



## Accounting Students Participate in ARCPA Day of Service

Accounting students from various universities participated in the Arkansas Society of CPAs Day of Service on Friday, November 18, 2022. ARCPA Day of Service allows CPA members and their colleagues, staff, and accounting students around the state to participate in a public service activity on that date (or other date they choose). The event emphasizes that CPAs are involved in their profession as well as their communities.

The event was sponsored by McGriff Insurance.



*Thank you for participating  
in the 2022*



**Thank you to the students and faculty that participated in this year's Day of Service**

- Beta Alpha Psi Alpha Iota Chapter—University of Arkansas in Fayetteville**
- Beta Alpha Psi Epsilon Pi Chapter—UA Little Rock**
- Beta Alpha Psi Nu Eta Chapter—UA Fort Smith**
- Beta Alpha Psi Theta Lambda Chapter—University of Central Arkansas**

University of Arkansas at Fort Smith's Nu Eta Chapter of Beta Alpha Psi partnered with the Western Chapter of Arkansas Society of CPA's for the second year to benefit the [UAFS Lion's Pride Food Pantry](#). The charitable contributions from staff at Landmark and FORVIS CPA's and students in Dr. Randall Stone's accounting classes helped to fill the pantry with food and supplies for the winter.

Beta Alpha Psi students Lea Sappington (President), Halie Standifer (Vice President) and Austin Miller (candidate member) helped to collect the donations from FORVIS and Landmark CPAs offices in Fort Smith.



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Arkansas Beta Alpha Psi Chapters also completed a service project for Ronald McDonald House. Various members from the four chapters (Fayetteville, Conway, Fort Smith, and Little Rock) partnered with Landmark CPAs to make toiletry and snack bags for families staying at Ronald McDonald House locations across the state.

Any college or university student clubs or groups wishing to participate or collaborate with a CPA firm for this event next year can contact Robin Harris at Arkansas Society of CPAs to sign up, [rharris@arcpa.org](mailto:rharris@arcpa.org).



### Abigail Freeman, CPA

Freeman is a Principal for Bell and Company, PA in Conway. She has been a member of the ARCPA since 2016. She is a native of Arkadelphia, Arkansas and an alumna of Henderson State University.



#### What is your first experience or favorite memory of your involvement with ARCPA?

HSU accounting students took a field trip to visit a couple Little Rock firms, then stopped off at the ARCPA office to learn more about CPA's and the exam. That was some of my first exposure to what it takes to become a CPA.

#### What favorite activities/hobbies/volunteerism do you do in your spare time?

I love building Lego sets and have quite the collection - from modular buildings to flowers to roller coasters.

#### Best advice for students about becoming a CPA, or taking the CPA Exam?

When it comes to the CPA exam if you can sacrifice a short period of your life to devote to studying during or right out of college you will be better off not knowing what having a life feels like until you are done! That may be a little dramatic, but it helped me be done with the exam in a little under a year.

#### Why did you become a CPA?

I became a CPA partly because I wanted to work in public accounting and partly because I wanted to prove to myself that I could do it!

## ARCPA President and Staff

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### Education Assistant

Crystal McKee

### Sarah Monroe, CPA

Sarah Monroe. She is a Senior Staff Accountant for Garland & Greenwood CPAs and Advisors, PLLC. Monroe has been a member of the ARCPA since 2019. She is a native of North Little Rock, Arkansas and an alumna of Pulaski Technical College, University of Arkansas at Little Rock, and University of Central Arkansas.

#### What favorite activities/hobbies/volunteerism do you do in your spare time?

I love being outside. Most of the time that includes gardening/yard work and taking my German Shepherds to State Parks. I'm also learning dressage horseback riding and aim to transition into hunter/jumper disciplines. I began volunteering at Hearts & Hooves, Inc. in 2019. The work they do is life-changing, and they have the sweetest herd of horses.

#### Best advice for students about becoming a CPA, or taking the CPA Exam?

#1. Know your "why."

#2. Take care of yourself - no career/certificate/degree is worth sacrificing your health. Spoiler alert: your body performs better when you prioritize your health.

#3. What works for me: study for concepts. I rarely ever memorize info/facts; I can almost always solve a problem

based on objectives/concepts of U.S. GAAP and Internal Revenue Code (IRC). Now that I've worked in public accounting for several years, I realize that was just practice for how I solve problems at work every day.

#### Why did you become a CPA?

To help people. I first listened to Dave Ramsey and Dan Celia on the radio while sitting at my school desk in the mornings since age nine. I loved that they could solve people's problems and use numbers to do it! I also knew that I wanted to own my own business one day, so when I heard that accounting was the language of business, I figured I should start there.



## Connect With ARCPA on Social Media



[www.facebook.com/arcpafans/](http://www.facebook.com/arcpafans/)



<https://twitter.com/ARSocietyofcpas>



[www.linkedin.com/company/arcpa](http://www.linkedin.com/company/arcpa)



Review us on Google  
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## Student Conferences Discounts

Student members may attend ARCPA conferences for just \$15! (we're not kidding!) Meet and network with professionals and prospective future employers at any of these ARCPA events for \$15 each:

- End of Busy Season CPE & Fish Fry
  - Industry Commerce & Banking Conference
  - Equip Conference
  - Fraud Conference
  - Agriculture Conference
  - AR Federal Tax Institute
- Call ARCPA to register: (501) 664-8739 or (800) 482-8739.

## Becker CPA Review

Arkansas Society of CPAs associate or student members can receive a discount on the Becker Professional CPA Review for the full 4-part review course. Save \$300 off of the full 4-part review of either Live, Online, or self study review course format. Becker CPA Review classes correspond with the exam testing windows that you select.

For more information on this member service, or to access ARCPA preferred pricing with Becker, ARCPA members should visit the partner page <https://www.becker.com/arcpaPP>.

## Surgent CPA Review

Surgent CPA Review can help students prepare for the CPA Exam—during or after their undergraduate or graduate education. The 100% online course utilizes a state-of-the-art adaptive learning platform that shortens study time and improves retention allowing students to prepare and pass faster! Enrollment includes access to 350+ 20 minute-or-less video lectures, a test bank of over 7,700 multiple-choice questions, over 400 simulations, customized study guides, and unlimited practice exams.

ARCPA members receive a 35% discount on the Surgent CPA exam review course! These state-of-the-art online lectures provide a customized study program, access that doesn't expire, and a pass guarantee with every course. Studying with Surgent means less stress for you—and a faster path to passing the CPA Exam. Learn more: [www.surgentcpareview.com/partners/arkansas-society-of-cpas/](http://www.surgentcpareview.com/partners/arkansas-society-of-cpas/)

## Wiley CPA Review

As an ARCPA member, you are entitled to a 20% discount on all Wiley CPAexcel products, including the popular Wiley CPAexcel Platinum Course featuring Bite-sized Lessons and 12,000 AICPA CPA Exam practice questions.

To redeem the 20% discount, visit [www.wileycpaexcel.com](http://www.wileycpaexcel.com) or call 888-884-5669 to order. Enter code ASCPA at checkout.

## UWorld Roger CPA Review

ARCPA members save 20% off the Unlimited access course! Prepare to pass the CPA Exam with exceptional course materials that make difficult concepts easy to understand. Proven with a 91% pass rate, we proudly serve the accounting profession's top educators, employers and professional organizations to ensure success for future CPAs.

Learn more, at <https://accounting.uworld.com/cpa-review/lp/partner-organizations/>

## CPA Review Courses



## Become A Student Member Today! Membership is Free

Join Arkansas Society of CPAs (ARCPA) for free. Apply Online: <https://www.arcpa.org/join>

## Aspiring Students May Apply for 2023-24 AICPA Scholarships

All students, whether you're in community college or in a graduate program, may apply now to earn up to \$10,000 in scholarships to help you achieve your goal of becoming a CPA. One application, for five different scholarships. Scholarship eligibility requirements and amounts vary depending on the award. You must be an AICPA Student Affiliate Member to apply. Join for free at [https://thiswaytocpa.com/join\\_aicpa/](https://thiswaytocpa.com/join_aicpa/)

Apply online by March 15: <https://www.thiswaytocpa.com/education/aicpa-legacy-scholarships/>

## 5 Top Non Profit Accounting Jobs

While accounting might at first seem not as important in the non-profit sector, it is actually just as significant if not more so since resources are limited, and there are many fulfilling non-profit accounting jobs available. In these organizations, every cent matters, so accountants need to keep impeccable records and present this information to a board of directors periodically throughout the year. Plus, in order to remain a non-profit entity, there are annual specific reports and paperwork to file. Some non-profit accounting careers include the following.

### 1. Chief Financial Officer

This position is very similar to that in a for-profit corporation with the exception that maximizing profits is not part of the job. The CFO of a nonprofit focuses on strategy. They make predictions about future donations and use this information to make recommendations to the chief operating officer, executive director, and board members from a finance perspective. Often the primary focus of a nonprofit organization is related to human services, so an accountant is helpful in the conversation to ensure plans are fiscally feasible.

### 2. Director of Fundraising

Accountants involved in fundraising are crucial because the amount of funding directly relates to the ability of a nonprofit organization to fulfill its mission. This can also be one of the most difficult tasks and requires professionals who have excellent communication skills in order to explain the ideals of the organization as well as the practical aspects.

### 3. Venture Philanthropy Director

This is one of the newest nonprofit accounting careers as venture philanthropy is a relatively new concept. As [Forbes](#) describes, the idea is that businesses provide funding for a nonprofit organization in an underprivileged area or with an untested idea, lenders that cannot otherwise secure financing, with the plan that the loan will be paid back over time. Accountants in charge of these projects need to have a keen eye for promising ideas while also the ability to minimize risk.

### 4. Financial Aid Officer

Another nonprofit sector that frequently employs accountants is higher education. Many colleges and universities hold this designation and hire financial aid officers to help students find ways to afford tuition and living expenses. These professionals evaluate a student's and his or her family's situation and use a combination of grants, scholarships, and work-study programs to design a complete aid package. An effective accountant can increase a school's enrollment by helping make the school a viable option for more families.

### 5. Tax Accountant

Even though a foundation might be exempt from some taxes, an accountant still needs to file annual paperwork detailing the financial situation of the organization. There are also different types of nonprofit designations, so it is important for nonprofits to hire a tax accountant to ensure there are no penalties later. Many of these positions pay less than an equivalent job in a for-profit organization, but some accountants find this type of work fulfilling, and perks include a more casual work environment and a philanthropic mission. There is at least one non-profit accounting job at nearly every foundation and charity.

### Interested in a career at a non profit?

Check out the resumes for non profit jobs and careers guide:

[www.resumebuilder.com/student-resume-guide-for-nonprofit-jobs-and-careers/](http://www.resumebuilder.com/student-resume-guide-for-nonprofit-jobs-and-careers/)



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