

Doherty & Donelon Scholarships awarded

Six children of NALC members to receive funding for college

Six children of NALC members will receive NALC memorial scholarships in recognition of their academic achievements and community involvement.

One student from each of five geographical regions was awarded \$4,000 apiece from the William C. Doherty Scholarship Fund, and a sixth student will receive \$1,000 from the John T. Donelon Scholarship. All six scholarships are renewable for three additional years.

The Doherty Scholarship was founded in 1962 to honor William Doherty, NALC's president from 1941 to 1962. The winners for 2024 are:

Central Region: Camieal Roberson

Parent: Kieaunta Roberson, Indianapolis, IN Branch 39

Quote: "I would like to lead a community-based life. Ideally, I would be a neonatal nurse practitioner that connects with her patients and community on a daily basis. I might have a family with a few children, and we attend church weekly. I would need to consider my current family members and what area best suits the lifestyle that I want."

Plans: Roberson will enter North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University this fall and plans to study science and pursue a career in nursing.

Eastern Region: Samantha Grimm

Parent: Brad Grimm, Pittsburgh, PA Branch 84

Quote: "My parents are the most influential people in my life for a variety of reasons, but most notably for teaching me the importance of hard work. My father has been a letter carrier for 24 years, and my mother has been a registered nurse for 28. Their dedication and commitment to their respective careers has instilled in me a profound understanding of the value of hard work and



Seated (from l): Dale E. Bittinger, Dr. Georgia Booker and James B. Massey Jr. Standing (from l): Lawrence Kania and Carly A. Hook

perseverance. Observing both of my parents lead with integrity, reliability, and a strong sense of purpose in the professions has left a profound impact on my work ethic. I am fortunate for their role modeling and their sacrifices to provide my sister and me with a life abundant in opportunities for success."

Plans: Grimm will enter Penn State University this fall and plans to major in business as she continues to foster her interest in statistics and numbers.

Northeast Region: Shreya Pandey

Parent: Sujata Pandey, Princeton, NJ Branch 268

Quote: "Female engineers have been profoundly influential in my life, as they broke barriers and paved the way for girls like myself to pursue careers in STEM. Their resilience and efforts have opened opportunities for me, and inspired me to create similar opportunities for girls interested in STEM within my local community. Through transforming my high school's Engineering Club into a safe space for girls through events and workshops and creating a YouTube channel where I produce educational content specifi-

cally for women in STEM, I can pay their efforts forward. By breaking down gender norms and stereotypes, they have inspired me to fearlessly pursue my passions while inspiring others to do the same."

Plans: Pandey will attend Carnegie Mellon University in Pennsylvania this fall to study electrical engineering with a concentration in public policy and plans to become an electrical engineer.

Southern Region: Kendall England

Parent: Lori Beth England, Fayetteville, TN Branch 1402

Quote: "My mother has been most influential in my life in various ways. Along with raising me, my mom has been my biggest supporter in all that I do, whether that be sports or school and anything else in between. She encourages me to try new things and place kindness above all else. Without her, I would not have a fraction of my academic success, I wouldn't have found new interests through branching out, and I would not know the beauty of selflessness. My mom has exhibited pure selflessness my entire life and shown me its importance."

Doherty & Donelon Scholarships (continued)

Plans: England will enter Jacksonville State University in Alabama this fall to study either elementary education or pre-med, with her future vocational plans being either an elementary education teacher or a physical therapist.

Western Region: Philip Liu

Parent: Hai Lin Liu, Santa Rosa, CA Branch 183

Quote: “In 20 years, I see myself as my family’s first college graduate. My parents have sacrificed so much for their families. For as long as he’s lived, my father has lived and breathed work ethic. When my dad immigrated to America as a 12-year-old, he worked eight hours daily at a restaurant every year until he graduated high school in order to pay off his family’s debts. He bypassed community college after a semester to work overtime hours as a mailman; now, for the last 30 years, he’s paid off our home, raised my brother and I, and never once complained. ... College was never an option for my mom, or my dad. Still, my parents have continued to pour their time and effort into supporting our family. To repay my greatest supporters, I hope to accomplish what my mother and father never had to opportunity to do: graduate with a degree.”

Plans: Liu will attend University of California, Berkeley, this fall to pursue sports management, business and economics with the hopes of becoming an international sports agent.

A scholarship honoring the late John T. Donelon, longtime assistant to three NALC national presidents, was announced in 2003. Donelon’s wife, Louise, established the Donelon Scholarship as a bequest in her will.

The winner is: Brianna Boyd

Parent: Benjie Boyd, Mentor, OH Branch 4195

Quote: “My sister serves as my inspiration for my future goals and ambitions. As wholesome as this sounds, it is not as it seems. My sister chased her dreams, but wasn’t able to achieve them. When my sister was a senior in high school, she applied and was accepted for admission as an art major. However, my parents were unable to help with the financial situation. ... The fear of chasing a risky career and failing as an adult forced me to research jobs that are higher in demand. This fear, however, has inspired my educational pathway. While I never fully let myself explore my unknown artistic abilities, I was eager to find the unknown in forensics. I ended up finding my dream and future goals in science through rigorous classes that aligned with forensics.”

Plans: Boyd will enter Bowling Green State University in Ohio this fall to study forensic chemistry with plans to become a forensic toxicologist.

The NALC Scholarship Committee met in late May at NALC Headquarters in Washington, DC. The committee is composed of Lawrence Kania of Buffalo-Western New York Branch 3 (chairperson), Kimetra Lewis of Dallas, TX Branch 132 and Carly Hook of Santa Clara, CA Branch 1427.

The committee reviewed and evaluated each application. The committee released the following report:

“This year marks the 62nd anniversary of the William C. Doherty Scholarship Program and the 21st anniversary of the John T. Donelon Scholarship. From the original grant of six scholarships in the amount of \$500 per year in 1964, the Doherty program grew to

15 scholarships at \$800 per year, each for a total of \$3,200 per scholarship. The Doherty Scholarship has changed to provide for five scholarships, with an increase in the amount to \$4,000 per year for a total of \$16,000 per scholarship. The Donelon Scholarship provides for one scholarship in the amount of \$1,000 per year for a total of \$4,000 per scholarship.

The Doherty Scholarship Program of the National Association of Letter Carriers was authorized by the 43rd Biennial Convention meeting in 1962 in Denver, CO. The program was named after President William C. Doherty, who retired at the 1962 convention after serving 21 years as the national president. Past President Doherty died on Aug. 9, 1987.

The John T. Donelon Scholarship program was established in 2003. Brother Donelon was assistant to three NALC presidents and died in 1985. His widow ensured that his wishes to donate to the NALC scholarship program were carried out upon her passing.

While state associations, branches, auxiliaries, and individual members contributed to the Doherty fund in its early days, its first important financing resulted from a dinner the union sponsored on Oct. 23, 1963, commemorating the centennial of free delivery service in the United States. Over the years since its establishment, every segment of our membership has been generous in supporting the program.

Our committee commends President Renfroe and the NALC Executive Council, as well as preceding presidents and councils, for their progressive thinking that has resulted in educational opportunities for the children of our membership.

With this report, we are pleased to announce that since its inception,

hundreds of children of letter carriers have been scholarship recipients. To be in a position as NALC is, to make it possible to assist these bright young students in their academic career, is in itself a source of satisfaction. Every letter carrier should know that many past winners have graduated early with high honors, that most of our winners have completed their undergraduate work and, in many cases, have gone on to pursue postgraduate work.

No person connected with NALC—neither among the Executive Council nor the committee—has a voice in a final determination of the ultimate winners. These are done by college administrators from the Washington, DC, area.

We are grateful for the continued service of Dr. Georgia Booker, retired director for Guidance Counseling Services, District of Columbia Public Schools; James B. Massey Jr., Director of Undergraduate Admissions, University of Maryland; and Mr. Dale E. Bittinger, assistant vice provost for Strategic Undergraduate Engagement, Partnerships, and Pathways at University of Maryland, Baltimore County. These distinguished members of the academic profession have contributed in a great measure to the success of the program.

The financial condition of the program is better than it was in 1964, when the initial awards were made. Its continuation depends on the financial

support of our members and friends of NALC. All contributions should be made payable to the William C. Doherty Scholarship Fund, or the John T. Donelon Scholarship Fund, and addressed to NALC Headquarters, 100 Indiana Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20001.

Details of the fund's financial position are included in the audit report of the national secretary-treasurer for the biennial term ending at the Boston convention.

Your Scholarship Committee concludes by thanking President Renfroe, resident officers and, most expressly, the staff that assists for their unselfish cooperation and interest in our work." **PR**



Apply for the NALC Leadership Academy

NALC is now accepting applications for the Leadership Academy, which is open to all active NALC members.

The Leadership Academy consists of three weeklong sessions held over a five-month period at the Maritime Institute near Baltimore, MD. During the classes, students discuss effective leadership skills and the union's legislative agenda. They learn about topics such as the Dispute Resolution Process, strategic planning, branch financial responsibilities, retirement issues, route protection, workers' compensation, effective negotiation techniques, and communicating through traditional and social media.

Students are required to complete outside learning projects upon returning home following Weeks 1 and 2. Upon graduation, students will spend

a fourth week working in their national business agents' offices.

The Academy curriculum is designed to both develop and enhance the knowledge and skills that are essential for NALC leaders. In addition to the Leadership Academy staff, each of the resident national officers, as well as many Headquarters staff members, help teach at the Academy, providing students with NALC's top experts in each field. Currently, five resident officers, 12 national business agents, 23 regional administrative assistants, 34 Headquarters and regional staff members, and hundreds of state and branch representatives are graduates of the NALC Leadership Academy.

Applications are available at nalc.org/leadership and will be accepted until Friday, Sept. 27, 2024. **PR**