Dorothy B. Davis Foundation

The Dorothy B. Davis Foundation was created by the descendants of Dr. Edwin and Dorothy Balbach Davis. The primary focus of the foundation is to support children, health care, education, research, senior citizens and military families. The foundation was created in 2015 and primarily provides funding within the Omaha area.

Edwin Davis was a physician and educator who served as chairman of the urology department at the University of Nebraska College of Medicine from 1920 to 1953. He was involved in the use of early technology to assist him in instructing. For example, he used a box that worked similarly to a View-Master that allowed users to see pictures that appear to be three dimensional. His device was created specifically for him by a family member and assisted him during his instructional lectures around the country on innovative urology treatments. He also was instrumental in development leading to mercurochrome-220 as a new germicide.

Edwin Davis married Dorothy Balbach Davis of Omaha in 1921, and they raised three children, Edwin Jr., Neal and Willa. Both of their sons became physicians. Edwin died February 17, 1964, at age 75, and Dorothy died April 12, 1980, at age 80.

Mrs. Willa Davis Seemann

Willa Davis Seemann of Omaha and her husband of 66 years, Lee Seemann, enjoyed giving quietly to universities, hospitals, museums, churches and other charities over many years.

In the 1990s, they were major contributors to the Strategic Air Command & Aerospace Museum in Ashland, Nebraska. They also supported Omaha’s Central High School, Lee Seemann’s alma mater, and the school named its football facility Seemann Stadium.

Lee Seemann was a highly decorated U.S. Air Force veteran who served during World War II. He received the Silver Star, Distinguished Flying Cross (twice), Purple Heart and the Air Medal with four oak leaf clusters for his service as a pilot. He bombed the Normandy coast on D-Day, June 6, 1944, and flew his final mission on August 9.

Following his military service, the Santa Clara University alumnus became a branch manager at International Harvester and later started his own business, Seemann Truck and Trailer.

Willa Seemann’s father was a prominent Omaha urologist, Dr. Edwin Davis, and her mother was Dorothy Balbach Davis. The Davises and Seemanns were early investors with Warren Buffett in the late 1950s.

Willa and Lee Seemann raised four children but lost their daughter Jane Seemann in a 1988 car accident in Omaha. Lee Seemann died in Omaha June 2, 2015, at age 95.
William and Ruth Scott Family Foundation

Ruth and Bill Scott are deeply rooted and invested in the Omaha community, where they have lived for more than 60 years. The Scotts have contributed greatly to the city’s progress, health and vitality in a quiet but exceptional way.

The Scotts’ generosity has benefited key University of Nebraska Medical Center priorities in education, research and patient care. They have previously supported building projects with major gifts to the Michael F. Sorrell Center for Health Science Education; the Harold M. and Beverly Maurer Center for Public Health; the College of Nursing Center for Nursing Science; the UNMC Drug Discovery Center; the UNMC College of Nursing facility in Lincoln; the Ruth and Bill Scott Student Plaza; the UNMC Student Life Center redevelopment and expansion; the UNMC Lauritzen Outpatient Center; the Health Science Education Complex in Kearney and the Munroe-Meyer Institute. They also were among the principal benefactors supporting UNMC’s Durham Research Centers I and II.

In addition, the Scotts provided major gifts to support, among other initiatives, the creation of the James O. Armitage Lymphoma-Leukemia Precision Medicine Program at the Fred & Pamela Buffett Cancer Center; the Ruth and Bill Scott Presidential Chair of Internal Medicine; the Frederick F. Paustian Inflammatory Bowel Disease Center; the Nebraska Arthritis Outcomes Research Center; the UNMC Distinguished Chair of Internal Medicine; and the Harold M. Maurer, MD, Distinguished Chair in Public Health. These endowed funds provide support to renowned researchers and health care providers.

Ruth Scott, a native of Ashland, earned a bachelor’s degree in education from the University of Nebraska–Lincoln in 1951. She went on to teach school and later founded the Omaha Bridge Studio where she teaches the game she says everyone should learn to play.

Bill Scott is a 1953 graduate of the UNL College of Business. Also a native of Ashland, he joined Buffett Partnership in 1959 and Berkshire Hathaway in 1970, where he remained until the early 1990s.

Suzanne & Walter Scott Foundation

Walter Scott Jr. likes to invest in excellence. Through the years, he and his late wife, Suzanne, have been passionate champions for numerous causes and projects that have improved the quality of life in his birthplace of Omaha and helped citizens across the state of Nebraska through their extraordinary support of the campuses of the University of Nebraska.

Nearly two decades ago, the Scotts were among the first to appreciate an emerging vision for the University of Nebraska Medical Center and Nebraska Medicine campus. They have invested in nearly all the research-oriented projects since that time, culminating with a gift to the Davis Global Center.

In addition to their philanthropy, the Scotts have been generous with gifts of time and leadership. Walter Scott has served as director of several community and national charities and as chair of the Board of Policy Advisors for the University of Nebraska Peter Kiewit Institute and the Omaha Zoological Society. Suzanne Scott, who passed away in 2013, served as a director of the Omaha Zoological Society, Joslyn Art Museum and the Salvation Army, and she was board chair for United Way of the Midlands.

Walter Scott is chair emeritus and former CEO of Peter Kiewit Sons’ Inc. He also is the former chair of the board of Level 3 Communications Inc.
Principal Benefactors

Clarkson Regional Health Services

Clarkson Regional Health Services is a not-for-profit corporation whose purpose is to establish and maintain, directly or indirectly, institutions that provide for the economical and efficient delivery of health care and related services, including those that provide research, educational and training programs. Its assets and funds are invested and utilized for various charitable, health care and educational endeavors.

Home Instead Senior Care

Headquartered in Omaha, Nebraska, Home Instead Senior Care is driven by its mission to enhance the lives of aging adults and their families. With more than 1,100 independently owned and operated franchises around the world, Home Instead provides essential services that enable seniors to remain in their homes.

Home Instead Senior Care began in 1994 as a result of Paul and Lori Hogan’s personal experience as Paul’s family cared for his grandmother. This helped the Hogans realize the need for home care services to help older adults live independently in their homes as they age.

In 2003, the Hogans established the Home Instead Senior Care Foundation with the mission to enhance the lives of aging adults and those who care for them. The signature program of the foundation is GIVE65, the first and only online fundraising platform exclusively devoted to raising funds and creating greater awareness for programs and services that give hope to seniors.

In addition to their generous support for the Davis Global Center, the Hogans helped fund the Home Instead Center for Successful Aging in 2008 at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. Drawing on expertise from a broad spectrum of care providers, the center provides education to caregivers and offers seniors preventative care to help them live life to the fullest.

Dr. Edward & Sally Malashock

Edward Malashock, MD, and his late wife, Sally Malashock, have supported the University of Nebraska Medical Center through longtime service and generous philanthropy.

A graduate of the University of Nebraska–Lincoln and the University of Nebraska Medical Center, Dr. Malashock earned a doctorate in medicine in 1946. Following years of specialized training in St. Louis, two years of service as a U.S. Army Medical Officer and additional training in New York City, he returned to join the faculty at UNMC in 1953. He also accepted an invitation by Dr. Edwin Davis to join him and Dr. Leroy Lee as partners in the practice of urology. They continued as partners until Dr. Davis’ retirement, with Dr. Malashock remaining active on the faculty until retiring from both private practice and teaching in 1989 as professor emeritus in the department of surgery. Dr. Malashock has received numerous awards, including the 2009 Nebraska Medical Center Legends Award, the 2002 College of Medicine Alumni Association’s Distinguished Alumnus Award, and the Outstanding Physician Award.

Sally Malashock served as president of the Nebraska Medical Center Faculty Wives and president of the Clarkson Hospital Service League and was a member of the Clarkson Hospital Board of Directors and a trustee of the University of Nebraska Foundation. She died February 24, 2019, at age 94. Her service to the Omaha community is vast and deep including time on the Temple Israel board and chairwoman of the Ak-Sar-Ben Women’s Ball Committee.

Their generous philanthropy also includes support for the Michael F. Sorrell Center for Health Science Education and the Edward and Sally Malashock Chair of Urologic Surgery.
Nebraska Medicine

Nebraska Medicine and its health network covers metro Omaha and extends across the region providing access to more than 1,000 doctors and nearly 40 specialty and primary care health centers to help keep people healthy. Its two hospitals, Nebraska Medical Center and Bellevue Medical Center, have more than 800 licensed beds to deliver its promise of “Serious Medicine, Extraordinary Care.” Its more than 8,000 employees are honored to be part of the region’s leading academic health network.

Nebraska Medicine and its research and education partner, the University of Nebraska Medical Center, share the same mission: to lead the world in transforming lives to create a healthy future for all individuals and communities through premier educational programs, innovative research and extraordinary patient care. People come from around the country and the world for the unique expertise available at Nebraska Medicine. It traces its roots back to 1869 with the founding of Omaha’s first hospital. In the decades since, its experts have built an international reputation for breakthroughs in cancer care, organ transplantation and treatment of infectious diseases.

Nebraska Medical Center is the state’s largest hospital and has been named best in the state by U.S. News & World Report for nine years in a row. For seven straight years, Nebraska Medicine also has been named to Becker’s Hospital Review’s list of 100 Great Hospitals in America.

Peter Kiewit Foundation

The Peter Kiewit Foundation was established by Peter Kiewit, a successful businessman, generous philanthropist and community leader. He attributed his success to the hardworking people of Nebraska and was determined to return his wealth and good fortune to their communities. Upon Mr. Kiewit’s death in 1979, the foundation was created and began supporting charitable and public purpose projects in Nebraska, Western Iowa and other limited geographic areas.

Inspired by Mr. Kiewit’s values, the foundation’s mission is to create opportunities that enable people to live in and build strong and vibrant communities, achieve economic success and enjoy a high quality of life.

The Peter Kiewit Foundation generously has supported the University of Nebraska over the years with grants supporting these and many other projects and programs: UNO CodeCrush summer IT program for middle and high school girls; the Fred & Pamela Buffett Cancer Center; UNL College of Business; University of Nebraska Peter Kiewit Institute in Omaha; UNL College of Journalism and Mass Communications; and student scholarships.

Polina and Bob Schlott

Polina Schlott had a career as an acquisition professional for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers that spanned more than 15 years, including deployment in support of disaster relief efforts. She has continuously grown her engagement and volunteerism in Council Bluffs and Omaha. Born and raised in Riga, Latvia, she came to the United States with her parents in 1996 and received her citizenship in 2002. She attended the University of Nebraska at Omaha, where she received a bachelor’s degree in marketing and a master’s degree in public administration.

She is vice chair for the Phoenix Academy and also serves on the board of directors for Boys and Girls Clubs of the Midlands, Children’s Square U.S.A., Lauritzen Gardens, Council Bluffs Bridges Out of Poverty Executive Committee and PACE (Pottawattamie Arts, Culture and Entertainment). She also is a longtime mentor for Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Midlands.

Bob Schlott is the CEO and owner of Omaha-based Warren Distribution, the largest North American manufacturer of private-label lubricants. He received his Bachelor of Science in chemical engineering from Iowa State University and his Master of Business Administration from Harvard University. The Council Bluffs, Iowa, native has led a life of building community, serving on the boards of nonprofit social service and arts and culture organizations.
Martha and David Slosburg

Martha and David Slosburg are enthusiastic supporters of their community through volunteer leadership and philanthropic investments. They have been recognized for their leadership roles in education, arts and social justice.

David Slosburg is a principal of Spruce Capital Group, an Omaha-based real estate development and management firm that specializes in building and acquiring significant real estate assets for long-term ownership with holdings in eight states. The company was founded in 1918 by Jacob Slosburg Jr.

David Slosburg’s community leadership currently includes board of directors service with the Omaha Symphony Association (chairman), Heritage Services, Omaha Performing Arts Society, University of Pennsylvania Board of Overseers, University of Pennsylvania Alumni Interview Committee (regional chairman) and the Kennedy Center’s National Committee for the Performing Arts. Prior board of directors service includes the Conference for Inclusive Communities and Nebraska Cultural Endowment. He also served on the University of Nebraska Foundation’s Campaign for Nebraska UNMC College of Medicine Committee and the UNMC Truhlsen Eye Institute Advisory Board.

Martha Slosburg is currently serving on the board of visitors for the Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences of Northwestern University and is the director of the Alumni Admissions Council for the Nebraska area. She recently finished a six-year term as an elected public official serving on the board of education of the Westside Community Schools. She has served on the budget, finance, and audit committee of the Learning Community Council and was chairman of the diversity subcommittee. Additionally, she has served on the boards for Child Saving Institute, Omaha Performing Arts Society Presenters Circle, Jewish Community Center Child Development Center and Children’s Hospital & Medical Center Child Life Center.

Dorothy and Stanley M. Truhlsen, MD

Dorothy and Stanley M. Truhlsen, MD, enjoy being part of the education facility expansion at the University of Nebraska Medical Center and admire the university's contributions to the state.

The Truhlsens provided generous support for the Stanley M. Truhlsen Eye Institute at UNMC, a state-of-the-art facility designed to transform ophthalmology in Nebraska for generations to come. Their gifts also have established the Truhlsen Eye Research Laboratories in the Durham Research Center and the Dr. Stanley M. and Dorothy Truhlsen Campus Events Center in the Michael F. Sorrell Center for Health Science Education, both located on the UNMC campus.

Stanley Truhlsen is a graduate of the University of Nebraska–Lincoln and the UNMC College of Medicine. He is emeritus professor and former chairman of UNMC’s department of ophthalmology and is nationally recognized in ophthalmology. A private practice physician, he joined UNMC’s ophthalmology department in 1951. He served on the UNMC faculty until 1990 and was interim chairman of the department of ophthalmology from 1989-90.

UNMC College of Medicine Faculty

The mission of the College of Medicine at the University of Nebraska Medical Center is to promote the health of the citizens of Nebraska by advancing health and biomedical sciences through the highest quality education, patient care, research excellence and community service.

The gift was given on behalf of the College of Medicine faculty from the UNMC Science Research Fund and honors the leadership and vision of UNMC Chancellor Jeffrey P. Gold, MD.
Benefactors

AVI-SPL

AVI-SPL is a digital workplace services provider that works with organizations globally to improve team collaboration and unlock new business value. It has offices throughout the United States and Canada as well as in the United Kingdom, Germany and United Arab Emirates.

The largest provider of collaboration technology solutions, which includes its award-winning managed services, AVI-SPL works with organizations worldwide, including more than 80% of Fortune 100 companies, to strategize, design, deploy, manage and support audio and unified communications solutions.

Hawkins Sisters Foundation

The Hawkins Sisters Foundation of Omaha was formed by Kathryn Hawkins Anderson, Patricia Hawkins Stillmock, Marianne Hawkins and Fred Hawkins Jr. for the purpose of helping men and women through education, health and opportunities to improve their lives.

The Gilbert M. and Martha H. Hitchcock Foundation

The Gilbert M. and Martha H. Hitchcock Foundation is a private charitable foundation established in 1943 in Nebraska and provides support for education, health care, human services, arts and culture and religion in Nebraska as well as sponsoring a scholarship program for Omaha World-Herald newspaper carriers.

Gilbert Hitchcock was the founder of the Omaha World-Herald and a U.S. senator. He died in 1934, after which Martha Hitchcock took up her husband’s torch. She was a major stockholder and board member of the World Publishing Company for the rest of her life. She established the Gilbert M. and Martha H. Hitchcock Foundation in 1944 to carry forward the couple’s philanthropic interests. She died in 1962, the year the Omaha World-Herald came under new ownership. A Nebraska native, Gilbert Hitchcock obtained a law degree at the University of Michigan and practiced private law for a few years. In 1885, he founded the Omaha Evening World newspaper. Four years later, by purchasing the Omaha Morning Herald and combining it with the Evening World, he launched the Omaha World-Herald. He represented Nebraska for three terms in the U.S. House of Representatives and two years in the U.S. Senate.

Dr. Dennis and Ann Ross

Nebraska natives Dennis Ross, MD, and Ann Barelman Ross may no longer reside in Nebraska, but they continue to hold a connection to the state through their generous philanthropy and Husker spirit. Dr. Dennis Ross, a nephrologist, entrepreneur and 1973 graduate of the College of Medicine, and Ann Ross, a retired registered nurse, a 1971 graduate of the College of Nursing and a homemaker, reside in Wichita, Kansas. As Nebraska natives and graduates, they have been compelled to support the institution where they believe they received an excellent education.

In addition to their support for the Davis Global Center, previous philanthropy to UNMC includes the Ann Barelman Ross and Dr. Dennis Ross ICU Simulation Laboratory, scholarship funds supporting students in the Colleges of Medicine and Nursing, a gift to permanently endow the Dr. Dennis Ross Chair of Nephrology, the Michael F. Sorrell Center for Health Science Education and the Dr. Dennis and Ann Ross Lobby of the Wigton Heritage Center.

The Rosses have been generous supporters of their church, the arts and health care education in both Kansas and Nebraska.
Katy and Bill Schmidt

Katy and Bill Schmidt met professionally in the mid-1990s both having worked in the audiovisual industry. They married in 2008, and their blended family includes four children and two grandchildren. Both are enthusiastic golfers and enjoy traveling (when possible) to play top courses around the country. Katy recently retired and also enjoys gardening and being a mom and grandma. In addition to his role as a director at AVI-SPL, Bill is an artist and chef.