



Shawnee Scholarship Fund Update

Together We GIVE, So They Can SUCCEED

Summer 2024

Welcome to this update of the Lima Shawnee Scholarship Fund. This edition highlights our 2024 recipients, talks about the need for scholarships, and introduces you to Ms. Sharon Dwyer, Scholarship Committee Chair.

Congratulations to the 2024 Recipients of the Shawnee Scholarship Fund!

(listed alphabetically)

CALE ADAMS

Ohio State University, Biomedical Engineering
\$1,000 Legacy Scholarship

SHASHANK CHANAMOLU

Ohio State University, Biomedical Science
\$2,000 Kirk Family Foundation Scholarship

KELLY COOPER

Ohio State University, Pharmaceutical Sciences
\$2,000 Ron Huber Scholarship

KARINA DELGADO

University of Toledo, Biology
\$2,000 Roush Family Scholarship

MADISON EXTINE

Bowling Green State University, Education
\$1,000 Legacy Scholarship

CARSON FROST

University of Cincinnati, Architectural Engineering
\$1,000 Legacy Scholarship

DANIEL KOH

Case Western Reserve, Biochemistry
\$2,000 Kirk Family Foundation Scholarship

ROSE KOTTAPALLI

Cornell University, Biology
\$5,000 Zarzar-Portmann Award for Medicine

ADDISON MAXWELL

Ohio State University, Nursing
\$1,000 Legacy Scholarship

ANDREW MCKENZIE

Ohio State University, Actuarial Sciences & Math
\$2,000 Steven J. Gordon Scholarship

LENA PARSLEY

Miami University, Chemistry
\$2,000 Thomas & Caroline Frail Family Foundation Scholarship

OLIVIA SHENOUDA

University of South Florida, Music and Pre-Med
\$1,000 Legacy Scholarship

ADELAY STOVER

University of Cincinnati, Finance
\$1,000 Legacy Scholarship

LILY VONDRELL

Ohio Wesleyan University, Biology
\$4,000 Keith & Deborah Wandell Scholarship

In the Spring of 1927 the first graduating class of fourteen students received their diplomas from Shawnee High School. Since that day thousands of young people have walked in the doors of Shawnee High School and walked out as graduates. In 2027 Shawnee will celebrate 100 years of student success.

To highlight this significant milestone, the Lima Shawnee Scholarship Fund was established. This scholarship program provides a way for 100 years of Shawnee classmates and generations of Shawnee families to join fellow alumni to celebrate their time at SHS and build a legacy of support for future graduates. It is a great opportunity for you to honor the special people at Shawnee who contributed toward your success and helped you become the person you are today. It is also a way to honor the many generations of family members who have attended Shawnee across the decades.

To date, 32 Shawnee graduates have received scholarships, with a total of \$61,000 going to deserving recipients. Please join us in supporting Shawnee graduates. For more information, go to www.LimaShawneeScholarshipFund.org.

The Need for Scholarships

In 1643 Harvard College created the first endowed scholarship. It was established by Lady Anne Radcliffe Mowlson. Born Anne Radcliffe, she was an early benefactor of the fledgling Harvard College and is remembered today in the name of Radcliffe College. Her financial aid scholarship was for “*the maintenance of some poor schollar which shall be admitted into Harvards Colledge.*” Her gift, now known as the Lady Mowlson 1643 Fund, has benefited countless students over the past 381 years and has inspired millions to create additional financial support.

Why are scholarships so needed today? Unlike loans, scholarship funds do not have to be paid back over time — an assurance that can significantly reduce financial stress and increase student success. In fact, a recent Forbes study reported that scholarship recipients are more likely to graduate from college, and graduate on time, than those with student loans.

For decades, public colleges and universities have seen reduced state and federal support as a percentage of their overall operating budgets, forcing many schools to transfer much of the cost to students and private donors. In trying to keep increases at a minimum, many schools are now implementing faculty reductions and decreasing programs offered. Even with these attempts to contain costs, more of the financial burden of a college degree is borne by the student, often resulting in an increased amount of student loans.

According to a 2023 report from U.S. News & World Report, today’s average college student graduates with about \$30,000 in student loans. That’s a nearly 25% increase from a decade ago and can create a severe financial burden for today’s young adults.

To reduce the need for loans, many students seek part-time employment during the school year to help offset the cost of a college education. Unfortunately, employment brings additional stress and can impede students’ ability to concentrate on their studies. Scholarship recipients, on the other hand, experience some relief from that burden. Having time to focus on schoolwork can lead to better grades and allow students to earn their college degrees on time.

Lima Shawnee Scholarship Fund recipients are selected for multiple reasons. Some scholarships are based on academic achievement, some are needs-based, while others prioritize school leadership or community service. But all recipients share common characteristics - a solid GPA, good writing skills, a level of academic achievement, and evidence of school or community leadership. And being a scholarship recipient is not only recognition of the recipient’s capability and academic prowess; it also lets the student know others support them in their journey.

In our few short years of existence, the Lima Shawnee Scholarship Fund has granted scholarships to more than 30 Shawnee graduates and provided more than \$60,000 in financial support. Please help us help them. *Together We GIVE So They Can SUCCEED.*

This article was written by Tom Orchard, CFP®, CAP®, and current Chair of the Lima Shawnee Scholarship Fund, Inc. For more information on the Lima Shawnee Scholarship Fund, visit their website at www.LimaShawneeScholarshipFund.org or contact Tom Orchard directly at info@LimaShawneeScholarshipFund.





A MESSAGE FROM SHARON DWYER, SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIR

As Chair of the Scholarship Committee, Sharon Dwyer holds one of the most important positions in the Shawnee Scholarship Program. A 1969 graduate of Shawnee, Sharon was also one of the primary drivers in the establishment of the scholarship fund.

How did you get involved with the Shawnee Scholarship Fund?

When our SHS graduating class was anticipating our 50th year reunion in 2019, class President, Bob Zarzar, and I wondered if there was a meaningful way to mark this significant milestone that could have both longevity and future benefit for Shawnee students. It was very important to us that whatever we did should be open for participation by all Shawnee Alumni and the greater community.

At the same time, we learned that the class of 2026-2027 will be the 100th graduating class from Shawnee High School. After several discussions and a variety of considerations, the idea for the Shawnee Alumni-Legacy Scholarship Program was born (also known as the Shawnee Scholarship Program).

Why have you continued to be involved with the program?

My sister, Pat, my brother, Don, and I are all Shawnee graduates. As we were growing up, the school and the greater Shawnee community played an important part in our formative years and who we each became as adults, providing each of us with lifelong friends, influential coaches, mentors, and teachers. Our parents always emphasized and encouraged continuing our education, and our mother in both her words and her actions, shared the importance she placed on giving back and community service. For me, working on the development of this scholarship effort, chairing the scholarship committee, and coordinating the selecting and awarding of scholarships each year has been both enjoyable - connecting with other Alumni, current Shawnee personnel and students - and rewarding - especially hearing the profound appreciation from scholarship recipients and their families. At the same time, it has provided an opportunity to honor our parents' influence and their values.

As Chair of the Scholarship Committee, please share how your committee goes about selecting scholarship recipients...

The Scholarship Committee members represent a variety of SHS classes, fields of study and vocational specialties. They all got involved and give of their time because they believe in the potential of these Shawnee graduates and the power of advanced education and training. They spend hours and hours thoughtfully and thoroughly reviewing and discussing each student application. The committee has worked with Shawnee counselor, Abby Wood, and high school administrators to make sure that the application captures, as clearly as possible, each student's record, experiences, and potential. But on paper it is still challenging to see and appreciate each student applicant as an individual. Based upon student feedback, this year additional short open-ended, narrative questions were added to the application to gather more in depth understanding of each applicant and their background, experiences, and future goals. In the three years that we have been providing scholarships the committee has awarded excellence, service and leadership while awarding others for effort and potential.

The scholarship committee wants the awarding of scholarships to serve as a reward for performance, work, and effort. At the same time, the committee has provided a few scholarships for students in whom they see future possibilities and promise. They hope these individuals are motivated and encouraged by the support they receive.

Do scholarship recipients share certain common characteristics?

The Scholarship recipients are selected for multiple reasons. Some scholarships are based on academic achievement, some are needs-based, while others prioritize school leadership or community service. All recipients, however, have a solid GPA, proficient writing skills, a level of academic achievement, and evidence of school or community leadership. It may not seem with today's costs associated with higher education or advanced training that a \$1,000 or even \$2,000 scholarship may be that important. But we know from the feedback we have received from our recipients and their families that every dollar matters and helps. We also know from notes we have received from the students themselves that the dollars are greatly appreciated but the support and inspiration that the scholarships signify, especially from fellow Shawnee alumni, can be even more important.

How would you gauge the program's success to date?

In the three short years that we have been giving scholarships, grants have been given to more than 30 Shawnee graduates and provided more than \$60,000 in financial support. Every dollar of scholarship money goes directly to the educational institution or center for training. Scholarship funds have been sent to over 20 different academic and training institutions. Our scholarship recipients are studying or majoring in a wide range of educational pursuits from Architectural Engineering to Education, Finance, Medicine and more. Our vision is based upon the conviction that an educated society is essential to a healthy society, and we recognize the importance of furthering the opportunities available to Shawnee High School graduates. We are proud to reward those who have exhibited excellence, integrity, responsibility and respect for their fellow students as they continue their quest for lifelong career growth and lives of engaged citizenship in a global society.

Thank you, Sharon Dwyer, for all you are doing to support Shawnee High School graduates.

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Where do we go from here? Please read these comments from our scholarship recipients...

"The price of education can be incredibly daunting and overwhelming. Not only has the scholarship support made the financial burden of college much more bearable, but it has also encouraged me to challenge myself to the utmost degree knowing that I have supporters who believe

in me and my ability to succeed. This financial support has pushed me to get more involved, work even harder in my classes, and stay productive throughout the hard times, because I hope to make those who financially invested in me proud."

"Thank you to all who have donated. The assistance you have provided is immensely impactful. To those who have had the thought of donation cross your mind, thank you already for just taking the time to consider such a selfless and remarkable effort. The financial burden each student takes on when deciding to pursue a college degree is daunting, but by financially donating to committed students, you are investing in future teachers, health care professionals, lawyers, and CEOs. With these students already being equipped with a Shawnee education, they will no doubt be successful in any endeavors they will encounter, but your financial contribution, that communicates to that student that you believe in them and are willing to support them in reaching their goals, can truly be the difference that pushes that student to become a leader of this world."

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Contributions are the lifeblood of our mission, and we need your help! The program has a goal of reaching a \$1,000,000 endowment before the celebration of the 100th Shawnee High School graduating class in 2027. To reach that goal we need the help of everyone who has a stake in the future of Shawnee and its students. To date, we have raised over \$700,000 in contributions and provided \$61,000 in scholarships! You have helped us reach this point and for that, all of us associated with the program are most appreciative.

But we still have \$300,000 to go! We hope you will consider a contribution to the Shawnee Scholarship Program this year. A contribution of any size helps support Shawnee graduates. **To make a donation, go to**
www.LimaShawneeScholarshipFund.org.

Best wishes,
 Tom Orchard, SHS 1970
 Chair, Lima Shawnee Scholarship Fund, Inc.





LIMA COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION

Commitment Form

If you wish to send a check, please use this form. Make your check payable to the Lima Community Foundation and mail to:

Lima Community Foundation
PO Box 1086
Lima, OH 45802-1086

Personal Information

Name _____

Recognition Listing _____
(Please print as you wish it to appear in acknowledgements/publications.)

____ I prefer to remain anonymous.

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

My/Our Gift

In support of the Lima Community Foundation, I/ we pledge a total commitment of \$ _____,
payable beginning _____ (Month), _____ (Year).

☐ Over 5 Years ☐ Over 3 Years ☐ One Payment ☐ Other _____

I/we are donating this amount to the following fund: Lima Shawnee Scholarship Fund _____

Installments will be paid: ☐ Monthly ☐ Quarterly ☐ Semi-annually ☐ Annually

Please send me a payment reminder each year in: ☐ January ☐ May ☐ September ☐ December

Payment Information

Pledge will be paid by:

☐ Check made payable to "Lima Community Foundation"

☐ American Express ☐ Discover ☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa

Card Number _____ Security Code _____ Exp Date _____

Amount to be charged: \$ _____

Printed name as it appears on card: _____

Cardholder Signature _____

Donor Signature (required)

Pledge Date

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