

2022-2023

MSU Denver Foundation

ANNUAL REPORT

and 2024 Calendar



Letter from the Foundation Board

Dear MSU Denver Donors and Partners,

On behalf of the MSU Denver Foundation Board of Directors, Chairwoman Dawn Bookhardt, J.D., and Vice President Christine Márquez-Hudson, we are delighted to present you with the 2023 MSU Denver Foundation Annual Report!

This year – thanks to all of you – we broke all previous records for giving, with more than \$15.8M raised! These funds will support the University’s highest priorities: Facilitating Student Success, Creating Classroom to Career Pathways, Advancing Colorado’s Talent Pipeline and Cultivating Inclusive Excellence.

We are grateful to Mariner and Megan Kemper and the Kemper Family for their gift kicking off fundraising for the Health Institute and to UMB Bank for supporting the C2 Hub. Rob and Molly Cohen helped expand the Cohen Pacesetter Program – a comprehensive scholarship with wraparound services – to students across the University, with an invitation to other donors to join in. Ferd and Christy Belz invested in the Student Success Endowed Fund, supporting student persistence and completion through wraparound services. Alumnus Brad Kaplan and his wife Judy committed a historic planned gift that will support the College of Business, the women’s softball team and the President’s Innovation Fund.

Many more University, alumni and community donors are inspired by our extraordinary students, our high-impact partnerships and the exciting advancements happening on campus. We hope that when you read this report, you will be inspired too! Join us in helping MSU Denver – the third-largest public university in the state – continue to invest in our diverse student body and provide them with a world-class education, experiential learning opportunities and career connections, all at an accessible price. Together, we can be changemakers for our community!

Warmly,

Christine Márquez-Hudson

Vice President of University Advancement &
Executive Director of the MSU Denver Foundation

Dawn Bookhardt, J.D.

Chair
MSU Denver Foundation Board



MSU[™]
DENVER

MSU Denver
Foundation, Inc.

University Advancement

Fiscal Year 2023 **Financial Report**

Total Donors **4,764**
↑ **202** from last fiscal year

Total Gifts **11,714**
↑ **129** from last fiscal year

Total Dollars Raised
\$15,849,338
↑ **50%** from last fiscal year

Total Net Assets*
\$48,714,330
↑ **23%** from last fiscal year

Endowment Value*
\$23,694,117
↑ **21%** from last fiscal year

*as of June 30, 2023

\$8,389,316



2,240

Individual Donors

\$4,051,479



66

Foundation Donors

\$2,179,976



127

Corporate Donors

\$687,539



28

Non-Profit Donors

\$541,028



2,303

Alumni Donors

\$243,190



530

Faculty/Staff Donors*
**included in other donor categories*

Donor Breakdown



1,943

First-Time Donors

1,855

Repeat Donors



49%

of giving from Alumni donors

47%

of giving from Individual donors

2%

of giving from Corporate donors

1%

of giving from Foundation donors*

1%

of giving from Non-Profit donors

**includes family foundations*

Legacy Society

\$29,184,871

Dollars Committed

123

Total Members

7

New Members

Planned giving data

Marathon Society

\$124,847

Dollars Raised

581

Total Members

Recurring gift and payroll deduct donor data

President's Society

\$15,357,792

Dollars Raised

1,834

Gifts

441

Total Members

Donors who contribute \$1,000 or more in a fiscal year

Red & Blue Fund

\$606,475

Dollars Raised

2,077

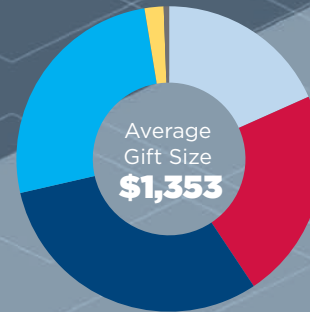
Gifts

1,234

Donors

Roadrunners Athletics giving data

Giving Designation



31%

of giving supported Programs

25%

of giving supported Hybrid of scholarships & programs

23%

of giving supported Scholarships

18%

of giving supported Capital projects

2%

of giving was for Other operations

1%

of giving was Unrestricted

Student-success programs get a boost at MSU Denver



Gift from longtime supporters Ferd and Christy Belz will support wraparound services that pave pathways to graduation.

by Lynne Winter '17

The Student Success Endowed Fund at Metropolitan State University of Denver received a significant financial contribution, thanks to longtime supporters Ferd and Christy Belz.

The transformational blended gift, over half of which will be contributed throughout the next few years and the remainder part of an estate gift, provides flexible resources in perpetuity to expand student-support services.

"I see the passion students have for the University. The professors are unbelievable, and the staff is remarkable," said Christy, a first-generation student and social worker. "We're very, very honored to give this gift and make a difference for these kids."

Also a first-generation student, Ferd Belz echoed his wife's sentiments. "This University is transforming lives, and those students and graduates are transforming the future of our city and our country," he said. "It is so important that we invest in these young people and let them change the world — and us."



Read more here

(L-R): Ferd Belz, President Janine Davidson, Ph.D., Christy Belz, Mariana Pascual-Miranda

“(First-Generation Initiatives) programming supports students’ professional, personal and academic development. It’s been beautiful seeing them grow into who they are. We appreciate (the Belz’s) investment in our students.”

- Mariana Pascual-Miranda, Social Work Graduate

JANUARY

2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 New Year's Day New Bird Talk Episode Released	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12 Martin Luther King Peace Breakfast	13
14	15 Martin Luther King Day MLK Parade	16 Spring 2024 Classes Begin	17	18 Mug Club Happy Hour	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

For more information or to register for the events above, visit msudenver.me/jan-2024

Need a small-business loan? Your character counts



Public-private partnership helps entrepreneurs close the gap between concept and collateral.

by Lynne Winter '17

What if you could qualify for a small-business loan on the strength of your character?

It's possible with MSU Denver's Small Business Loan Program, a public-private partnership with Alpine Bank and Prairie Rose Development Corp. launched in August 2022. The program, which offers University-affiliated businesses access to character-based loans ranging from \$5,000 to \$50,000 to help them launch or grow, is facilitated by generous donor gifts to the MSU Denver Foundation and Foundation deposits into a reserve fund.

Wait. Character-based?

Traditional lenders primarily focus on a business owner's credit score and ability to repay the loan with other resources if they default. Prairie Rose Development, a nonprofit bridging the space between entrepreneurs and lenders like Alpine Bank, focuses on a borrower's character and capacity.

"Character" concerns how small-business owners have prepared to succeed. "Capacity" is how they demonstrate, on paper, cash-flow projections and other considerations.

"If someone has the appropriate character and capacity, we don't need to plan on the business not succeeding," said Mike O'Donnell, Prairie Rose's executive director.



Read more here

“Alpine Bank’s commitment to the community and University-associated small business development helps the College and Center fulfill our mission of access and our vision for supporting economic growth in Colorado.”

- Ann Murphy, Ph.D., Dean of MSU Denver’s College of Business

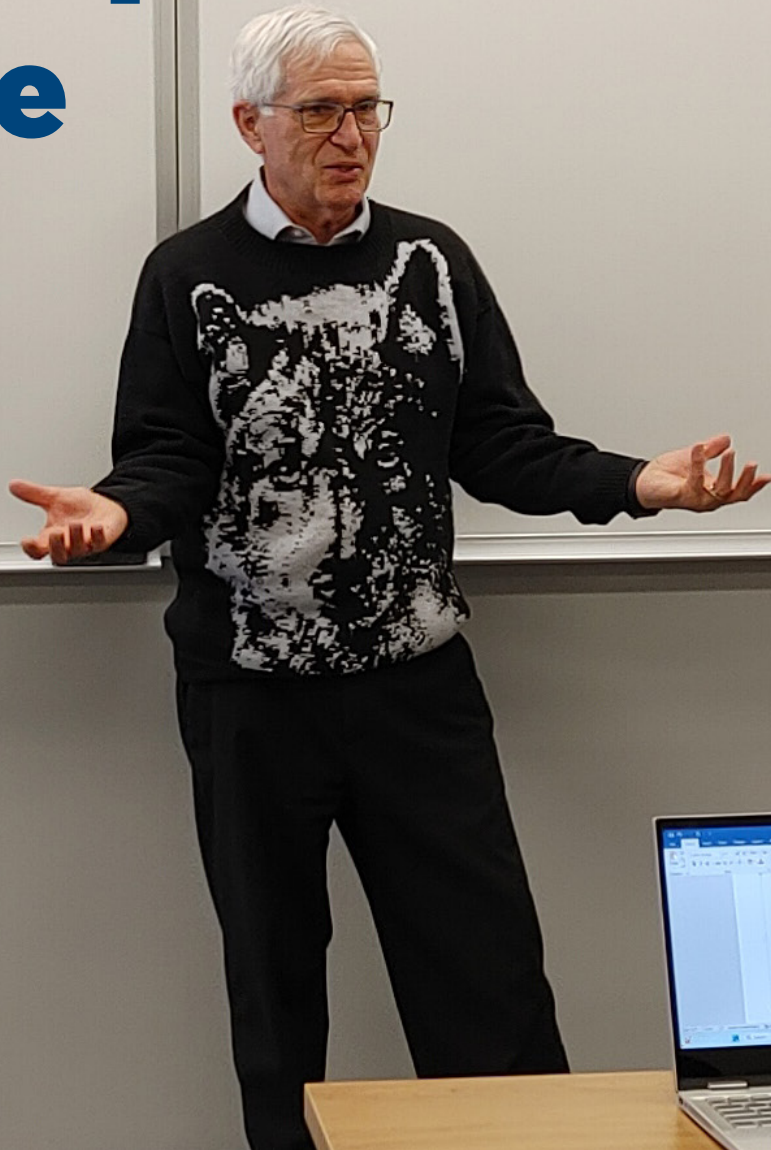
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 New Bird Talk Episode Released	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15 Mug Club Happy Hour	16	17
18	19 Presidents’ Day	20	21	22	23 Annual Scholarship Celebration	24
25	26	27	28	29		

FEBRUARY

2024

For more information or to register for the events above, visit msudenver.me/feb-2024

Keeping the spirit of Roadrunner entrepreneurship alive



Emeritus professor Lynn Hoffman, Ph.D., makes planned gift supporting the Center for Entrepreneurship.

by Lynne Winter '17

Lynn Hoffman, Ph.D., emeritus professor of management at MSU Denver, wants Roadrunners to have the resources they need to make their entrepreneurial dreams come true.

To keep the spirit of enterprise alive, Hoffman – who helped found the Center for Entrepreneurship and programs like Launch Denver – and his wife, alumna Karen Hoffman, have committed to making a planned gift ensuring those programs have future funding.

“When I started the Center, had Ann (Murphy) and Deb (Gilliard) not been supportive, we would not have been successful,” he said. “I was blessed.”

Thanks to dedicated faculty members, the programs Hoffman created have persisted and flourished. As the Center grows, he hopes to see more successful entrepreneurship majors start businesses, contributing to job creation and the economy.

“New ideas come from small businesses, and innovation starts in someone’s garage,” said Hoffman. “I want to make sure the Center survives – that it continues to serve MSU Denver students and the community.”



Read more here

Lynn Hoffman, Ph.D., instructing a class

“Participating in Launch Denver was a blessing. The phenomenal resources helped me improve my business pitch, giving me confidence and stability. Thanks to Dr. Hoffman for establishing this amazing community program!”

Kieshon Davis, '20, Spring 2023 Launch Denver Pitch Competition Winner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 New Bird Talk Episode Released	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 Rachel B. Noel Distinguished Visiting Professorship	11 Rachel B. Noel Distinguished Visiting Professorship	12 Rachel B. Noel Distinguished Visiting Professorship	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21 Mug Club Happy Hour	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

MARCH

2024

For more information or to register for the events above, visit msudenver.me/mar-2024



MSU Denver Day of Giving



HIGH SCORE

1,580 Total donors gave a total of

\$275,682 with **1,779** gifts

from
47
states



146 social media advocates
generated **574** gifts
and **\$53,068**

Annual giving event raises over \$275,000 for scholarships, student-support services, athletics and programs. Crowdfunding success sends volleyball team to Europe.

by Lynne Winter '17

MSU Denver Roadrunners volleyball received a financial boost from donors during this year's Day of Giving, providing them with an opportunity to have a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

Head coach Jenny Glenn and the team raised over \$21,000, helping cover travel expenses for a trip to Europe where they competed, engaged with new cultures and volunteered.

Highlights for the student-athletes included bonding and creating memories with teammates; being able to slow down and appreciate life; learning how sports connect people around the world with a shared language; and visiting junior setter Amela Qershia's home in Shkodër, Albania.

None of this would have been possible without the generosity of our Roadrunner family!

"We are so thankful for everyone who contributed to making this trip happen," said Glenn. "We knew it would be a big fundraising endeavor, but we also knew we couldn't let the opportunity pass us by."



Read more here

“Our trip was an incredible experience. I loved learning more about my teammates, discovering different cultures and working with the kids at our camp in Albania. I feel blessed.”

- Autumn Gibbs, MSU Denver Volleyball Player

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 New Bird Talk Episode Released	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11  MSU Denver Day of Giving	12	13
14	15	16	17	18 Mug Club Happy Hour	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

APRIL

2024

For more information or to register for the events above, visit msudenver.me/apr-2024

Former students get opportunity to get back into the classroom



Trustee Jerry Glick gets students on the path to graduation with The Bursar's Grant.

by Lynne Winter '17

Across the U.S., 39 million people have taken some college classes but never graduated. One of the top reasons for stopping out is the cost. And when tuition and fee balances end up in collections, it can feel like it's impossible to realize the dream of earning a degree.

Metropolitan State University of Denver wants to change that.


The Bursar's Grant – founded in November 2022 by MSU Denver Board of Trustees member Jerry Glick – provides former MSU Denver students with a clear path for getting back into the classroom, where they can achieve their educational goals and ambitions.

"I am convinced that coming back to school and getting a degree or certificate is the key to accomplishing what you want in life," said Glick, managing partner of Columbia Group LLP. "Getting these students reenrolled and their debt paid off benefits the student, the University and the community."



Read more here

“I’ve been given a second chance to become the nurse I’ve dreamed of being for such a long time. Thank you!”
- Bursar’s Grant Recipient

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 New Bird Talk Episode Released	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10 Commencement 	11
12	13	14	15	16 Mug Club Happy Hour	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27 Memorial Day	28	29	30	31	

MAY

2024

For more information or to register for the events above, visit msudenver.me/may-2024

Crossing the finish line



Alumni Association Board scholarship helps newly readmitted Roadrunners earn their degree.

by Lynne Winter '17

Financial issues are one of the top reasons students drop out of college; Roadrunners are no exception.

The Alumni Board Finish Line Endowed Scholarship – established by the Metropolitan State University of Denver Alumni Association Board of Directors – covers tuition and fees for qualifying, readmitted MSU Denver students who are within two semesters of completing their bachelor's degree, providing them with the support they need to get back in the race and achieve their dream of earning a degree.

“Nobody should have to choose between completing their degree and taking care of themselves and their families,” said Brandi Rideout, senior director of alumni engagement and executive director of the Alumni Association. “The Alumni Association understands the financial pressures students face when pursuing their degrees; we want to be part of the solution.”



Read more here

“We are thrilled to have the opportunity to help Roadrunners reach their goal of crossing the finish line at graduation.”

- **Jim Qualteri, President, Alumni Association Board of Directors**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 New Bird Talk Episode Released
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19 Juneteenth	20 Mug Club Happy Hour	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

JUNE

2024

For more information or to register for the events above, visit msudenver.me/jun-2024

Roadrunners benefit from endowed golf scholarship



MSU Denver thankful for the support of the O'Neill family.

by Rob White

Metropolitan State University of Denver Athletics and the Roadrunners women's golf program are continually grateful for the generosity of Tim O'Neill and his family.

In April, O'Neill made a second \$25,000 contribution to the Moffat-McLaughlin Memorial Endowed Scholarship, supporting the University's women's golf team and furthering his family's legacy on campus, in the community and for the game of golf.

O'Neill, his wife JeanMarie, and his sister Anne made the presentation before a Roadrunners practice at CommonGround Golf Course.

"JeanMarie and I were talking about something else we could do," Tim said of the scholarship. "We decided to be the first ones and put the seed money in."

The scholarship is intended to benefit somebody in the name of our (relatives), people we've learned more about since we found 'the trophy.' We were looking for something good to come out of it."



Read more here

“We’ve never had an endowed scholarship – it’s a real game-changer. It’s getting student-athletes a little more, so they have fewer fees and more education. We’re very lucky to have their support.”

- Stef Ferguson, Head Coach, Women’s Golf

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 New Bird Talk Episode Released	2	3	4 Independence Day	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18 Mug Club Happy Hour	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

JULY

2024

For more information or to register for the events above, visit msudenver.me/jul-2024

MSU Denver expands Pacesetter Scholarship Program



Rob and Molly Cohen meeting with Cohen Pacesetter Scholars. Rob is fourth from the left and Molly is sixth from the left.

Transformative gift from Rob and Molly Cohen makes college dream possible for more students.

by Glavine Walp

Thanks to a transformative gift to Metropolitan State University of Denver, the Cohen Pacesetter Scholarship Program is expanding to help students Universitywide.

A gift from Rob and Molly Cohen launched the program in 2017, providing MSU Denver student-athletes with financial support and wraparound services to support them through their academic journeys.

“Molly and I learned early in our lives that if you’re blessed ... then what really makes this world a special place is when you pay it forward ...,” said Rob Cohen, chairman and CEO of IMA Financial Group Inc.

Under the expanded program, about 20% of recipients will be student-athletes, with the scholarship also benefiting students who aren’t in Athletics.

“We believe that MSU Denver has what is needed for our city, state and country,” Molly Cohen said. “We will continue to partner with MSU Denver and the students and athletes who each have their own amazing stories.”



Read more here

“This scholarship has given me the opportunity to take my mind off worrying about making ends meet. Having the financial stability to play tennis, to go to school and complete my degree is incredible.”

-Kayla Myburg, Junior, Women’s Tennis

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 New Bird Talk Episode Released	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15 Mug Club Happy Hour	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

AUGUST

2024

For more information or to register for the events above, visit msudenver.me/aug-2024

The key to good health? Representation



Dawn Bookhardt, J.D., makes a transformational gift to educate a diverse speech, language and hearing workforce.

by Lynne Winter '17

Attorney and activist Dawn Bookhardt, J.D., is dedicated to helping Metropolitan State University of Denver educate a diverse health care workforce in the fields of speech, language and hearing.

The chair of the MSU Denver Foundation board of directors recently made a transformational \$1 million gift toward the construction of a new 70,000-square-foot health education building that will allow the University to bring its health-related academic programs under one roof.

That includes the Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences program, an area of health care near and dear to Bookhardt. Her gift will also help support the Bookhardt Family Speech and Language Clinic within the Health Institute Facility. The clinic was recently renamed in Bookhardt's honor.

"I want to change the dynamics of speech, hearing and language education and careers — for people from all racial and ethnic backgrounds to be part of it," said Bookhardt, a longtime MSU Denver supporter. "I'm putting my money where my mouth is."



Read more here

Dawn Bookhardt poses for a photo with a graduate with a visual impairment at Spring 2023 Commencement.

“It’s so important for diverse individuals and families to feel seen, heard and represented. Perhaps that’s what has drawn me to Speech-Language Pathology – this inherent desire to help others find and use their voice, literally and figuratively.”

- Jiane Bagoyo, Graduate Student, Master of Speech-Language Pathology

SEPTEMBER

2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 New Bird Talk Episode Released	2 Labor Day	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19 Mug Club Happy Hour	20	21
22	23 Homecoming Week	24 Homecoming Week	25 Homecoming Week	26 Homecoming Week	27 Homecoming Week	28 Homecoming Week
29	30					

For more information or to register for the events above, visit msudenver.me/sep-2024

More MSU Denver students will gain career-readiness training thanks to recent gift

\$1.5 million donation from the Morgridge Family Foundation supports construction and expansion of the University's C2 Hub.

by Lynne Winter '17

The Classroom to Career Hub (C2 Hub) at Metropolitan State University of Denver received a financial contribution from the Morgridge Family Foundation that will help take the program to new heights.

The \$1.5 million gift will support the planned construction of a four-story, 25,000-square-foot space that would allow the C2 Hub to better serve the career development of approximately 17,000 MSU Denver students and 11,000 Community College of Denver students annually.

By engaging students, faculty members and industry partners to design and implement career-readiness programs and services, the C2 Hub produces the skilled talent Colorado employers need.

At the event announcing the gift, President Janine Davidson, Ph.D., said one of the University's goals has been "to create an innovative national model that would connect students with employers, not at the end of their degree program but from the moment they set foot on campus."

"We're going to transform Colorado and students' lives through the opportunity to work and achieve their highest potential," she said.



Read more here

Carrie Morgridge (right) with students and staff from the C2 Hub

“The peer mentoring program has supported me along my journey. I’ve learned how to create connections and apply for jobs and internships, grown in my professionalism and gained confidence that I am worthy of a second interview. I look forward to watching this program grow.”
- Logan Endley, '24, Chemistry

OCTOBER

2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 New Bird Talk Episode Released	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 Indigenous Peoples Day	15	16	17 Mug Club Happy Hour	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

For more information or to register for the events above, visit msudenver.me/oct-2024

New endowment will help Special Education students thrive

Inspired by his late wife and a career change late in life, alumnus Eddy Reyes establishes a scholarship to help aspiring teachers make a difference.

by Lynne Winter '17

Eddy Reyes knows it's never too late to change careers — and lives.

Following a successful career in advertising, Reyes shifted gears in his 60s, earning a degree in Special Education from MSU Denver. He taught fourth and fifth grade with Denver Public Schools for 18 years. Now in his 80s, he's putting on his philanthropist hat and giving back to the community by honoring his late wife through the Arlen M. Selu Special Education Memorial Endowment — the first scholarship at MSU Denver for students studying Special Education.

Reyes hopes the scholarship will plant seeds for the next generation of Special Education students at the University.

"It takes a special person who loves kids to go into special education," he said. "I want to help eager, hardworking students receive the support they need."



Read more here



“We are so grateful to Eddy for establishing this scholarship. It helps bring attention to equity and inclusion, elevating the learning experience for all students.”

- Charlie Buckley, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Special Education

NOVEMBER

2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 New Bird Talk Episode Released	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11 Veterans Day	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21 Mug Club Happy Hour	22	23
24	25	26	27	28 Thanksgiving Day	29	30

For more information or to register for the events above, visit msudenver.me/nov-2024

Season of Giving

End-Of-Year Giving Information

by Breanna Milnes

MSU Denver is closed Dec. 25, 2024 -Jan. 2, 2025. Please make your year-end gifts online at msudenver.edu/giving.

Mail is not delivered during the winter break.

In order to receive a 2024 tax receipt for your gift:

- **Mailed checks must be postmarked in 2024**
- **Stocks, bonds and other marketable securities must be in the possession of Syntrinsic, our investment manager, on or before Dec. 31**
- **EFT/Wire Transfers must be received at UMB Bank on or before Dec. 31**

If you have questions or need additional information about making your year-end gift, please call 303-615-0065 and your message will be promptly returned.

Thank you for your generosity and continued support of MSU Denver!



Read more here



DECEMBER

2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 New Bird Talk Episode Released	2	3  Roadrunner Tuesday	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13 Fall Commencement 	14
15	16	17	18	19 Mug Club Happy Hour	20	21
22	23	24	25 Christmas Day	26	27	28
29	30	31				

For more information or to register for the events above, visit msudenver.me/dec-2024

