



# 2021 ANNUAL REPORT



**WORKSHOPS  
FOR WARRIORS®**



**Workshops for  
Warriors® graduates  
earn nationally  
recognized credentials  
in just 16 weeks.**





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## Our Mission

Workshops for Warriors (WFW) is a fully-audited, board-governed 501(c)(3) nonprofit. Our mission is to provide quality hands-on training, accredited STEM educational programs, and opportunities to earn third-party nationally recognized credentials to enable veterans, transitioning service members, and other students to be successfully trained and placed in their chosen manufacturing career field.

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# Letter from our Founder & CEO

## Dear Supporters,

I am pleased to share that 2021 was an incredible year of growth for Workshops for Warriors. We added 18 additional welding booths to support our new Intermediate Welding Program. We added a new Intermediate Machining Laboratory with 5-axis CNC mills and seven axis robots and launched our first Intermediate Machining Class. Knowing how hard it is to study without knowing where you will be sleeping, we added housing for an additional twelve students.

We remain steadfast in our resolve. Despite the challenges of the pandemic, we are proud to have graduated 176 students who earned 2,649 nationally recognized certifications while maintaining our 94% job placement rate.

One of the high points of 2021 was being invited to New York City to speak at the prestigious SALT Conference. The conference theme was Empowering Big Ideas and, fittingly, Workshops for Warriors' unique mission and story was shared with some of the most influential global players in finance, technology, and geopolitics.

Our work received national attention in 2021 with feature stories on CBS News, Fox & Friends, Yahoo! Finance TV, NASDAQ Trade Talks, MarketWatch, Cheddar, Industry Week and the Team Never Quits Podcast with Marcus & Morgan Luttrell.

We also produced and broadcast Workshops for Warriors Fireside Chats where I was honored to speak with influential American manufacturing leaders including former General Electric CEO, Jeff Immelt; Reliance Steel & Aluminum Co. CEO, Jim Hoffman; President of CNC Software, Meghan West; and HAAS Automation Inc. Vice President, Peter Zierhut.

Workshops for Warriors graduates are working in manufacturing careers in every state of our nation. There is an atmosphere of excitement at WFW as we approach a major milestone...our 1,000th graduate! We hope you will join us for our annual Gala in April of 2022 aboard the USS Midway as we celebrate this major milestone.

I am thrilled to share that the City of San Diego has approved a construction project which will enable us to train three times as many veterans and further our shared goal of rebuilding American manufacturing, one veteran at a time.®

We are laser focused on retraining our veterans and providing them with a renewed sense of purpose to make America the world's manufacturing superpower again.

Your financial support is the fuel that drives our shared mission.

Thank you for your support.



Very respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Hernán Luis y Prado".

Hernán Luis y Prado  
Founder & CEO

**\$58,240**

Average starting salary  
of WFW's 2021 graduates

**9,990**

Total number of nationally-  
recognized certifications  
earned by WFW graduates  
as of December 17, 2021

**966**

Total number of  
WFW graduates as  
of December 17, 2021

**94%**

Percentage of 2021  
WFW graduates employed  
in manufacturing careers



## Our SUPPORTERS AND PARTNERS

Our work relies on support from corporate partners, and generous groups and individuals throughout the nation.

Check out a few highlights of our partnerships in 2021.

See more in the Photo Gallery on pages 13-14.

### Tri Tool Technologies

pledged \$1 million in donations over the next five years, which will provide 40 scholarships for veterans and transitioning service members to train at WFW.



### Haas Automation, Inc.

continued its generous support of WFW in 2021 by donating 200 tool holders to our machining program.

### Weiler Abrasives Group

continued its tradition of donating safety gear to each of our welding students throughout the year – a total of 98 veterans and transitioning service members in 2021 – to help keep them safe.



### Councilmember Vivian Moreno

and her team volunteered during one of WFW's monthly food drives to distribute food and goods to our Barrio Logan neighbors. Together with volunteers like Councilmember Moreno, WFW served 1,917 people during this community service effort.



# Student Stories

**Craig Molina**  
**Machining Graduate**  
**Navy Veteran**

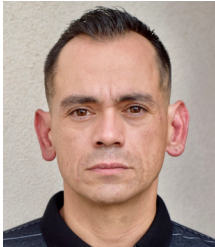


Despite his skills from doing IT in the military, Craig could not find a job when he transitioned out of the Navy. He was also in the process of getting full custody of his two-year-old son, Kane, and going through a divorce. Then, his friend told him about WFW. He enrolled in the Spring 2021 machining program.

The day before school began, Craig found himself homeless. "I sat in a parking lot with Kane and called Keshia." Keshia Jarvis-Jones, WFW's Director of Operations, arranged for them to move into WFW's student housing while Craig trained.

In April, Craig accepted a job offer as a CNC Programmer with Hubble Power Systems. "I'm paying my bills. I have Kane full time. Everything is perfect."

**Danial Monzon**  
**Welding I & II Graduate**  
**Army Veteran**



Danial joined the Army in 2005. Throughout his 10-year Army career, he completed four combat tours, quickly became a Non-Commissioned Officer, and was honored as his division's Soldier of the Year.

He decided to leave the Army in 2013. "My PTSD hit very, very hard," he said. Danial started therapy through the VA and began thinking about his future. He found WFW and enrolled in WFW's Welding I program.

Danial graduated in April 2020 and returned to train in WFW's Welding II program in May 2021.

Toward the end of his second semester at WFW, Danial accepted a job as Lead Shop Welder with Keller Drilling International.

**Bria Bohanon**  
**Welding I & II Graduate**  
**Marine Corps Veteran**



After four years of honorable service, Bria began planning her transition. She found Workshops for Warriors when searching the internet for welding programs. "There are a lot of welding programs out there. Workshops for Warriors focuses on vets, which I thought was really cool, plus it's a DOD Skillbridge program, so I was able to seamlessly transition into it," Bria said.

Bria graduated from WFW's Welding I program in August of 2021 and decided to enroll in WFW's intermediate Welding II course to expand her knowledge and credentials. She graduated from WFW's Welding II program in December of 2021 and was hired as a Fabricator by Vortex Engineering.

"Even if you have a small spark of interest in trying welding, try Workshops for Warriors. For women especially, go for it. You can do it, and it's fun."



## Student Stories, Cont.

**Jedediah Maldonado**  
**Machining Graduate**  
**Navy Veteran**



After graduating high school, Jedediah was struggling to make ends meet, working three jobs while attending college. "So," he said, "I decided to join the Navy in 2007."

After serving eight years with the Navy, Jedediah joined the reserves and graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Mechanical Engineering. "Right after I graduated, I was job searching. I asked myself, 'What can I change to make myself stand out?'" He found WFW and enrolled in the Spring 2021 machining class.

About one month into the program, Jedediah submitted his resume to several employers and was offered a job as Undersea Mechanical Engineer by Rathyeon Company. He began his new career after graduating from WFW in April 2021.

**KJ**  
**Welding I & II Graduate**  
**Marine Corps Veteran**



KJ joined the Marine Corps shortly after graduating from high school. As the end of her military contract neared, she began thinking about welding, a skill she learned in high school.

Then, she heard about WFW and enrolled in WFW's Welding I program while she was still active duty. After graduating, she signed up for WFW's Welding II program.

Nearing her second graduation from WFW, and with official military veteran status, KJ accepted a job as a welder with Santa Fe Springs Winwater. "I couldn't be more excited," she said.

When asked her thoughts on women entering the male-dominated welding field, KJ said, "Any female can accomplish and do it. I want to do this for the rest of my life."

**Luis Zamora**  
**Welding Graduate**  
**Marine Corps Veteran**



Luis served four honorable years with the Marine Corps. "Transitioning out of the military is one of the hardest things someone can go through. I was in a position where I couldn't provide for my wife and my three-year-old son. It broke my heart."

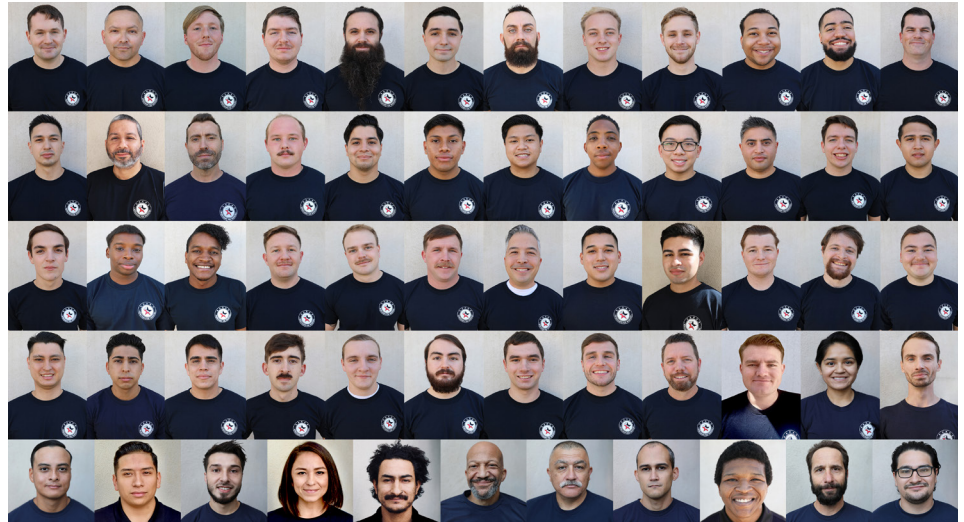
He saw a flyer with information about WFW and enrolled. "The experience at Workshops for Warriors has been everything I thought it would be and better," he said.

After completing 16 weeks of training, Luis earned 10 nationally recognized welding credentials. "Workshops for Warriors set me up with credentials above the standard of what any welder starting out is required to have," he said. "It makes us — the students — stand out even more when applying for jobs."



# 2021 Graduating Classes

## Spring 2021 Graduating Class 4th COVID Class



## Summer 2021 Graduating Class 5th COVID Class



## Fall 2021 Graduating Class 6th COVID Class





# Scholarship and Living Stipends

**Scholarships** are provided to Workshops for Warriors' veteran students who have exhausted all of their VA Education benefits, allowing any veteran who has honorably served our country to enroll in WFW's life-changing programs at no cost.

**Funding** from generous donors also helps provide many WFW students with living stipends. Living stipends support students in need of financial support for housing, food, childcare and more.

## Impact by the Numbers

**62**

Full scholarships provided

**25**

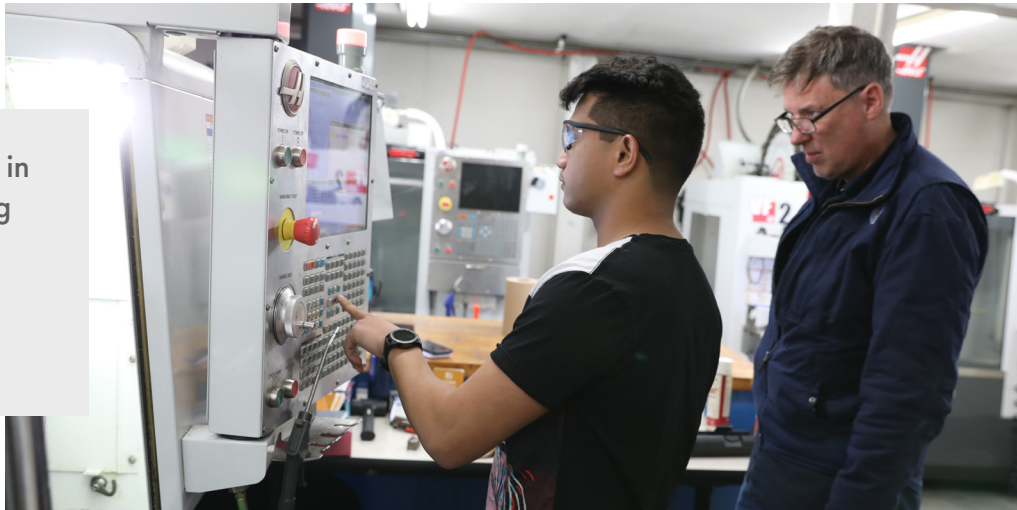
Partial scholarships provided

**12**

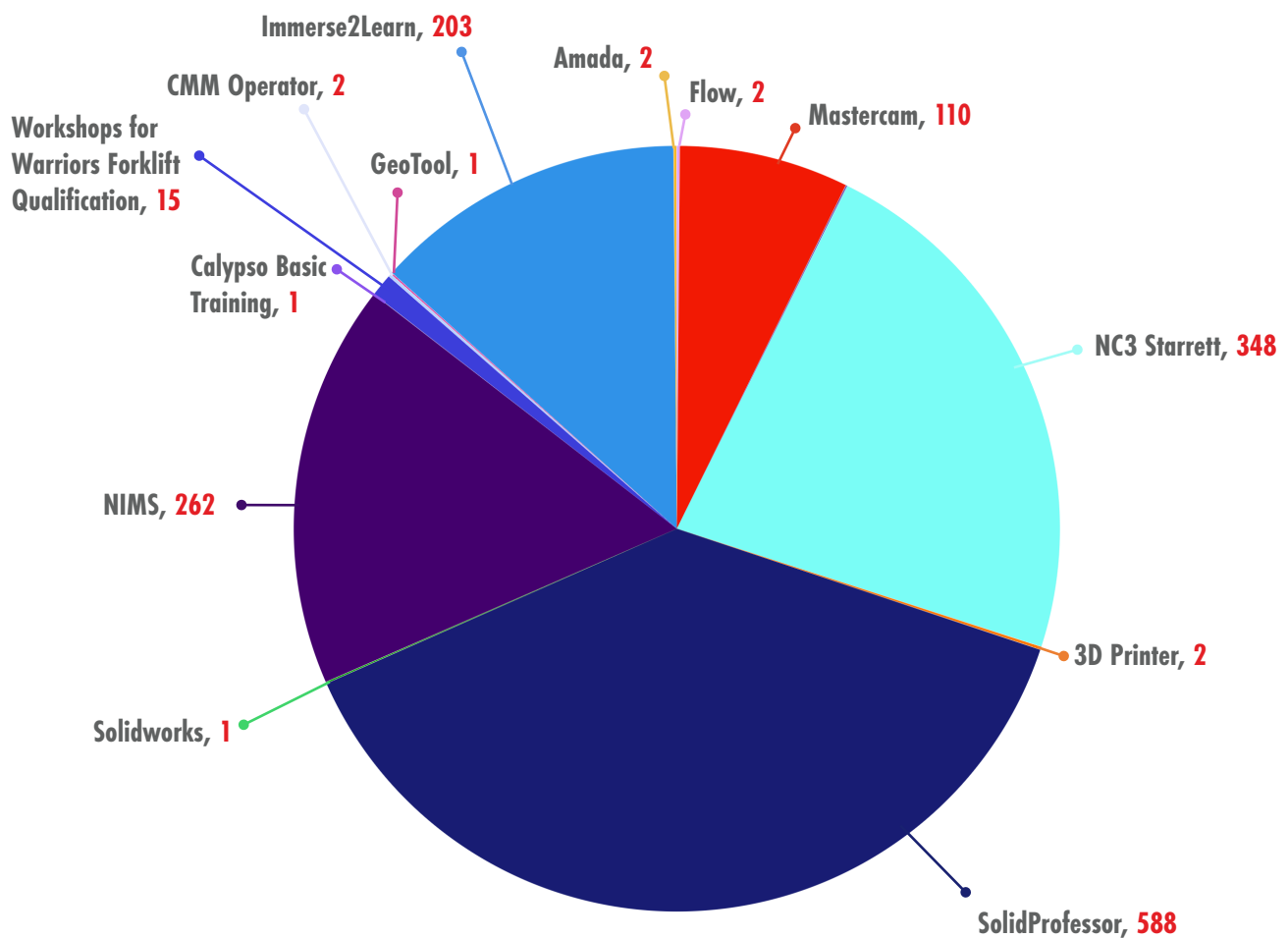
Students received living stipends, separate from the full and partial tuition scholarships provided



Students enrolled in WFW's machining program in 2021 earned a total of 1,537 machining certifications.



## 2021 Machining Credentials Earned

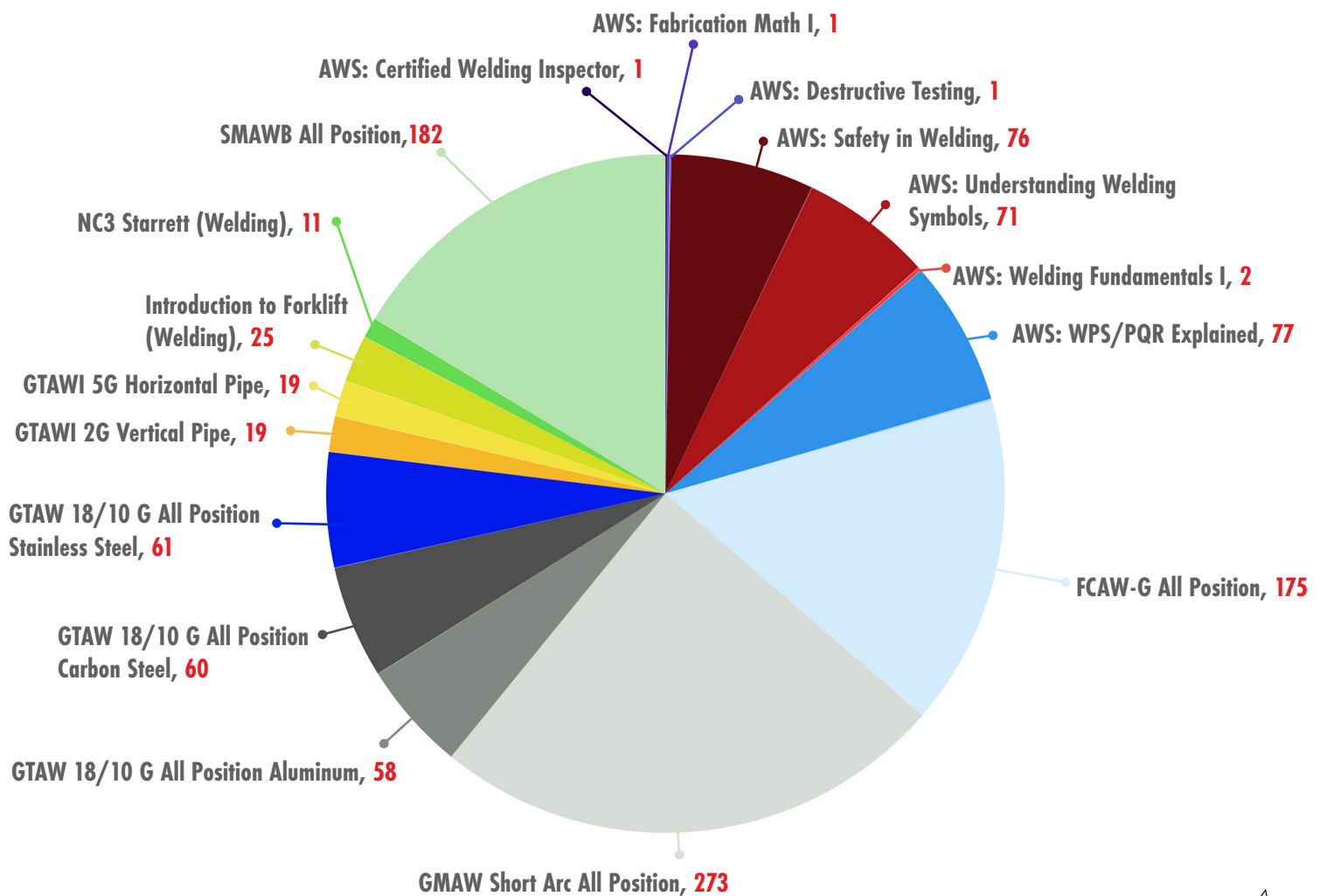


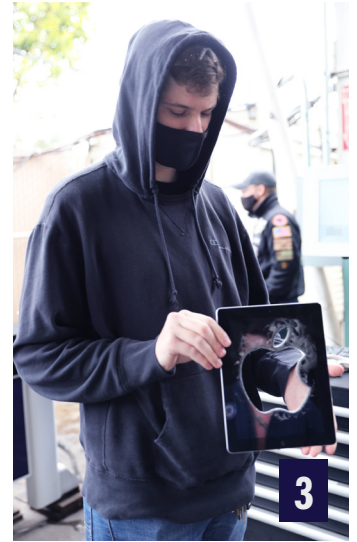


Students enrolled in WFW's welding program in 2021 earned 1,112 total welding certifications.



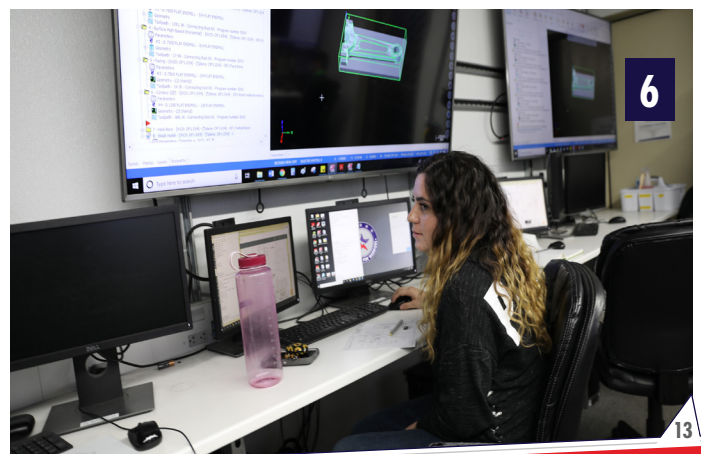
## 2021 Welding Credentials Earned





## Photo Gallery

1. WFW Founder & CEO Hernán Luis y Prado talks with students at the Fall 2021 graduation.
2. Veterans training in our Welding I program.
3. Students finalizing a project on the Flow Waterjet.
4. Welding students thank Donaldson for their longtime support. Donaldson's Downflo collector removed 300 pounds of dust and fumes from the air in 2021.
5. Summer 2021 Employer Career Fair. Over 35 job offers were presented on site.
6. Michelle, Navy veteran, training in the WFW CAD/CAM classroom.







## || Photo Gallery, Cont.

- 7.** USAA, Fall 2021 Graduation Ceremony sponsor, presents gifts to the Honor Grads. USAA sponsored all our graduations in 2021.
- 8.** Machining I students in the HTEC lab. Each machining student received a total of 640 hours of hands-on training.
- 9.** Praxair donates enough welding helmets, tools and chemicals to support over 100 welding students in their training.
- 10.** Students at our Fall 2021 Career Fair. A total of 48 employers attended our Career Fairs in 2021, giving WFW students the opportunity to interview for well-paying careers across the U.S.
- 11.** Welding I students in the welding lab. Each welding student received a total of 640 hours of hands-on training.



**Your support has never meant more.**

**Our student veterans, their  
families, and everyone at  
Workshops for Warriors thanks you.**

**Learn how you  
can continue supporting our  
mission at [wfw.org](http://wfw.org).**



**REBUILDING AMERICAN  
MANUFACTURING,  
ONE VETERAN AT A TIME.®**

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