2018
NTA Scholarship
Year in Review
Dear NTA members,

Tourism Cares advances the travel industry’s positive impact to help people and places thrive. We believe it’s in all our best interest to support the destinations our industry depends on so that communities, travelers and businesses can prosper. We mobilize the industry to use its business as a force for good by convening, educating and motivating all sectors to make a positive impact through travel.

We proudly share the students who received National Tour Association scholarships in 2018. These recipients have been identified as future leaders of the travel, tourism and hospitality industries through dedication to their studies, internships in the field and determination to succeed. This year, we awarded 16 students with $33,000 thanks to the strength of the NTA scholarship portfolio.

Academic scholarship recipients are invited to attend our mentoring program at Travel Exchange, NTA’s annual convention. With the support of NTA members and staff, Tourism Cares will match 9 students with NTA members at Travel Exchange ‘18 in Milwaukee to help establish their professional networks and learn about career opportunities in the industry. The mentoring program at Travel Exchange is one of our most successful efforts, and it wouldn’t happen without the support of NTA and the individuals who volunteer to bring a student to their appointments. Many mentors have volunteered for multiple years, and we appreciate your support!

The Tourism Cares scholarship program is rooted in its partnership with NTA, and we are proud to celebrate the accomplishments of these funds, which have been supporting workforce development for the travel industry since 2006. This program fulfills an essential component to the overall strength of the industry and is only possible through generous individual and corporate contributions, including those from NTA members who have helped establish $1.1 million in scholarship funds.

Thank you for entrusting this important program to us. We look forward to continuing our long-standing partnership with NTA and growing our commitment to investing in the workforce of the travel industry.

Sincerely,

Paula Vlamings, CEO
Tourism Cares

Pam Inman, President
NTA
Our 2018 Scholarship Recipients

NTA LURAY CAVERNS GRADUATE RESEARCH
Luray Caverns, a world-renowned U.S. National Landmark (a designation received from the Department of Interior) in Luray, VA, established this scholarship in 1988 to defray the educational costs incurred by a student conducting research on a thesis, dissertation or terminal project relating to travel and tourism. They are proud to contribute to efforts that will assure strong leaders and sustainable initiatives for the future our dynamic industry.

Victor Mawutor Agbo
Home: Accra, Ghana
University: Pursuing a Master’s of Environmental Studies in Geography at University of Waterloo, Ontario, Canada
Career Aspiration: Victor plans to become a professor of Sustainable Tourism, championing an all-inclusive ecotourism development, climate and environmental education, particularly in developing countries.

NTA ERIC FRIEDHEIM
This scholarship was established in 1986 as a memorial to Eric Friedheim. Eric was owner, editor-in-chief and publisher of Travel Agent Magazine. The scholarship’s goal is to encourage higher education among future leaders of the industry. Eric Friedheim was the 2001 inductee to the NTF Hall of Fame and is known as a “giant of the industry” and a generous contributor to the future of travel and tourism.

Sarah Anderson
Home: California
University: Pursuing Master’s of Management in Hospitality at Boston University
Career Aspiration: Sarah plans on working in the real estate development side of the industry. She hopes to work for a company in South America upon graduation to gain international experience.

NTA LA MACCHIA FAMILY
This fund was established in 2004 in honor of William E. La Macchia’s induction into the Tourism Cares Hall of Fame with the goal to support a travel and tourism student from Wisconsin who has demonstrated excellence in their studies. Mr. La Macchia is the founder of The Mark Travel Corporation, which is recognized as one of the largest and most diversified leisure travel companies in the United States.

Rebecca Garvey
Home: Wisconsin
University: Majoring in Hotel, Restaurant, and Tourism Management at University of Wisconsin Stout
Career Aspiration: Rebecca plans to create once-in-a-lifetime gatherings for private and non-profit event clients that inspire and make a positive impact on the lives of others.

Grayson Jamroch
Home: Missouri
University: Graduate Student pursuing Hospitality Administration at Missouri State University
Career Aspiration: Grayson intends to take the world by storm directing retail operations on college campuses nationwide with Compass Group, and helping future students realize Culinary Arts and Hospitality as their passions in life.

NTA MAYFLOWER TOURS - PATRICK MURPHY INTERNSHIP
This fund was established by Mayflower Tours in memory of Patrick Murphy, who was well known in the travel and tourism industry for his integrity and dedication to the industry. The goal is to support NTA through an intern placement.

Andrew Schacht
Home: Kentucky
University: Majoring in Economics and Finance, with a minor in Political Science at Centre College
Career Aspiration: Drew intends to pursue a master’s degree in business and ultimately own a business one day.

NTA OHIO
This fund was established in 1991 by the Ohio Travel Association with the goal to support a travel, tourism or hospitality student from Ohio.

Lauren Strauss
Home: Ohio
University: Majoring in Tourism, Leisure, and Event Planning and seeking a Bachelor’s of Science in Education at Bowling Green State University
Career Aspiration: Lauren’s goal is to be an event planner for a non-profit, specifically a Catholic organization.
**NTA NEW HORIZONS KATHY LETARTE SCHOLARSHIP**
This fund was established in 2000 by Kathy LeTarte, CTP, a past president of NTA, with the goal of attracting high caliber individuals into the tourism industry. The scholarship supports travel, tourism or hospitality students from the states of Michigan or Georgia.

**Lucy Tomer**
Home: Michigan  
**University:** Majoring in Hospitality Business with a minor in Spanish at Michigan State University  
**Career Aspiration:** Lucy will pursue event sales and marketing after graduation.

**NTA UTAH - KEITH GRIFFALL SCHOLARSHIP**
This scholarship was established by NTA members from Utah in honor of Keith Griffall. Mr. Griffall, CTP, is the CEO and owner of Western Leisure, a company specializing in custom group tours for tour operators, agents and groups. He serves as a member of the board and chairman of the Salt Lake CVB and is a member of the University of Utah Tourism Advisory Board. Mr. Griffall has served 3 terms on the NTA board of directors and was president of NTA in 1998. He has received numerous awards such as the Utah Professional Tourism Achievement Award and the NTA Group Travel Marketing Award.

**Julia Larkin**
Home: Utah  
**University:** Pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in Parks, Recreation, and Tourism at University of Utah  
**Career Aspiration:** Julia aspires to work for an international company managing operations and engaging in guide work.

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**NTA TEXAS DOUG HARMAN SCHOLARSHIP**
This fund was established by Dan Dipert and Texas suppliers in honor of Doug Harman as past president of the NTA Texas chapter. This scholarship has a goal to provide financial assistance to dedicated students pursuing a degree in travel, tourism or hospitality-related programs at Tarrant County College in Texas.

**Elizabeth Ventura**
Home: Texas  
**University:** Majoring in Hospitality Management at Tarrant County College  
**Career Aspiration:** Elizabeth will continue her education and obtain a bachelor’s degree, eventually starting her own business.

**Anna Nikitina**
Home: Russia  
**University:** Graduate student pursuing Tourism Administration at The George Washington University  
**Career Aspiration:** Anna aspires to become a Sales & Marketing Director at a luxury hotel and resort.

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**NTA TRAVEL LEADERS SCHOLARSHIP***

**Matthew Bauman**
Home: Texas  
**University:** Graduate student enrolled at Texas Tech University studying Hospitality Administration with a focus on wine tourism and gastro-tourism  
**Career Aspiration:** Matthew aspires to become a professor, conduct hospitality and tourism research, and teach tourism and marketing courses.

**Jillian Charland**
Home: North Carolina  
**University:** Majoring in Sports, Entertainment & Event Management at Johnson & Wales University  
**Career Aspiration:** Jillian will be involved in marketing and promotion for sporting events as attractions.

**Madeleine Comeaux**
Home: Louisiana  
**University:** Studying Hospitality Management at University of Louisiana at Lafayette  
**Career Aspiration:** Madeleine aspires to serve as a manager within the lodging industry.

**Shirin Jafarinasab Kermani**
Home: California  
**University:** Graduate student enrolled at George Washington University focusing on Sustainable Tourism Management  
**Career Aspiration:** Shirin plans to own a company that proposes strategies for expanding sustainable tourism methods and infrastructures in developing countries.

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**Anna Nikitina**
Home: Russia  
**University:** Graduate student pursuing Tourism Administration at The George Washington University  
**Career Aspiration:** Anna aspires to become a Sales & Marketing Director at a luxury hotel and resort.
Ashley Owens
Home: Maryland
University: Pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in Hotel and Restaurant Management at the University of Houston
Career Aspiration: Ashley will continue her education by earning a Master’s in Hospitality Management and then pursue a Culinary Arts degree, ultimately owning and operating a restaurant.

Anish Sharan
Home: New York
University: Attending Widener University pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Hospitality Management
Career Aspiration: Anish aspires to be a successful leader in the hospitality industry by utilizing the skills he has gained through his experience at Widener University. He envisions himself managing a high-end luxury hotel in New York City while creating lasting memories for his guests.

In addition to the scholarships awarded in 2018, we offer the following scholarship funds:

NTA JIM AND PAT HOST SCHOLARSHIP
This scholarship was established in 1988 to honor Pat and W. James Host with the goal of securing the future of the industry by supporting students from Kentucky pursing careers in travel, tourism and hospitality. Jim Host has been a guiding force in the development of NTA and has been a leader of the tourism industry for more than 40 years. He was also the inaugural member of the NTF Hall of Fame.

NTA QUEBEC SCHOLARSHIP
This fund was established in 1990 by funding from the Quebec Ministry of Tourism. Quebec was the first Canadian province to create a fund through NTA; the scholarship supports higher education of students pursuing degrees in tourism or a related subject in Quebec.

Learn more and get involved!
To learn more or get involved go to www.tourismcares.org and sign up for our newsletter or follow us on twitter @TourismCares

*NTA Travel Leaders Funds Contributors*
Below is a listing of NTA Chapters and honorary funds who have contributed to this fund.

Platinum (> $20,000)
Hawaii Chuck Yim Gee
California
Florida

Gold ($10,000 - $19,999)
Dave Herren
Canada
Cleveland
Connecticut
Virginia
Rene Campbell - Ruth McKinney

Silver ($5,000 - 9,999)
North Carolina
Nebraska Lois Johnson Memorial
Wyoming
Weeta F. Colebank
Northwest Territories
Ontario
Tennessee
Montana
Treadway Inns

Bronze (> $4,999)
Doc Milner
Chuck Goeldner Research
Rhode Island
New Hampshire
Nova Scotia

Prince Edwards Island
North Dakota
Georgia
Saskatchewan
Yukon

Ron Drake Memorial
Wisconsin
Mexico
Scotland
Mississippi

Iowa
Maryland
Newfoundland
Oregon
Washington

Vermont
New Brunswick
Indiana
Kentucky

New Mexico
South Dakota
Germany
Kansas

Maine
West Virginia
Charlie Silver
Oklahoma

2018 Overall Scholarships Awarded by Tourism Cares:
NTA 16 scholarships awarded $33,000
ASTA 5 scholarships awarded $13,000
IATAN 6 scholarships awarded $12,000
ITMI 7 scholarships awarded $3850

Learn more and get involved!
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