



## The Maine State Society of Washington, DC Foundation

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May 24, 2016

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### Maine State Society Of Washington, DC Foundation Announces 10 Scholarship Winners

WASHINGTON, DC -- The Board of Directors of the Maine State Society of Washington, DC Foundation has selected 10 high achieving Maine students attending four-year colleges and universities in Maine for merit-based scholarships totaling \$13,000.

The Foundation received dozens of applications from students at 9 different schools across the state, led by the University of Maine, Husson University and Bowdoin College. Here's a look at the winners, with details on where they live, go to school and what they study:

- Top award winner (\$2,500): Kristin K. Bishop, Waterville, Bowdoin, Government and Legal Studies Major, rising junior.
- Marge Pearson award (\$2,500): Samantha Grant, Gorham, University of Southern Maine: Nursing Major, rising senior.
- Marisa O'Toole (\$1,000), Scarborough, Bowdoin, Government and Legal Studies Major, Education Studies Minor, rising junior.
- Zach Beaudry (\$1,000), Searsport, University of Maine, Wildlife Ecology Major, rising senior.
- Mayson Picard (\$1,000), Dayton, Thomas College, Accounting Major/Accelerated 4 Year MBA/BS Program, rising junior.
- Daniel Fortier (\$1,000), Lewiston, University of Maine, Mechanical Engineering Major, rising junior.
- Sarah Holmes (\$1,000), Cumberland, Bates, Mathematics Major/Neuroscience and Physics Concentration, rising senior.

- Audrey Puleio (\$1,000), Saco, Bates, Environmental Studies & Religious Studies, Minor in Asian Studies, rising junior.
- Josie Heath (\$1,000), Augusta, University of Maine, Nursing Major, rising junior.
- Sarah Wilson (\$1,000), Sedgwick, Bowdoin, Neuroscience Major, rising senior.

Waterville resident and rising junior at Bowdoin, Kristin K. Bishop, is the recipient of the Foundation's top scholarship, a \$2,500 award.

Bishop submitted an essay on how she would use the scholarship funds to give back to her home state: "I would give back to the State of Maine by using my education and passion for civic affairs to earn a job that will allow me to be a voice for the people of Maine that otherwise would not have one."

Among her many accomplishments, Bishop has served as an intern with Sen. Susan Collins, is one of 30 people in the nation on the State Farm Insurance Company National Youth Advisory Board, and designed her own Local Government Internship program for the Town of Madison.

Samantha Grant, a rising senior at the University of Southern Maine, is the recipient of the fourth Marjorie Pearson scholarship award, bestowed annually upon an outstanding female applicant with a strong academic record who also demonstrates superior volunteer leadership, as well as a passion for the State of Maine. This year, the Foundation was able to increase the value of this endowed scholarship to \$2,500.

Pearson, who hailed from Millinocket, Maine, was one of the founding members of the Foundation. For 20 years, her vision, along with those of her Maine State Society colleagues, helped support the future of young Mainers attending college in the state. Pearson died in November 2011.

Grant, a nursing student, has worked and volunteered in many capacities, including as a STEM Ambassador, facilitating hands-on science, technology, engineering and math activities through the Auburn Afterschool Program, and via Maine Medical Center's Hospital Elder Life Program.

The Foundation, a 501c3 nonprofit, has been raising funds for its annual scholarship program since 1991, via Maine State Society events across the Washington, DC region, and outreach campaigns. Scholarship application guidelines and a list of past winners can be found at <http://mainstatesociety.org/foundation>.

**NOTE TO EDITORS:** For headshots, bios and additional information about our award winners and the Foundation, please contact the Foundation via email at [mssf scholarship@gmail.com](mailto:mssf scholarship@gmail.com).

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