

# Doherty & Donelon Scholarships awarded

## Six children of NALC members to receive funding for college

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

One student from each of the five geographical regions was awarded \$4,000 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 2022 are:

**Eastern Region:** Andie McCullough

**Parent:** Craig McCullough, Johnstown, PA Branch 451

**Quote:** "In the eighth grade, I went on a school trip to an engineering fair. While we were there, I met a group of biomedical engineering students who told me all about what they do. Ever since that day, I have wanted to pursue biomedical engineering. In 15 to 25 years, I hope to be a well-established engineer who has made important, groundbreaking contributions to the medical field."

**Southern Region:** Amani Bedwa

**Parent:** Robert Martin, Atlanta, GA Branch 73

**Quote:** "My mother has been the most influential due to her always pushing me academically. My earliest memories include her spending countless hours at the kitchen table making me pronounce words and solve math problems. Without her strong foundation, I am confident I would not be in the position I am now."

**Western Region:** Joseph Manio

**Parent:** Jerry Manio, Greater East Bay, CA Branch 1111

**Quote:** "In 15 to 25 years, I would want to make new strides in the chemistry world. As our pollution and plastic consumption increases, we need new chemical engineers who can solve this problem. I would love to work directly with environmentalists and learn how to solve these problems. Furthermore, I would love to address many equity problems in my surrounding communities; things like environmental equity prevent many members of my community from supporting these efforts to reduce our carbon footprint. I want to live my life supporting my community and saving the world we live in."

**Central Region:** Leah Simakas

**Parent:** Nicholas J. Simakas, North Oakland County, MI Branch 320

**Quote:** "I am currently planning to pursue a chemical engineering degree in the hopes of going into the research and production of old or new sources of renewable energy. I have always believed that engineering should be for the advancement of people and the world, and I feel it is important to incorporate that principle into my future career."

**Northeast Region:** Will Consoli

**Parent:** Kenneth Consoli, Massachusetts Northeast Merged Branch 25

**Quote:** "I was born with three congenital heart defects and was not expected to survive. I had had two open-heart surgeries as well as countless appointments. Growing up in this environment has instilled in me the impact that health professional such as doctors, nurses and scientists can have on people's lives. This has fueled my passion to study biology in college and become a biomedical researcher. Both during and after college, I will conduct research with the goal of helping others,

whether that's testing a new treatment option or developing a cure to a rare disease. As somebody with extensive experience as a patient, I look forward to diligently working in a field where I can help others like me."

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:** Abby Rogers

**Parent:** David Rogers, Fall River, MA Branch 51

**Quote:** "Fifteen years from now, I hope to be an athletic trainer for a college or professional hockey team. I've been interested in athletic training for years now and hockey has always been interesting to me. Traveling around the country or even the world has always been an aspiration of mine, and athletic training at this level would allow me to do just that. I want to be a professional at something and be good at what I do."

The Scholarship Committee members—Chairman Lawrence Kania of Buffalo-Western New York Branch 3, Kimetra Lewis of Dallas, TX Branch 132 and Carly A. Hook of Santa Clara, CA Branch 1427—reviewed each application independently and then sent them to the next committee member for review. As with the application process in previous years, the Scholarship Committee used the Postal Service to ship applications between committee members and to send their evaluations to NALC Headquarters. The applications were then sent to independent judges with educational backgrounds for the final round of evaluation.

The committee released the following report:

The committee (from l): Kimetra Lewis, Lawrence Kania and Carly A. Hook

The judges (below, from l): Dr. Georgia Booker, James B. Massey Jr. and Dale E. Bittinger



“This year marks the 60th anniversary of the William C. Doherty Scholarship Program and the 19th 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 Rolando 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, Office of Undergraduate Admissions, University of Maryland; and Mr. Dale E. Bittinger,

assistant vice provost for Undergraduate Admissions, Orientation & School Partnerships 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 almost entirely on the financial support of our members and friends of NALC. We urge each and every member to make themselves a committee of one to assist in the future financing of the Scholarship Fund. 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 Chicago convention.

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