Like the Greek goddess who is their group’s namesake, the women of Athena Leadership exemplify wisdom and strength. A grassroots association with about 30 members, Athena is a connection point for women in Winnipeg, particularly those in the early stages of their careers. They focus on mentorship, leadership development and supporting other women — and they’ve found that philanthropy is a great way to advance their professional and personal goals.

Since forming in 2011, Athena’s members have helped build homes with Habitat for Humanity, collected new and gently used business wear for women re-entering the workforce, and collectively logged thousands of volunteer hours for a variety of causes.

Last year, they established the Athena Leader of Tomorrow Fund, a Scholarship they’ll build with proceeds of Athena’s annual fundraiser. Recipients embody the group’s vision of empowerment, integrity, and philanthropy.

To date, the scholarship has helped inspiring women pursue pre-med studies and law. This year, it is helping a remarkable 19-year-old who has already made a medical breakthrough. She has developed an effective early detection tool for Alzheimer’s disease, with encouraging implications for a number of other diseases as well.

In addition to providing a financial boost, the Athena Leader of Tomorrow Fund introduces promising young women to a sisterhood of support. It also allows Athena’s members to grow as mentors as they inspire the next generation of leaders and philanthropists.
Athena
Leader of Tomorrow Fund