

Empowering Futures

2025 Scholarship Winners



Berkshire
Taconic
Community
Foundation

2025 BY THE NUMBERS

533

Applicants

over \$910K

Total Dollars
Awarded

271

Students Received
Awards

28%

First Generation to
attend College

\$3,321

Average Scholarship
Award

34%

of Scholarships Renewable
up to 4 years



BTCF's behind-the-scenes pros who kept our scholarship season running smoothly this year! L-R: Maeve O'Dea, Program Director; Caitlin Healy, Grants and Scholarships Operations Manager; Joanna Case, Program Coordinator; Eric Jette, Community Engagement Officer for Education and Scholarships. Photo by Sarah Kenyon.

Cover photo of Halimah Hotbani, recipient of the Emma M. Kirchhofer Scholarship. (See spotlight, page 7). Photo by Christina Lane.

Berkshire
Taconic
Community
Foundation

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Graphic Design: Christine Cassarsa



Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation is confirmed in compliance with national standards for U.S. community foundations.

Message from Our President



At Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation, we believe in the power of education to change lives—not just for students, but for families and communities for generations to come.

The cost of college tuition and fees continues to climb each year—presenting significant challenges to many students and families. Scholarships—especially when combined with other forms of aid—can make a meaningful difference. They can ease the burden, reduce the need for larger loans, and open pathways to education. Behind every scholarship we award is a story of potential, opportunity, and hope.

We see scholarships as more than funding. They are investments in potential, in resilience, and in the stories that shape our region's future. Our 2025 scholarship recipients are musicians, athletes, caregivers, advocates, and first-generation college students. They've faced challenges and embraced opportunity with courage and determination.

We are honored to recognize 271 students who received over \$910,000 in scholarships this year. They come from towns and cities across our region and embody talent, ambition, and purpose. Some have found their voice through music or advocacy; others have overcome profound challenges in pursuit of their goals. Each recipient reminds us why this work matters.

These scholarships do more than bridge financial gaps—they send a powerful message: *your community sees you, believes in you, and is invested in your future.*

Our deepest thanks go to the generous donors who make these awards possible, and to the dedicated volunteers who thoughtfully review applications and help identify students whose needs and aspirations align with each scholarship's purpose.

To all of our 2025 scholarship recipients: Congratulations!
You've already inspired us. We can't wait to see what you'll do next.

Kara Mikulich,
President, Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation

2025 Scholarship Recipients

Berkshire Taconic is proud to award scholarships to over 270 students this year! Through a careful selection process, our dedicated advisory committee members chose the following students to receive awards.

1941 Scholarship

Provides scholarship support to graduating high school seniors of Drury High School, with a priority placed on academic achievement.

Colin Daly, North Adams, MA, Thomas Aquinas College

Alice B. Henriquez Memorial Fund Writing Prize

For seniors at Webutuck High School who are entering their first year of a two-year or four-year nationally accredited college, university or trade-school.

Tatum Shambo, Millerton, NY, SUNY New Paltz

Antonio and Antoinette Pieropan Scholarship

For high school seniors, graduates, and GED recipients who are 21 or younger and have been residents of Stockbridge or West Stockbridge for a minimum of 5 years.

Rae Geddes, Glendale, MA, Southern Connecticut State University
Three Additional Anonymous Recipients

Ben Paley Scholarship

For seniors graduating from a public high school in Berkshire County or northwest Litchfield County planning to study music at a 2- or 4-year college or university.

Lou Haemmerle, Salisbury, CT, New York University

Billy Evans Memorial Scholarship

For graduating high school seniors from Drury High School pursuing a 2-year or 4-year degree in public service.

Bradley Chapman, North Adams, MA, Westfield State University

C.M. Owen Scholarship

For graduating seniors of Monument Mountain Regional High School in Great Barrington, MA who are residents of Stockbridge to pursue a post-secondary education.

Anonymous Recipient

Caligari Family Scholarship

For Monument Mountain Regional High School seniors studying art or design.

Anonymous Recipient

Cella Family Scholarship

For high school seniors who are Berkshire County Pro Shop employees and/or caddies and are going to a 2- or 4-year college, university, or vocational school.

Timothy Kaley, Dalton, MA, University of Hartford

“This scholarship has not only eased the financial burden of pursuing my passion, but it has also inspired me to work even harder in my academic journey. Knowing that there are compassionate individuals like you who believe in students’ potential is incredibly motivating.”

—Katarena Castagna,
Jacques Parker and
Marie Deguard
Arts Scholarship

Cha-Nel Scholarship

For graduating high school seniors of Chatham and New Lebanon high schools.

Addison Andrews, Chatham, NY, SUNY Oneonta
Zoey Cahill, New Lebanon, NY, University at Albany
Destiny De Jesus, Ghent, NY, University at Buffalo
Oliana DeLuca, Ghent, NY, University of Rhode Island
Brendan DeLyser, Valatie, NY, Hudson Valley Community College
Joshua Herbest, East Chatham, NY, Stetson University
Tobias Jerals, Canaan, NY, Utica University
Mason Levy, Valatie, NY, University of Florida
Madison Long, New Lebanon, NY, Knox College
Brandon Meyers*, Ghent, NY, Hudson Valley Community College
Alexis Meyers, Ghent, NY, Hudson Valley Community College
Nicole Meyers, Ghent, NY, Siena College
Jenna Palubeckis, Spencertown, NY, Colgate University
Addison Perry, East Chatham, NY, University of New Hampshire
Riley Robertson, New Lebanon, NY, Russell Sage College
Lily Strattman, East Chatham, NY, SUNY Geneseo
Emmy Velez, Germantown, NY, University at Albany
Mary Madeleine York, New Lebanon, NY, University at Albany
Owen Zaik, Ghent, NY, Siena College
Four Additional Anonymous Recipients

**Awarded in the name of June Blake*

Charles D. Wilson Scholarship

For graduating Mount Greylock Regional High School seniors who will attend any institution of higher education, with preference given to students in the school's pole vaulting and/or alpine skiing program.

Anonymous Recipient

Charles Denton Treadway Scholarship

For graduating seniors of Monument Mountain Regional High School who are residents of Stockbridge to pursue a post-secondary education.

Polly Geddes, Glendale, MA, Newcastle University
Rae Geddes, Glendale, MA, Southern Connecticut State University
Anonymous Recipient

Closson-Raught American Legion Post 1160 Scholarship

For Taconic Hills Regional School District residents who served honorably in the U.S. armed forces and their children, grandchildren, and siblings who are district students.

Connor Henderson, Hillsdale, NY, SUNY New Paltz
Madison Manzi, Ancram, NY, Russell Sage College
Sara Phesay, Copake, NY, SUNY Plattsburgh
Katelynn Stalker, Craryville, NY, Keuka College

Dana Labbee Scholarship

For graduating seniors of Hoosac Valley High School who are going to study political science, mediation, communications, or pre-law.

William Hakes, Adams, MA, Suffolk University



REN BABCOCK

Pine Plains, NY
Stissing Mountain High School
Attending Vassar College
Northeast Dutchess Scholarship

- Professional/Educational Goals: Scriptwriter for TV and film; B.A. in Film with additional studies in creative writing and Women's Studies
- School Activities: Class Treasurer; Student Council Treasurer; VP of Sci-Fi Club; Co-Editor in Chief of Literary magazine; National Honor Society Co-Chair, Period Poverty Committee; Math Honors Society; Student Activism Team Secretary
- Other activities: NECC Intern at Oblong Books; Lead Editor, People of Pine Plains
- First and Second Place awards in the Pine Plains Library Writing Contest in the short story, poetry, and creative non-fiction categories
- Volunteer work: Leader, Pine Plains Library Giving Box for Willow Roots, an organization dedicated to eliminating hunger in Pine Plains; Chair of Girl Scouts Charity Event Committee; Community Connections Through Art and Literature

Dr. Luis A. Jacome Scholarship

For graduating seniors of Ichabod Crane High School with a passion for sports and a particular interest in the field of health or science.

Allison Flint, Valatie, NY, University at Albany

Emma M. Kirchhofer Scholarship

For graduating high school seniors who are residents of Columbia County.

Mark Costanzo, Leeds, NY, UMASS Amherst

Connor Henderson, Hillsdale, NY, SUNY New Paltz

Halimah Hotbani, Hudson, NY, Cornell University

Marilyn Roque-Velasquez, Valatie, NY, Providence College

Emma Miller Scholarship

For high school seniors who are residents of Adams, Cheshire or Savoy, MA.

Tia Kareh, Adams, MA, Boston University

Molly McLearn, Cheshire, MA, University of Hartford

Talia Rehill, Cheshire, MA, Harvard College

Anonymous Recipient

Esther Samuels and Mabel Cornman Educational Scholarship

For graduating seniors of Lenox Memorial High School.

Mabel Joyce, Lenox, MA, University of Connecticut

Ferris Burtis Scholarship

For graduating high school seniors who are residents of the Berkshire Taconic region and have been accepted in a conservatory or school of music for the purpose of pursuing a career in some form of classical music.

Davis Albayeros, Cheshire, MA, Berklee College of Music

Genevieve Collins, Lenox, MA, Brown University

Bram Fisher, West Stockbridge, MA, Post-Graduate Student

Leila Paredes, Pittsfield, MA, UMASS Amherst

Madeleine Rocheleau-Holmes, Pittsfield, MA, Oberlin College

Joseph Weinberg, Richmond, MA, The Juilliard School

Anonymous Recipient

Foist Family Perseverance Scholarship Fund

For Berkshire County residents who are committed to pursuing a career in health care.

Jacob Levesque, Adams, MA, Berkshire Community College

Frederick L. Chenail & Jessie M. Chenail Scholarship

For graduating Drury High School seniors.

Atlas Lescarbeau, North Adams, MA, Saint Michael's College

Jessalyn Liang, North Adams, MA, Wellesley College

Two Anonymous Recipients

The Love of Running Scholarship

For Columbia County high school seniors who have participated for at least two years in cross-country or track and field.

Kiley Melanson, Kinderhook, NY, SUNY Cortland

“Your support encourages me to work harder and excel in every opportunity I am presented with so that in the future, I can in turn help others with fulfilling their educational goals.”

— Emma Colley,
Teddy Lee Drumm
Memorial Scholarship

Garrett Francis Collins and Josephine Goodwin Collins Scholarship

For graduating seniors who are residents of Hinsdale, MA.

Atticus Clark, Hinsdale, MA, Champlain College

West Dews, Hinsdale, MA, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

Lily Hinton, Hinsdale, MA, UMASS Amherst

George H. and Lucille E. Buterbaugh Scholarship

For graduating high school seniors who are residents of Salisbury, CT.

Ella Rydingsword, Lakeville, CT, Paul Smith's College

Gabriela Titone, Lakeville, CT, Marymount University

Guido's Fresh Marketplace Scholarship

For graduating high school students who attend a public high school in Pittsfield, Lenox, or Great Barrington, MA, and are pursuing studies in physical education, health and wellness, or business.

Zoë-Ruth Brizan, Pittsfield, MA, Howard University

Haupt Family Scholarship

For students graduating from Mount Everett Regional High School who have an interest in environmental issues and education.

Deisy Escobar, Great Barrington, MA, Westfield State University

Ivy Webster-Ben David, New Marlborough, MA, SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry

Jessica Yauri-Cambi, Great Barrington, MA, Clark University

Two Additional Anonymous Recipients

Honorable James P. Dohoney Scholarship

For graduating seniors of Monument Mountain Regional High School, Mount Everett Regional High School, Lenox Memorial High School, or Lee High School.

Leslye Bautista-Cruz, Sheffield, MA, Bentley University

Valerie Molino, Lee, MA, UMASS Amherst

Ava Ross, Ashley Falls, MA, Springfield College

Housatonic School Scholarship

For graduating seniors who are descendants of Housatonic School graduates or whose families have lived in Housatonic for at least three of the student's four high school years.

Khalil Carlson*, Housatonic, MA, Williams College

Kiko Epstein, Housatonic, MA, Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Dianna Colpitts, Housatonic, MA, Louisiana State University

Sarah Wohl, Housatonic, MA, The School of the Art Institute of Chicago

Anonymous Recipient

**Awarded in the name of Arthur Gennari*

Jacques Parker and Marie Deguard Arts Scholarship

For graduating high school seniors residing in the Berkshire Taconic region who are in pursuit of higher education and/or careers in the visual arts or architecture.

Katarena Castagna, Pittsfield, MA, Roger Williams University

Erin DeCelle, East Otis, MA, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

Rachel Fleury, Pittsfield, MA, Montserrat College of Art

Eva Jacinto, Dalton, MA, Ringling College of Art and Design

Ava Valois, Pittsfield, MA, Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts

Three Additional Anonymous Recipients



LOU WILDER HAEMMERLE

Salisbury, CT

Housatonic Valley Regional High School

Attending New York University

Ben Paley Scholarship

- Professional/Educational Goals: Musician, vocalist, music producer and sponsor of emerging artists; B.A. from NYU's Clive Davis Institute of Recorded Music, Tisch School of the Arts
- School Activities: National Honor Society; Housatonic Musical Theatre Society, Sound Technician; Yearbook Editor, Graphic Designer, Journalist, Sales Manager; Varsity Soccer Captain
- Other Activities: Lead singer/guitarist in the band "Kate from Baltimore"; Ski and Snowboard Instructor at Butternut
- Awards & Honors: Eric Whitaker Student Composer Award; Tyburski Awards, Best Varsity Freshman for soccer, basketball, and lacrosse; MVP Award, soccer; YMCA Canaan 5K Road Race, 1st Place, Women's Category; Music Internships for MXM Max Martin and Kid Bloom
- Volunteer Work: Housatonic Haunted House Fundraiser; Dig Pink Lacrosse Breast Cancer Awareness Fundraiser; Nobel Horizons Christmas; Soccer coach; Junior Windsurf Instructor; Refugee Community Kitchen in Vienna, Austria

James E. Bugley Scholarship

For high school seniors in any public high school (excluding charter institutions) in Berkshire County who wish to pursue a career in either music or vocational arts.

Anonymous Recipient

Jeannine Triaux Scholarship

For graduating seniors of New Lebanon High School entering a New York or Western Massachusetts college, university, trade or technical school, or apprenticeship.

Mary Madeleine York, New Lebanon, NY, University at Albany

Jo Anne Huntley Magee Scholarship

For graduating students of Lenox Memorial High School in high academic standing.

Cameryn Wilk, Pittsfield, MA, College of the Holy Cross

John and Elizabeth Laurent Family Scholarship

For first-generation students who have been residents of Pittsfield, MA, for at least 3 years and have received a GED or have graduated from Pittsfield High School.

Lisa Chen, Pittsfield, MA, Princeton University

Camila Sebastian, Pittsfield, MA, UMASS Amherst

Anonymous Recipient

John and Mary Finn Memorial Scholarship

For a male who has been a resident of Kent, CT for at least ten years prior to scholarship selection and is applying to a two- or four-year college program.

Patrick Money, South Kent, CT, University of Connecticut

Julia A. Smith Scholarship Fund

To provide support for healthcare training and education for non-traditional students..

Jenevieve Gavazzi, North Adams, MA, Midwestern University College of Dental Medicine

Jacob Levesque, Adams, MA, Berkshire Community College

Margaret Derwin Scholarship

For a Housatonic Valley Regional High School student in their junior year who has been enrolled at the school for at least two years.

Nichole Aguilar Neiva, Salisbury, CT, Trinity College

Katerin McEnroe, Sharon, CT, Rhode Island College

Yaritza Vega, Lakeville, CT, Middlebury College

Three Anonymous Recipients

Mark Huber Basketball Scholarship

For Lenox Memorial High School graduating seniors who are members of the varsity basketball team.

Kelsey Kirchner, Lenox, MA, University of Rhode Island

Matthew D. Reagon Scholarship

For graduates or graduating seniors of Webutuck High School.

Emily Bartolomeo, Amenia, NY, Penn State Harrisburg

Anonymous Recipient

“Furthering my education is a privilege, and I am humbled to be pursuing this path with the help of the Teddy Lee Drumm Scholarship. ...not only is a financial burden relieved, but I now have the confidence to pursue what I love at full capacity. I am ready to learn and cherish every ounce of education I can get... this foundation has truly saved me.”

— Andy Delgado,
Teddy Lee Drumm
Memorial Scholarship

McLaughlin-Wilson Scholarship

For residents of Monterey, MA.

Cheyenne Amstead, Monterey, MA, Plymouth State University
Josephine Hurst, Monterey, MA, Simmons University
Samuel Hurst, Monterey, MA, Bard College
Sophia Krans, Monterey, MA, University of Connecticut
Grace Makuc, Monterey, MA, Northeastern University
Nadia Makuc, Monterey, MA, Princeton University
Madeline Rundle, Monterey, MA, Vassar College
Shira Sawyer, Monterey, MA, Ithaca College
Grace Soule, Monterey, MA, University of Connecticut
Tina Soule, Monterey, MA, University of Vermont
Samuel Trelawny-Cassity, Monterey, MA, Vassar College
Eight Additional Anonymous Recipients

Michael Elihu Hedges Memorial Scholarship

For graduating Lenox Memorial High School seniors who will attend an accredited school of higher education for the purpose of enriching self and world.

Anonymous Recipient

Monument Mountain School Center Scholarship

For a graduating Monument Mountain Regional High School senior who has made significant contributions to the Monument Mountain school community.

Bronly Boyd, West Stockbridge, MA, Boston College
Annabel Holmes, Great Barrington, MA, Tufts University
Griffin McElroy, Lee, MA, University of Dayton
Hannah Roller, Richmond, MA, Yale University

Myrtle and Raymond Mercier Scholarship

For Monument Mountain High School seniors who are residents of Stockbridge, MA.

Polly Geddes, Glendale, MA, Newcastle University

Nicholas Boraski Family Scholarship

For a graduating senior at a public high school who has committed to pursuing further education and has lived in Berkshire County during the last two years of high school.

Darwin Carangui Saldana, Pittsfield, MA, Berkshire Community College
Bhumi Patel, Pittsfield, MA, UMASS Amherst
Two Anonymous Recipients

Northeast Dutchess Scholarship

For graduating students of Dover High School, Millbrook Public High School, Stissing Mountain High School and Webutuck High School.

Ren Babcock, Pine Plains, NY, Vassar College
Emily Bartolomeo, Amenia, NY, Penn State Harrisburg
Lisa Cameron, Lagrangeville, NY, The Pennsylvania State University
Zelizabeth Caranqui Alvear, Wingdale, NY, SUNY Oneonta
Gianna Chiappini, Wingdale, NY, Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Amber Concannon, Verbank, NY, Marist University
Leandra Costa, Clinton Corners, NY, Siena College
Daniel Diaz, Pawling, NY, Dartmouth College
Madelyn Kennaway, Dover Plains, NY, California State University of Long Beach
Daisy Matus, Millerton, NY, Rochester Institute of Technology



HALIMAH HOTBANI

Hudson, NY

Graduated from: Hudson High School

Attending: Cornell University

Emma M. Kirchhofer Scholarship

- Professional/Educational Goals: Pediatric Dentist; B.A. in Biological Sciences or Biochemistry; Advocate for equitable healthcare access
- School activities: National Honor Society; VP and Secretary, Multicultural Club; Class Secretary; Varsity Club President; Student Council; Model UN; Hudson Muslim Youth
- Other Activities: Black History Month Tribute; Hispanic Heritage Dinner; International Festival; Ramadan Fast-a-Thon, American Red Cross Blood Drives, walk-a-thons, and the charity event Ghostly Gallop; Internships: Dell Student Tech Crew, Google Help Desk Student and Certified Technician, AIS Math 8 Tutor
- Awards & Honors: University of Rochester Frederick Douglass and Susan B. Anthony Award; RIT Women in STEM Award; UAlbany Multicultural High School Scholars Award; Scholar-Athlete Award; Spencertown Academy Writer's Contest, 3rd Place; Congress of Future Medical Leaders Award of Excellence Nominee
- Volunteer Work: Hudson Humane Society; Local animal shelters; Hudson Area Library; Hudson Jazz Festival; SPARCnet Salamander Study; Hudson Children's Book Festival

Northeast Dutchess Scholarship *(continued)*

Nelly Michura, Wingdale, NY, Binghamton University

Chase Quinn, Pine Plains, NY, Binghamton University

Nell Stevens, Millbrook, NY, Wellesley College

Jose Vazquez Nava, Millbrook, NY, SUNY Oswego

Isabella Watz, Pine Plains, NY, University of Delaware

Carrissa Whitehead, Millerton, NY, Columbia University

Two Additional Anonymous Recipients

P.D. and Lucy Graybeal Wyantenuck Scholarship

For high school seniors who are the child or grandchild of a Wyantenuck Country Club member or employee, and Wyantenuck Club youth members.

Keegan Dargie, Sheffield, MA, Bridgewater State University

Peter and Doris Skorput Scholarship

For present residents of West Stockbridge who have been a resident for eight years to pursue a post-secondary education.

Bronly Boyd, West Stockbridge, MA, Boston College

Veer Patel, West Stockbridge, MA, UMASS Amherst

Elizabeth Valicenti, Housatonic, MA, Fairfield University

Two Anonymous Recipients

Peter W. Foote Memorial Scholarship

For graduating high school seniors from Drury High School planning to attend a certified vocational training program or accredited college or university.

Jacinta Felix, Stamford, VT, Saint Michael's College

Anonymous Recipient

Pittsfield Scholarship

For graduating seniors who reside in Pittsfield, attend Pittsfield High School or Taconic High School, and have financial need.

Zoë-Ruth Brizan, Pittsfield, MA, Howard University

Quailwood Scholarship

For residents of Red Rock, NY.

Jacob Carroll, East Chatham, NY, SUNY Adirondack

Olivia Delgado, East Chatham, NY, John Jay College of Criminal Justice

Rhoda Lubalin Art Scholarship

For Webutuck High School seniors who plan to study art.

Anonymous Recipient

Rhoda Rubin Memorial Nursing Scholarship

For residents of Berkshire County who have been accepted into the nursing program at Berkshire Community college having met all registration requirements and prerequisites.

Anonymous Recipients

Robert Anelli Family Scholarship

For residents of New Marlborough, Monterey, Otis, Sheffield, or Sandisfield, MA who are pursuing a technical or vocational degree or certificate.

Isaac Winters, Otis, MA, CDL Training Academy

Two Additional Anonymous Recipients

“I am sincerely thankful to receive the Myrtle and Raymond Mercier Scholarship and West Stockbridge Grange Scholarship, and am amazed at how willing the community around me is to give back and support the future of local high school seniors. I want to say a massive thank you for these scholarships and the belief you have in my future pursuits.”

— Polly Geddes,
Myrtle and Raymond
Mercier Scholarship
and West Stockbridge
Grange Scholarship

The Sean Patrick French Memorial Scholarship

For Chatham High School seniors who provide community service, demonstrate good sportsmanship, and exemplify compassion, sensitivity, and a positive attitude.

Two Anonymous Recipients

The Section II Good Sport Scholarship

For high school seniors who received the Sportsmanship Award from the New York State Public High School Athletic Association Section II coaches.

Anonymous Recipient

Sweet Brook Scholarship

For residents of northern Berkshire County who are currently working in a health care field to further their health care education and qualifications.

Jenevieve Gavazzi, North Adams, MA, Midwestern University College of Dental Medicine

Jacob Levesque, Adams, MA, Berkshire Community College

Anonymous Recipient

Tabor Foundation

For residents of and people working in northwest Litchfield County, CT, northeast Dutchess County, NY, or southeast Columbia County, NY, who plan to undertake education or training in a health care or medical field and seek employment in their community afterwards.

Kathryn Heacox, Lakeville, CT, Springfield College

Melia Hill, Sharon, CT, University of Connecticut

Avery Tripp, Falls Village, CT, University of Hartford

Two Anonymous Recipients

Teddy Lee Drumm Memorial Scholarship

For high school graduates who have been residents of Sharon, CT, for at least two years.

Adrienne Aakjar, Sharon, CT, Connecticut State Community College

Tyler Anderson, Sharon, CT, SUNY Cobleskill

Emma Colley, Sharon, CT, University of Richmond

Andy Delgado, Sharon, CT, Syracuse University

Natalie Hudson, Sharon, CT, Elon University

Katya Nweeia, Sharon, CT, Western Connecticut State University

Three Additional Anonymous Recipients

Thomas J. Berlinghoff Scholarship

For graduating seniors of Webutuck High School.

Olivia Lopane Wickwire, Millerton, NY, Marist University

Tom Giddings Memorial Scholarship

For graduating high school seniors from one of the high schools of Pittsfield, MA who are residents of Pittsfield, MA.

Abigail Malumphy, Pittsfield, MA, UMASS Boston

Jonathan Ofori, Pittsfield, MA, UMASS Amherst

Two Additional Anonymous Recipients



ZOË-RUTH BRIZAN

Pittsfield, MA

Pittsfield High School

Attending Howard University

Guido's Fresh Marketplace Scholarship

and the Pittsfield Scholarship

- ▶ Professional/Educational Goals: Music Attorney, B.M. in Classical Piano performance with a double minor in entertainment law & music business
- ▶ School Activities: PHS Orchestra; Advancing Minds of Colour; Class Council; Leaders in Action; Best Buddies; Mock Trial; Varsity Track & Field
- ▶ Other activities: Pittsfield Youth String Quartet; Kids 4 Harmony; Rites of Passage and Empowerment (R.O.P.E); Rotary Interact Club; Central Berkshire Youth Advisory Board; Stockbridge Sinfonia; El Sistema Side-by-Side; El Sistema USA Youth Ambassador; Le Moyne Leadership Academy; Girls Empowerment Leadership Initiative; Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Seminar; National Youth Leadership Forum: National Security
- ▶ Awards & Honors: National Merit Scholarship; Le Moyne Heights Book Award; Stockbridge Sinfonia's Dick Perera Award; Rotary Youth Leadership Award
- ▶ Volunteer Work: Oak Academy & Orphanage in Ghana, Africa and The Good Shepherd Orphanage in Ghana, Africa; Mentor, Flying Cloud Institute

Vincent Stannard Memorial Scholarship

For students participating in higher education who are part of the Berkshire Hills school district (West Stockbridge, Stockbridge, Housatonic, Great Barrington).

Scarlett Ritcher, Great Barrington, MA, UMASS Amherst

Waterman and Remillard

For alumni of Drury High School who are undertaking a college-level theater studies program.

Atlas Lescarbeau, North Adams, MA, Saint Michael's College

West Stockbridge Grange Scholarship

For graduating seniors from a local high school who are residents of Great Barrington, Richmond, West Stockbridge or Stockbridge, MA, pursuing studies in a career such as agriculture, conservation, the environment, nursing, or teaching.

Polly Geddes, Glendale, MA, Newcastle University

Rae Geddes, Glendale, MA, Southern Connecticut State University

Scarlett Ritcher, Great Barrington, MA, UMASS Amherst

Elizabeth Valicenti, Housatonic, MA, Fairfield University

William and Margery Barrett Scholarship

For residents of Adams, Cheshire, or Savoy who were full-time residents within Adams, Cheshire, or Savoy during most of the last two years of high school.

Jaelyn Deeley, Adams, MA, Bridgewater State University

Frank Field, Adams, MA, Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts

Tia Kareh, Adams, MA, Boston University

Ava Stefanik, Cheshire, MA, Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Anonymous Recipient

William J. Newton Memorial Scholarship

For residents of Berkshire County entering a two-year program at a community college or a technology curriculum in a community college, technical, vocational, or trade school.

Raluca Heiser, Pittsfield, MA, Berkshire Community College

Jacob Levesque, Adams, MA, Berkshire Community College

Anonymous Recipient

William Stanley Scholarship

For high school seniors planning to attend a four-year college who have physically lived within Berkshire County during the last two years of high school.

Deisy Escobar, Great Barrington, MA, Westfield State University

William Garrity, Pittsfield, MA, Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts

Noelia Salinetti, Tyringham, MA, Gallatin School of Individualized Study
(New York University)

Leighana Williamson, Pittsfield, MA, Southern New Hampshire University

Anonymous Recipient

“I am beyond grateful and thankful for being chosen... and to be seen qualified and appreciated...I will always be honored to carry the name of this award.”

—Tia Kareh,
Emma Miller Scholarship
& William and Margery
Barrett Scholarship

Williams Academy Scholarship

For residents of Stockbridge, MA who are college-bound graduates of Monument Mountain Regional High School.

Anonymous Recipient

Williams High School Scholarship

For graduating seniors of Monument Mountain Regional High School who are residents of Stockbridge or West Stockbridge to pursue a post-secondary education.

Bronly Boyd, West Stockbridge, MA, Boston College

Veer Patel, West Stockbridge, MA, UMASS Amherst

Elizabeth Valicenti, Housatonic, MA, Fairfield University

Anonymous Recipient

Williamson Family Scholarship

For graduating seniors of Monument Mountain Regional High School

Ava Ross, Ashley Falls, MA, Springfield College

Winthrop Crane Scholarship for Graduate Studies

For graduates of Wahconah Regional High School or a vocational-technical program of a public high school who are planning to enroll in post graduate studies at an accredited college or university and who are/were residents of Becket, Cummington, Dalton, Hinsdale, Peru, Washington, or Windsor.

Autumn Sheldon, Dalton, MA, Roger Williams University School of Law

Two Additional Anonymous Recipients

Women's Club of the Berkshires Scholarship

For female students who are residents of Berkshire County.

Cameryn Wilk, Pittsfield, MA, College of the Holy Cross

Anonymous Recipient

Zenas Crane Scholarship

For graduates of Wahconah Regional High School or a vocational-technical program of a public high school who are/were residents of Becket, Cummington, Dalton, Hinsdale, Peru, Washington, or Windsor.

Brennan Andersen, Dalton, MA, UMASS Amherst

Daniella Barry, Dalton, MA, Pennsylvania State University

Ever Brophy, Dalton, MA, Berkshire Community College

Edriana Collins, Dalton, MA, Springfield College

Landon Corcoran, Dalton, MA, University of Tampa

West Dews, Hinsdale, MA, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

Luke DiCicco, Dalton, MA, UMASS Amherst

Madeline DiFazio, Dalton, MA, Mount Holyoke College

Carter Drake, Hinsdale, MA, University of Tampa

Sheffield Drewry, Becket, MA, Boston College

Leah Duquette, Dalton, MA, UMASS Amherst

Eva Eberwein, Dalton, MA, Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts

Hannah Friedman, Dalton, MA, University at Buffalo

Isabelle Gale, Dalton, MA, Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts

Britney Gaudette, Dalton, MA, Framingham State University

Alexis Gero, Dalton, MA, Westfield State University

Christian Herrera, Pittsfield, MA, UMASS Amherst



LEIGHANA WILLIAMSON

Pittsfield, MA

Pittsfield High School (2021)

Attending Southern

New Hampshire University

William Stanley Scholarship

- Professional/Educational Goals: Attorney, Bachelor's degree in criminal justice, with a concentration in human services and advocacy
- Employed as a full-time paralegal in the Pittsfield, Mass. law offices of Martin Hochberg & Cianflone, PLLP, since 2024
- Receptionist with the law firm of Campoli, Monteleone & Mozian, Great Barrington, Mass., from 2023-2024
- Full-time student at Southern New Hampshire University, maintaining a 3.5 GPA
- Parent of a lively 2-year-old, Leila

Zenas Crane Scholarship *(continued)*

Ottovio Herrick, Hinsdale, MA, Berkshire Community College
Lily Hinton, Hinsdale, MA, UMASS Amherst
Eva Jacinto, Dalton, MA, Ringling College of Art and Design
Timothy Kaley, Dalton, MA, University of Hartford
Sean Kays, Dalton, MA, UMASS Dartmouth
Mikaila Kruck, Washington, MA, Worcester state university
Logan Kunde, Dalton, MA, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
McKenzie LaBier, Becket, MA, Bay Path University
Vienna Mahar, Windsor, MA, University of Vermont
Dominic Marcella, Hinsdale, MA, UMASS Amherst
Braedon Melle, Dalton, MA, UMASS Amherst
Thea Nhim, Dalton, MA, Marist University
Megan O'Bryan, Dalton, MA, Berkshire Community College
Aiden O'Connor, Dalton, MA, Westfield State University
Lilly Patton, Washington, MA, College of the Holy Cross
Brady Payson, Dalton, MA, Westfield State University
Kathryn Perrone, Washington, MA, UMASS Lowell
Ella Reardon, Dalton, MA, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Anthony Redd, Dalton, MA, Curry College
Julia Renderer, Dalton, MA, Endicott College
Phalyn Renderer, Dalton, MA, Siena College

Colby Robb, Dalton, MA, Siena College
Olivia Roberts, Dalton, MA, UMASS Boston
Jayden Sayers, Dalton, MA, University of Maine
Sienna Shannon, Dalton, MA, Paul Mitchell School of Cosmetology
Sarah Thornton, Washington, MA, Clemson University
Shaun Thornton, Washington, MA, Rochester Institute of Technology
Logan Warden, Dalton, MA, Berkshire Community College
Brett Wasuk, Dalton, MA, UMASS Amherst
Benjamin West, Dalton, MA, Western New England University
Marleigh White, Peru, MA, Berkshire Community College
Grace Wildrick, Dalton, MA, Nazareth University
Lucas Wildrick, Dalton, MA, UMASS Amherst
Theodore Wildrick, Dalton, MA, SUNY College of Environmental
Science and Forestry
Noah Willis, Washington, MA, Westfield State University
Casey Wilson, Peru, MA, Clarkson University
Twenty-Five Additional Anonymous Recipients

Note: A small number of student names do not list the college they will be attending. This information was not available at the time we went to press. In addition, some students chose to not have their names published and are listed as Anonymous Recipient(s).

Congratulations to all our winners!

In addition to the many scholarships for which BTCF manages the selection process, we also have a range of scholarships where BTCF provides financial and back-office management services only, leaving the applicant selection process to other institutions. The following scholarships awarded over \$215K in 2025:

Becket Scholarship Fund

The Bluebird Fund

Bruton Fund for Williams College and MCLA

Daniel S. and Evelyn F. Smith Fund

Digital Asset Scholarship

Dr. H.H. Gadsby Scholarship

H.V.R.H.S. Alumni Association Fund

Isringhaus Scholarship Fund

J. Edward Dery Scholarship

Make a Difference Student Debt Reduction Fund

Michael P. O'Brien Scholarship Fund

Moe England '53/England Scott Family Scholarship for Colgate

Monroe England Legacy Fund

North Adams Vietnam Veterans Chapter 54 Scholarship Fund

Roger T. Knollmeyer Scholarship Fund

Ruth P. Boraski Fund for Girls Incorporated of the Berkshires

Sadie & Charles Boraski Scholarship

Violet H. Simmons Scholarship Fund, Inc.

Every scholarship fund begins with one person's commitment to inspire the next generation.

Northeast Dutchess Fund Scholarship

Robert H. Wilder, Jr., a generous supporter of scholarships for Northeast Dutchess County, wants to expand opportunities for young people in this rural community to pursue their interests and discover hidden talents. "There's a whole world out there," he says. "Educational support is one way to help students step beyond the familiar ground of what they know and imagine a new future for themselves."

Dr. Luis A. Jacome Scholarship

Established in memory of Dr. Jacome by his wife, Mary Riley-Jacome, this scholarship honors Dr. Jacome's legacy of a life spent helping others, as well as his dual passions of education and sports; he believed that combining athleticism and academic pursuits could help one achieve one's dreams.

James E. Bugley Scholarship – The Jamie Fund

Established by Bob Bugley in honor of his son Jamie, this award celebrates a life filled with talent and hard work. Jamie performed as a percussionist and vocalist and graduated with honors from Hudson Valley Community College. He went on to become co-owner of Interlaken Land Management, where he excelled at planning and machinery skills. This award supports students pursuing careers in music or the vocational arts.

Myrtle & Raymond Mercier Scholarship

The Merciers were long-time employees of Monument Mountain Regional High School; Raymond as its first building superintendent and Myrtle as a kitchen worker. A planned bequest from their estate established a scholarship for a Monument Mountain senior. Their children have been instrumental in stewarding their vision forward; Norman currently serves on the scholarship committee and presents the award to the winning student each year. His younger sister Anna will take the helm next year.

Berkshire Inspired Educational Fund

In 2020, retired doctors Jeff Leppo and Marjorie Safran established a fund to focus on education and racial equity. They took inspiration from civil rights activist and scholar W.E.B. Du Bois, who earned degrees from both Fisk and Harvard Universities with financial support from his Great Barrington church congregation. The fund supports BIPOC, economically disadvantaged youth in Berkshire County who face emergency financial needs while pursuing higher education—and ensures BIPOC voices are part of decision-making for the fund. Jeff shares, "We see philanthropy as a force for change. The work is far from done."

If you are inspired to start a scholarship fund, please contact Eric Jette, Community Engagement Officer for Education and Scholarships at ejette@berkshiretaconic.org or 413.229.0370 ext. 107.

A Bequest is More Than a Gift —It's a Lasting Investment in the Future.

Thanks to the generosity of donors who included BTCF in their estate plans, the scholarship funds listed below continue to change lives. Each bequest reflects a lasting commitment to education and creates opportunities for future generations to learn, grow, and thrive.

Whether you add to an existing BTCF fund or start a new scholarship fund of your own, your bequest can change lives for decades to come.

1941 Scholarship Fund - North Adams School District

Antonio and Antoinette Pieropan Scholarship Fund

Billy Evans Memorial Scholarship Fund

Cha-Nel Scholarship Fund

Ferris Burtis Scholarship Fund

Frank H. Wright Scholarship Fund

Frederick L. & Jessie M. Chenail Scholarship Fund

Garrett Francis Collins & Josephine Goodwin Collins Scholarship Fund

George H. and Lucille E. Buterbaugh Scholarship Fund

Housatonic School Scholarship Fund

Jacques Parker and Marie Deguard Arts Scholarship Fund

John and Mary Finn Memorial Scholarship

Julia A Smith Scholarship Fund

McLaughlin-Wilson Scholarship Fund

Myrtle and Raymond Mercier Scholarship Fund

Paul O. Gravel English Scholarship Fund

Peter and Doris Skorput Scholarship Fund

Teddy Lee Drumm Memorial Scholarship Fund



“Growing up in the Berkshires and attending Monument Mountain formed the person I am now, and I’m happy to carry those roots with me to college. Your contribution makes this new chapter ever more possible, and I am determined to make the most of it.”

—Griffin McElroy,
Monument Mountain School Center Scholarship

Berkshire Taconic
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

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