
Meet some of this year's scholarship recipients



Shawntanna Atkinson-Gingrich

*Unilock Collaborative
Communications Scholarship, \$1,000*

I am very grateful to have been chosen for this scholarship. It will help to greatly further my Landscape Design studies at Fanshawe College. This honour encourages me even more to pursue something I am so passionate about. Coming from a small town with agriculture all around me, I always knew I wanted to put an artistic spin on the landscapes around me.



Jana Freeman

Horst Dickert Memorial Scholarship, \$1,000

Jana has had a lifelong fascination with plants and the environment. While studying Landscape Ecology with a focus on Restoration at Laurentian University, she developed a deep appreciation for the great potential and rewards of working with native plants. Jana is currently in her second year of the Landscape Technician program at Humber College and hopes to develop a hands-on career working with native plants.



Amy Hoy

High School Program Scholarship, \$1,000

Amy was a student at McKinnon Park in Caledonia, Ont., where she completed her Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) in horticulture and landscaping under the teachings of Joey Runhart. Amy went on to do maintenance work for the Hamilton Conservation Authority and is currently a student at Niagara College in the Greenhouse Technician (Co-op) program.



Giovanna Catenacci

Post Secondary Scholarship, \$1,000

The Landscape Technician program is just the beginning of Giovanna's journey in the horticultural profession. Giovanna wants to pursue the Urban Arboriculture program and hopefully end up on a path to Niagara Parks School of Horticulture. There are many stepping stones along the journey, and thanks to the motivation, support, and encouragement from the Foundation, professors and supervisors, it will be an easier road to travel.



Nora Hugasdottir

Post Secondary Scholarship, \$1,000

Working toward the Horticulture Technician Diploma at Fanshawe College, Nora enjoys exploring all things plant — from folklore to new technologies, and their applications for the health of both people and the planet. Nora's goal is to provide services that inspire others to connect with nature in a busy world, something as simple as the inner peace that comes from taking an enjoyable walk through the wilderness.



Elissa Janca

Post Secondary Scholarship, \$1,000

Elissa has a background in International Development Studies, with a particular interest in food security in a global context. Elissa is excited about the direction her career is taking through the Landscape Technician program at Humber College and the opportunities to be engaged in education, design, and preservation of diverse landscapes for the benefit of local ecosystems and populations. Elissa is grateful to her instructors at Humber College, the Foundation, and Landscape Ontario.



Indira Kannan

Post Secondary Scholarship, \$1,000

Indira Kannan has been a producer and presenter on television networks like CNN, CNBC and BBC World. She is also a published author. With the Landscape Technician program at Humber College, Kannan is returning to her original subject of interest, having previously earned a B.Sc in Botany. "I am grateful and thrilled to receive this scholarship," Kannan said. She would also like to thank her teachers and classmates at Humber College for providing a great learning environment.



Jensen Maunder

Post Secondary Scholarship, \$1,000

I would like to thank the Foundation for the post-secondary school scholarship. I am currently in the second year of the Horticulture Technician program at Fanshawe College. Throughout the summer, my co-op involved working in the maintenance department at Gelderman Landscape services, where I gained a tremendous amount of experience in the field. I hope to one day work for a large landscape company or to run my own business.



Tesabella McEachern

Post Secondary Scholarship, \$1,000

I would like to thank Landscape Ontario and the Foundation for providing such gracious opportunities. I am honoured to have been selected for this scholarship. It seems I've never been the one to luck-out or win a contest, but I can honestly say this feels like a win! I have an immense passion for the Horticultural Industries program at Algonquin College. My spirits have been lifted and my dedication continues thanks to your recognition.



Heidi Palfrey

Post Secondary Scholarship, \$1,000

Heidi Palfrey is thrilled to receive a scholarship. By combining her extensive 35-year graphic design experience with the education she has received from Humber College's Landscape Technician program, her future plans include a freelance landscape/garden design firm that will serve both the GTA and beautiful Prince Edward County, intended to complement her husband's landscape construction and maintenance business.

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Sara Sedarous

Post Secondary Scholarship, \$1,000

From Burlington, Ont., 20-year-old Sara Sedarous is enjoying her second year of the Horticulture Technician Program at Fanshawe College where she enjoys the hands on experience and truly getting her hands dirty. Sara entered the profession with an interest in working in a greenhouse and her horizons are broadening each day. Sara is looking forward to a future as a horticulturalist after graduation.



Rocky Johnson

Cullen Family Scholarship, \$2,000

Rocky is thankful for the Ontario Horticultural Trades Foundation and peers for selecting him as a recipient for the Cullen Family Scholarships. Rocky is currently enrolled in the second year of the Landscape Technician program at Humber College where he has a strong passion for the horticultural trades and landscape design. Rocky wishes to continue to expand his knowledge and skills and contribute greatly to the profession.



Robert Fisher

Cullen Family Scholarship, \$2,000

Robert says, "Thank you to everyone who made this scholarship possible. I have found my passion and look forward to seeing what the future holds for me. I look forward to finishing my education and getting out there and putting my knowledge to good use within the green profession." Robert is from Chippewa Nation, studying at Fanshawe College.



Kathryn Nikota

Cullen Family Scholarship, \$2,000

Katie wants to dedicate her life to the conservation and protection of the environment and bring the natural wonders into everyone's homes and hearts. Her education began at Fanshawe College, where she earned a diploma in Landscape Design and an applied Degree in Integrated Land Planning. Katie has worked as a laborer and design assistant for private landscape companies. She is in her final year of completing her Masters in Landscape Architecture at the University of Guelph, improving the world one plant at a time.



Stephanie Gelinas

Cullen Family Scholarship, \$2,000

Stephanie holds a diploma in Landscape Horticulture and was the recipient of the Faculty Academic Award in 2017. She enjoys educating and assisting clients in creating healthy, practical landscapes while making their garden vision a reality. During her free time, Stephanie is an active member in local horticultural societies and community gardens in Windsor-Essex County. The program at St. Clair College has allowed her the privilege of studying under spectacular professors that have helped her to grow solid roots in the horticulture profession.



Rachel Radauskas

Cullen Family Scholarship, \$2,000

Entering her third year of Landscape Design at Fanshawe College, Rachel's goal as a landscape designer is to create outdoor spaces that enhance quality of life and encourage people of all ages to spend more time in nature. After completing her diploma of Landscape Design at Fanshawe College, one of Rachel's goals is to continue her education to achieve a Bachelor of Landscape Architecture.



Suzanne Graab

Cullen Family Scholarship, \$2,000

I would like to thank the Cullen family, the Foundation, and my instructors at Durham College for selecting me for this award. My instructors have made going back to school at my age (over 50) a stimulating, thought-provoking and pleasant experience. My goal was to broaden and deepen my knowledge of the landscaping profession, thereby enriching my current work practice. I have over seven years of garden design and installation experience, running my own landscaping company.



Ling Shi

Cullen Family Scholarship, \$2,000

Ling Shi earned a BLA degree in China and is currently a Master of Plant Agriculture candidate, studying turfgrass management at the University of Guelph, where her current research focuses on restoring tall grass prairie in Ontario. Tall grass prairie supports native pollinators and keeps species rich and it helps golf courses in Ontario to be more environmental-friendly. Ling's thesis research aims to enhance native prairie seed mixtures for golf courses managers, as well as for native growers in Ontario. Ling would like to thank the Foundation and Cullen family for the award.



Evan Jenkins

Cullen Family Scholarship, \$2,000

"I am very excited and grateful to have been awarded one of the Cullen Family Scholarships," says Evan. He is currently in his second year of Horticultural Studies at the University of Guelph, Ridgetown Campus. Although he grew up on a dairy farm, Evan has always been interested in environmental and horticultural studies. Having worked at a golf course, a retail greenhouse and lately as part of the grounds crew at Ridgetown College, Evan is finding his passion in landscape construction and tree management.

To see a full list of scholarship recipients from this year and previous years, visit ohtf.ca.