



**BOLD WOMEN'S
LEADERSHIP NETWORK**

Newsletter

VOL 2

TV Writer Joins BOLD Mentors



Haily Hall, a professional TV writer for The Witcher and Showrunner for feature The Rats joined our BOLD Scholars in February to share insights from her experience working in the television industry. As an Appalachian native, Haily inspired scholars to seek success beyond the TriState. She spoke about networking, resilience, and navigating challenges in creative fields, while encouraging students to embrace unexpected “plot twists” in their journeys. Scholars were highly engaged during the discussion and Q&A, making it one of our most interactive and inspiring meetings of the semester.

Scholar Spotlight: Sarah Wazelle

Hometown: South Charleston

Major: Exercise Science & Business

BOLD Mentor: Dr. Kelli Williams

Sarah Wazelle, a double major in Exercise Sciences and Business, will soon travel with Career Education as she continues exploring opportunities in medical device sales and sports foundations. Reflecting on her experience in the BOLD Women's Leadership Network, Sarah shared, “Through BOLD, I have made invaluable connections and grown into a leader who is driven, community focused, and passionate about making a difference.”

Upcoming Events

MAR 31

MAGIC Grant Pitch

Student-led proposal presented as part of a pitch competition where scholars develop and present an initiative that supports women's leadership and community impact. Scholars gain experience in leadership, collaboration, and public speaking while proposing solutions that align with BOLD's mission of empowering women and driving positive change.

APR 01

Mocktails Network Meeting

Scholars, mentors, and foundation representatives come together to practice professional networking in a relaxed, cocktail-hour style setting. The event focuses on building confidence in conversation, practicing etiquette, and strengthening connections within the BOLD community.



Be a BOLD Scholar: Apply by March 31st

Know a rising junior that would excel in our program?

Invite them to apply by March 31st:

<https://www.marshall.edu/bold/potential-scholars/>

Growing Beyond Comfort Zones

As pitch season approaches, our BOLD Scholars are stepping boldly beyond their comfort zones. They've spent months interviewing users, testing prototypes, and refining their ideas—and now they're transforming that work into powerful magic grant pitches. This stage asks them to speak with confidence, advocate for the communities they care about, and trust the value of their ideas. Whether they're designing STEM camps, building support systems for international students, or easing the path for returning learners, each scholar is stretching, learning, and leading in new ways. Their courage and growth are the true heart of BOLD, and we can't wait to see them shine on pitch day.



Mentor Spotlight: Laura Stapleton

Being a BOLD mentor has been incredibly meaningful. I have truly enjoyed supporting the young women as they grow in confidence and discover their leadership strengths. As an Innovation Catalyst, I'm passionate about helping students take on complex challenges with creativity and courage, and BOLD has given me a wonderful opportunity to do that in a very intentional and empowering way. The BOLD mentorship experience is a chance to walk alongside young women as they design and develop a passion-driven project using the D4D (Design for Delight) process. Watching mentees approach a problem through fresh eyes and uncover insights I never would have predicted has been incredibly rewarding. Their energy makes the work feel new each time. Being part of the BOLD community means being surrounded by curiosity, creativity, and the excitement of discovery — and I would be thrilled to continue serving as a mentor for future BOLD leaders. Mentors guide students through empathy, ideation, and experimentation while encouraging them to think boldly, stretch their creative capacities, and imagine new possibilities. It's a supportive, collaborative, and deeply motivating environment where students learn not only how to lead—but how to lead with purpose.

Laura Stapleton, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor,
Department of
Mathematics & Physics
Innovation Catalyst,
BOLD Mentor



Five BOLD Scholars had the opportunity to attend the Women & Tech Conference with First Lady Alys Smith.

Featured Fact

Marshall University's BOLD Chapter will be recognized at the Women's Center 50th Anniversary celebration!