



# 2026 TALENT ACCELERATOR PROGRAMS



**PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS**  
SCHOLARSHIP & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM



**ANNUAL  
CONVENTION 2025**  
JULY 9-11, 2025 | CHICAGO, IL, USA



## INVESTING IN THE FUTURE OF DESTINATION ORGANIZATIONS

### WHO WE ARE:

The Destinations International Foundation is a nonprofit organization dedicated to empowering destination organizations around the world through innovation, education, and strategic resource development.

### WHAT WE DO:

We incubate and fund groundbreaking programs, research, and tools that help destinations thrive—advancing professional development, social impact, global engagement, and destination stewardship.

With your support, we equip our industry to meet the future head-on—ready for the next challenge, the next opportunity, and the next generation of leadership.

### WHY IT MATTERS:

Destination organizations are essential to the success of the global travel and tourism economy. Your investment in the Foundation fuels bold ideas, drives industry impact, and ensures our members remain strong, prepared, and future-focused.

Thank you to all the organizations and individuals who have supported the Foundation in 2025 to date.

Scan here to find your name or organization





# PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS

## MISSION

Supported by the DI Foundation, Pathways to Success: Scholarship & Professional Development Program enables full-time students pursuing hospitality and tourism management at accredited colleges and universities across the United States and Canada. Selected students receive up to \$8,000 annually toward tuition, along with professional development, mentorship, and event attendance. By pairing financial support with skill-building and community connections, the program helps future leaders launch meaningful careers while strengthening a more inclusive tourism and hospitality industry.

## PROGRAM GOALS

- Provide financial support for tuition
- Facilitate networking and mentorship among scholars, alums, industry leaders
- Provide targeted professional development and education to build future-forward skills
- Build awareness globally and among universities to increase impact and influence
- Develop scholars as brand ambassadors for Destinations International and the Destinations International Foundation

*8 students will become “Pathways to Success scholars” in 2026.*



# MAKE A DIFFERENCE TODAY

To support year-round engagement and professional development, there are various opportunities to make a difference for DI's Pathways to Success Scholars, such as\*:

**\$305**

*Provides one scholar with access to participate in DI's PDM Certificate.*

**\$2,500**

*Covers all expenses for one scholar to attend Annual Convention.*

**\$8,000**

*Provides one scholar with a full tuition-based scholarship.*

## RECOMMENDED GIVING

Personal Contribution	Organizational Contribution
<p><b>\$250 to \$1,000</b></p> <p>Individual donors will be acknowledged on the Pathways website.</p> <p>Donors who contribute \$500 or above will be offered the opportunity to connect with scholars at Annual Convention or virtually.</p>	<p><b>\$3,000 to \$10,000</b></p> <p>Organizational donors will be acknowledged on the Pathways website and logos will be displayed during Annual Convention.</p> <p>Donors who contribute \$5,000 or above will be offered the opportunity to have curated sessions with scholars at Annual Convention and virtually.</p>



**Contribute online or contact [impact@destinationsinternational.org](mailto:impact@destinationsinternational.org).**

*"To the DI Foundation and all the industry professionals, mentors and colleagues who made this scholarship possible, a big thank you from the bottom of my heart. Your support has made such a huge impact on my life and the lives of so many others. **You're not just helping us financially; you're showing us that our dreams are worth investing in.**"*

*– Mya Mendoza (2024)*

\*Amounts shown are subject to change based on availability and pricing increases.

30UNDER30

RISING  
INDUSTRY  
PROFESSIONALS

 DESTINATIONS  
INTERNATIONAL  
FOUNDATION

 PATHWAYS TO  
SUCCESS  
SCHOLARSHIP & PROFESSIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

The long-term success of our industry depends on the people we develop today. Destinations will only stay competitive, innovative and resilient if we intentionally cultivate the next generation of tourism leaders.

DI's Talent Accelerator Programs aligns three early-career cohorts:  
30 Under 30, Rising Industry Professionals and Pathways to Success scholars.

Together, these cohorts accelerate growth for high-potential professionals and equip tomorrow's executives with the skills, networks and perspective they need to guide our industry through change.

By uniting destination, industry and student leaders, the Talent Accelerator Programs is how Destinations International enables our future, and how members can actively invest and engage alongside us.

***Interested to contribute and engage across all Talent Accelerator Programs?  
Contact [partnerships@destinationsinternational.org](mailto:partnerships@destinationsinternational.org) for more information.***

