

OACRAO SCHOLARSHIP HISTORY

In November 1995, the OACRAO Executive Committee encouraged a few OACRAO members to explore the possibility of developing a scholarship program for up and coming college freshmen. The scholarship initiative was suggested for two reasons: 1.) to make OACRAO more visible in the community, and 2.) an interest on the part of OACRAO members to give something back to the community and contribute to tomorrow's leadership. As a result, the Executive Committee approved and funded an ad-hoc committee in 1995 to develop a scholarship proposal for the organization's membership to review.

The ad-hoc committee met several times during that year, talked with AACRAO scholarship committee members as well as members of scholarship committees in other state organizations, and even OACAC (Ohio Association of College Admissions Counselors). In setting the parameters for the scholarship program, the group was very interested in focusing on recognition of students who possessed leadership and service skills in their schools and communities. Thus, at the fall, 1996 conference, the membership approved the OACRAO Leadership and Service Scholarship Committee as a standing committee in the organization. Thanks to the commitment of the Executive Committee, funding for the committee operating costs and 2-\$500 scholarships were set aside for that first year.

The Scholarship Committee went to work immediately that first year reaching out to 950+ high schools seeking out applicants for the first two OACRAO Leadership and Service scholarships ever to be awarded. The committee received over 1100 applications that first year and all were considered, but two names made it to the top after much reading and discussion about all the candidates. At the fall 1997 OACRAO conference the first two scholarship award recipients were recognized.

Continued financial commitment from the OACRAO Executive Committee as well as fundraising initiatives through the organization's membership has enabled the Scholarship Committee to increase the number and dollar amount of awards given since the first year.

In 2010, a decision was made to focus on awarding scholarships to students working in the offices of the OACRAO membership. Currently, students who work in Registrar's, Admissions, Student Services and Enrollment Management offices in Ohio colleges and universities are eligible for these scholarships. Scholarships are still based on leadership and service, and a recipient is selected from each type of institution: 2-year and nursing, 4-year public, and 4-year private.

Each year, the number of applications increases and the quality of the applicants is remarkable. The scholarship committee rigorously reviews all applications carefully and fairly, and remains steadfast in assuring the integrity of the scholarship program.

The past presidents of OACRAO consistently provide additional support for the scholarship program. Beginning in 2010, with the change to the new awarding format, they identified the 2-year community colleges and nursing school colleges as their focus to welcome involvement in OACRAO by those schools and to emphasize the important role that those institutions are playing in the academic and economic success of Ohio.

The program has garnered very strong support from the general OACRAO membership. Members truly look forward to the committee's activities, particularly the silent auction at the annual fall conference, and to the acknowledgement of the scholarship recipients. As the names of those who have earned the OACRAO scholarships are announced, the committee begins its work to determine the next year's selection of deserving scholarship recipients.

OACRAO SCHOLARSHIP AWARD RECIPIENTS

2016 Scholarship Recipients

- **Alexis Mahan** attends Mount Vernon Nazarene University
- **Megan Lytle** attends Miami University
- **Meaghan Marbry** attends Columbus State Community College

2015 Scholarship Recipients

- **Jessica Eberly** attends Columbus State Community College
- **Abigail Barrett** attends Ohio University
- **Nicole Banis** attends University of Mount Union

2014 Scholarship Recipients

- **Megan Boyk** attends John Carroll University
- **Angela Chu** attends Capital University
- **Janine Hallbom** attends Cuyahoga Community College
- **Elizabeth Untied** attends Ohio State University

2013 Scholarship Recipients

- **Janine Halbom** attends Cuyahoga Community College
- **Brooke Hradisky** attends Baldwin Wallace University
- **Mitchell Stith** attends Capital University
- **Shannon Devine** attends Ohio State University

2012 Scholarship Recipients

- **Brianna Cooper** attends Mount Vernon Nazarene University
- **Darlene Outler-Myrick** attends Cuyahoga Community College
- **Amanda Roden** attends Ohio University
- **Danielle Rueger** attends Baldwin Wallace University

2011 Scholarship Recipients

- **Melinda Ruberg** attends Ohio University
- **Rebecca Kapusta** attends Baldwin-Wallace College
- **Kristen Lewis** attends Cedarville University
- **Michelle Jakubowski** attends Chamberlain College of Nursing

2010 Scholarship Recipients

- **Mary Elizabeth Bognar** attends Ohio University
- **Kristen Drees** attends Edison Community College
- **Heather L. Farr** attends Ohio University
- **Irene Nwokolo** attends the Ohio College of Podiatric Medicine

2009 – No Scholarships Awarded During Transition

Year 2008 Scholarship Recipients

- **Corrylee Drozda** is a graduate of Perry High School and plans to attend Miami University
- **Jerrie McDonald** is a graduate of Jefferson County JVS and plans to attend Kent State University
- **Shanel Petty** is a graduate of Northmore High School and plans to attend Ohio Northern University
- **Zachary Reaver** is a graduate of Millersport High School and plans to attend the University of Toledo
- **Pamela Two** is a graduate of Perrysburg High School and plans to attend the University of Toledo
- **Jolie Yang** is a graduate of Centerville High School and plans to attend Ohio State University

2007 Scholarship Recipients

- **Daniel E. Brown** is a graduate of West Carrollton High School and plans to attend Miami University
- **Lindsey R. Bullinger** is a graduate of Fort Jennings High School and plans to attend Miami University
- **Michael C. Lyons** is a graduate of Cambridge High School and plans to attend Ohio State University
- **Kelly M. McNichols** is a graduate of Bishop Watterson High School and plans to attend the University of Dayton
- **Kayla R. Wheeler** is a graduate of Euclid High School and plans to attend Case Western Reserve University

2006 Scholarship Recipients

- **Kayla Faudree** is a graduate of Sebring McKinley High School and plans to attend Ashland University
- **Alexandra Hovland** is a graduate of Perrysburg High School and plans to attend Ohio State University
- **Lindsey Isaacs** is a graduate of Lebanon High School and plans to attend Miami University
- **Nicholas Leheney** is a graduate of North Olmstead High School and plans to attend Kent State University
- **Emily Madden** is a graduate of Anderson High School and plans to attend Ohio State University
- **Alexandria Persinger** is a graduate of Miami Trace High School and plans to attend Wittenberg University

2005 Scholarship Recipients

- **Scott Basinger** is a graduate of Leipsic High School. (Northwest)
- **Leah Finney** is a graduate of Federal Hocking High School. (Southeast)
- **Kristin Kwiat** is a graduate of Beavercreek High School. (Southwest)
- **Christina Mathie** is a graduate of Loudonville High School. (Central Ohio)
- **Megan McCrone** is a graduate of Bay High School. (Northeast)
- **Michelle Young** is a graduate of Canton South High School. (Presidential)

2004 Scholarship Recipients

- **Bethaleen Blankenship** is a graduate of Greenville High School
- **Katherine Finlay** is a graduate of Bay High School
- **Faith Gilders** is a graduate of Federal Hocking High School
- **Elizabeth Manos** is a graduate of Hilliard Darby High School
- **Katie Rapping** is a graduate of Taylor High School

2003 Scholarship Recipients

- **Rebekah L. Dannemiller** is a graduate of Liberty Union High School and plans to attend Ohio State University
- **Michael S. Hunter** is a graduate of Federal Hocking High School and plans to attend Ohio University
- **McKenzie E. Koss** is a graduate of Magnificat High School and plans to attend Ohio University
- **Stacey M. Moritz** is a graduate of Maumee High School and plans to attend Ohio State University
- **Molly E. Roth** is a graduate of Archbishop Alter High School and plans to attend Xavier University

2002 Scholarship Recipients

- **Karissa Lynn Bell** is a graduate of Loveland High School and plans to attend Ohio State University
- **Billie Elizabeth Childers** is a graduate of Waverly High School and plans to attend Ohio University
- **John Thomas Feterolf** is a graduate of Bloom-Carroll High School and plans to attend the University of Cincinnati
- **Roseann Elizabeth Holmes** is a graduate of Champion High School and plans to attend the University of Akron
- **Lindsey Michelle Risner** is a graduate of Arcadia High School and plans to attend the University of Findlay

2001 Scholarship Recipients

- **Jonathan Kissell** is a graduate of La Salle High School and plans to attend the University of Dayton
- **Katrina Nienberg** is a graduate of McComb High School and plans to attend Miami University
- **Rebecca Payne** is a graduate of Danville High School and plans to attend Youngstown State University
- **Thomas Rupe** is a graduate of Struthers High School and plans to attend Youngstown State University
- **Mark Waller** is a graduate of Waterford High School and plans to attend Muskingum College

2000 Scholarship Recipients

- **Zachary Bako** is a graduate of Niles McKinley High School and plans to attend Case Western Reserve University
- **Natasha Hamilton** is a graduate of Cleveland Heights High School and plans to attend Xavier University
- **Heather Heck** is a graduate of Springfield Local High School and plans to attend Youngstown State University
- **Erin McHenry** is a graduate of Wadsworth High School and plans to attend Ohio University

1999 Scholarship Recipients

- **Amanda Ciborek** is a graduate of Grove City High School and plans to attend Miami University
- **Rebecca Griffith** is a graduate of East Canton High School and plans to attend Mount Union College
- **Melissa Heyne** is a graduate of Centerville High School and plans to attend Miami University
- **Stacey Kammer** is a graduate of Ansonia High School and plans to attend Wright State University

1998 Scholarship Recipients

- **Emily Perlow** is a graduate of Lancaster High School and plans to attend Ohio State University
- **Jennifer Shook** is a graduate of Western Reserve High School and plans to attend Youngstown State University
- **Jared Sullivan** is a graduate of Grove City High School and plans to attend Wilmington College

1997 Scholarship Recipients

- **Anuradaha Munshi** is a graduate of Willoughby South High School and plans to attend the University of Akron
- **Mia Zaharna** is a graduate of Firestone High School and plans to attend the University of Akron