporting Ike's Soldiers, an online World War II Honor Roll.

"We are proud to honor those who have made great sacrifices for our freedoms and ensure that their stories live on," said Clark Bastian, president of the Fidelity Bank Foundation. "We hope people will spend time learning about the stories of these heroes and consider submitting the World War II veterans from their families to be included in this powerful historic record."



IKE INSIGHT

IKEducation

Mary Jean at Christmastime

IKEducation's "Little Ike Story Time" programs continue to be a hit this school year, drawing in K-2 classrooms from Canada to Mexico! While the Presidential Library and Museum are closed to any groups, IKEducators are able to take the program out to Kansas schools while also providing it virtually to schools throughout the United States and beyond. Mary Jean Eisenhower, youngest of Ike's grandchildren, shared wonderful memories of Kay Thompson's *Eloise at Christmastime* being read to her as a child, so IKEducation used it as a springboard for the December program.

In this beautifully illustrated children's book, precocious Eloise is celebrating Christmas Eve with her nannies and butlers at New York's Plaza Hotel. She rushes around jingling, spreading Christmas cheer, tying tassels on the thermostats, and writing "Merry Christmas" on all the walls. Eloise, in her unflinchingly joyous ways, reminds us to cast aside our daily worries and to simply play.

Several lucky local Abilene students had the wonderful surprise of Mary Jean herself appearing to share special memories of Christmas in the White House, including several handmade ornaments given to her by her grandmother, "Mimi" (Mamie) and the lighting of the National Christmas Tree. Mary Jean recalled, "[Delores, an upstairs maid,] and I were in the Solarium on the third floor. It was a cold December evening and she turned the lights out. As I sat on her lap, we faced the large picture window, she pointed out an evergreen across the street from the grounds of the White House. It looked huge as the streetlights brushed its silhouette. She told me to watch closely as my Granddad was about to light the National Christmas Tree. I didn't get it until I saw the shadow of his figure in the distance when suddenly the brightly colored lights flared on and lit the heavens. It was spectacular. She reminded me that it was my grandfather who lit it, so impressed; I had difficulty comprehending the magic he must have had."

Kay Thompson's Eloise at Christmastime, first published in 1958.

Julia, helped the grandchildren put on for "Mimi" and "Granddad" (aka Mamie and Dwight Eisenhower) in the east living area of the White House: "Mom was a detail person when it came to such productions; this particular show was no exception. She took starched, crisp white percale sheets, customized their size, cut holes in the middle of them, and lined the holes with silver garland to serve as a neckline. The rest of the sheet flowed loosely to our bodies. Then she crafted angel wings out of white cardboard and silver sparkles, and halos out of rounded coat hangers and more garland. This wasn't enough for our presentation; she then took strands of twinkle lights and wrapped them around the four halos clad in garland.

"We had a couple of 'fittings' before dress rehearsal, which were annoying because she made us stand still so that the hemlines would be straight. When the costumes were on the players, she ran the wire from our halos down our sleeves and out. The wires were then hooked up to 'D' size

Mary Jean asked the students, "What do you get your grandparents for Christmas when they are the President and First Lady of the United States?" Then, she proceeded to share her memory of a Christmas pageant that her mother, Barbara Eisenhower, and favorite upstairs maid,



Mary Jean Eisenhower shares ornaments given to her by her grandmother, "Mimi" (Mamie) with students at Saint Andrews Elementary School in Abilene, Kansas.



Mary Jean Eisenhower shares memories of Christmas at the White House with students at Saint Andrews Elementary School in Abilene, Kansas.

batteries, which were covered by wax paper and had a cardboard flame on the top: candle disguises. She rigged a button on the bottom of the ‘candles’ which made the twinklers light. We were to make the halos twinkle during the songs we sang.

“After a dress rehearsal and a couple of weeks of practice on the pageant, it was show time. Mom lined us up by size; David first, Anne, Susan and me, the usual order. We commenced on the west side of the second floor. The corridor lights were turned completely out. Mom stood at the side of our procession directing us. We started our way from the west side and made our way down the oversized corridor to the east side.

“The first song we sang was ‘Silent Night,’ followed by other traditional carols. We appeared as four little angels as we made our way down the corridor, singing, twinkling, pacing slowly past the Lincoln bedroom on our

right, the Queen’s room on our left, past the social sitting groups of sofas and coffee tables adorned with crystal fodder which shot beautiful colors in the off light while reflecting our twinkles, past granddad’s nap room, on the left, past the elevator on the right and in to the east area where Daddy, Mimi and Granddad sat anticipating our entrance. I was mesmerized; this really was Christmas with all the glow of the nighttime books and fairytales that had been read to me. I am sure that was one of, if not the sole time the four of us bore the title ‘Angel’ at the same time.

“When it was over, Granddad and Mimi jumped from their chairs, the lights went on just before they gave us huge hugs with bursting smiles, one at a time, looking us straight in the eyes, making each of us feel special, as they told us it was the best pageant they had seen – ever. It felt glorious. Granddad said it was better than any show he could have seen on Broadway!”



Following her stories, wide-eyed students were able to ask Mary Jean many questions and make an angel ornament to keep as a memento.



Top right: President Eisenhower poses with family on Christmas Eve 1960 in the west sitting room of their White House residence. From left: John Eisenhower; Barbara Anne (11), in front; wife Barbara; David (12), Ike; Mamie; Mary Jean (5), in front; and Susan (9).

Bottom right: The Eisenhower family is enjoying Christmas dinner in the State Dining Room of the White House in 1960. Seated at the table are the President and First Lady with their son, John, his wife Barbara, and their four children. Joining them were several members of Mamie’s family. Note the youngest grandchild, Mary Jean, in the foreground turning around to be seen in the photo as any five-year old would do.



Top left: Student makes an angel ornament as a memento of Mary Jean’s Christmas visit.

IKE INSIGHT

Support Our Cause

Estate Gift Received from Former Eisenhower Speechwriter, Robert Kieve



Bob Kieve at the 2017 Eisenhower Legacy Gala.

Recently, the Eisenhower Foundation was honored to receive a gift from the estate of Robert “Bob” Kieve. Mr. Kieve joined President Eisenhower’s White House staff in 1953 as a speechwriter. In 2017, Mr. Kieve spoke about his experience at the Eisenhower Legacy Gala. He shared humorous recollections of “suffering the Eisenhower pencil” — a poke at Ike’s tendency to edit everything. Mr. Kieve was also a recipient of the Eisenhower Legacy Award for his efforts to champion the life, leadership and legacy of Dwight D. Eisenhower.

Mr. Kieve’s lifework was in the radio industry. Born in New Jersey, Kieve attended Harvard University, where he worked at the college radio station. After graduating in 1943, he worked in the Office of War Information for the State Department in Madrid Spain, becoming involved in radio while there.

After working in the Eisenhower Administration, he ran radio stations in Rochester, NY, before moving to San Jose, CA, in 1967. There, he built Empire Broadcasting Company, serving as the company’s president for decades. Mr. Kieve spent over 70 years on air. He was beloved by San Jose, where December 9th is “Bob Kieve Day” in his honor.

The Eisenhower Foundation is grateful to the Kieve family as this gift will ensure the legacy of Dwight D. Eisenhower is shared with future generations. Planned gifts are especially meaningful to the Eisenhower Foundation. If you have included the Eisenhower Foundation in your own estate plans, we thank you for your generosity and invite you to become a member of Club Eisenhower, our planned giving program. For more information, visit our website,

www.EisenhowerFoundation.net/Club-Eisenhower.



The Eisenhower Foundation is proud to announce that we have received the 2021 GuideStar Platinum Seal of Transparency.

We Appreciate Your Support

Thank you for your support! To make a donation, simply send this form to: PO Box 295, Abilene, KS 67410. You can also make a contribution by calling our office at (785) 263-6771 or online at www.EisenhowerFoundation.net.

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Featured Collection

Access for Everyone

As a part of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), the Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum is tasked with preserving the objects and documents within our collection. This also gives us the opportunity to encourage access to important holdings which provides individuals with an intimate experience working with primary sources. Access is for everyone — researchers and scholars, as well as educators and the general public.

The Library and Museum provides access through the research room, exhibits, and educational public programming, but also through our online documents and tools for educators. Online platforms are a nice complement to the Eisenhower Foundation's extensive work in providing resources for educators and students. Of particular importance is the Primary Source Library (PSL) which is available through the Foundation's website (www.EisenhowerFoundation.net).



A recently-added feature to the Primary Source Library is the ability to examine items in 3D.



The original report of the 82nd Airborne Division in Operation Neptune (above left) or the Civil Rights Act of 1957 (above right) can be viewed in the Primary Source Library at www.EisenhowerFoundation.net.

person. As the Library continues to digitize holdings, this tool will be able to grow.

Access to these documents and holdings is where the magic happens. Sparking a love for history and primary source research is how new scholarship unfolds. The Eisenhower Presidential Library and the Eisenhower Foundation working together to provide broad access to our archives creates a certain synergy that inspires independent study and in-depth research that has led to numerous books and articles written using primary sources from their holdings. Your support of the Eisenhower Foundation allows us to continue improving these efforts and growing these tools. Thank you for your belief in these endeavors and allowing us to continue to “make access happen.”

One historically significant collection within the archives is the U.S. Army Unit Records primarily consisting of unit histories, operation reports, after action reports, and journals. They may also include photographs, unit newsletters, correspondence, and memorabilia. This collection is important because it may augment an individual soldier's personnel file. Military personnel files are the best, single source of information on the service of any individual soldier by recording unit assignments, awards, schooling, and other details of military service. Sadly, millions of these personnel files were lost in the 1973 fire at the National Military Personnel Records Center in St. Louis, Missouri. Accessing the U.S. Army Unit Records allows one to study the activities of a given soldier's unit adding additional context and details relating to the individual, thus providing the best, and in many cases only, remaining picture of what soldiers may have encountered and experienced during the war.

Using online tools, researchers can learn more about troop movements and the experiences of soldiers on the battlefield. For example, if you search “Army Unit Records” in the PSL, you will find several digitized documents from this collection. These, along with other digitized holdings, can be accessed through this wonderful tool that supports educators and students who are not able to visit the Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum in



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