

DEF Scholarship Award Snapshots – 2016

One-year Awards

Mary Ruth Bowman Boy’s Swimming Scholarship Seamus Millett \$1200

Seamus is headed for CO School of Mines to major in civil engineering with a minor in humanitarian engineering “in hopes of participating in humanitarian efforts abroad later in [his] life.” With a weighted GPA of 4.15, Seamus might be forgiven for simply concentrating on studies, but he is not only a three-time US Youth Champion pentathlete, he also has represented the U.S.A. in two Youth World Championships. He swims competitively with the Durango Swim Club and plans to continue swimming and the sport of Modern Pentathlon for his college. He is the recipient of the Baron de Coubertin Fair Play Award, for exhibiting the true spirit of sportsmanship and character in competition.

Brinton Family Girl’s Swimming Scholarship Anne Mummery \$1000

Anne’s 3.96 GPA earned her membership in the National Honor Society and she is a recipient of a CHSAA Academic Excellence Award. Anne credits her eight years of competitive swimming with teaching her “the importance of dedication, sacrifice, teamwork, positive mentality and goal setting.” She will continue to swim next year at Pepperdine University, fulfilling her long-held dream of swimming for a Division 1 swim school.

Tom & Ann Hartney Memorial Scholarship Seirra Ogden \$1000

Seirra will be the first in her family to attend college; she plans to major in psychology with the goal of helping children. She interned at a Head Start during her junior year, where she was especially drawn to helping a child with autism. She has worked in numerous settings with special-needs children. As a TRIO participant, she is interviewing TRIO alumni about their college experiences in assembling a video she hopes will motivate younger TRIO students to pursue their dreams. Her plan is to use her bachelor’s degree to work as an elementary school counselor and eventually earn a Master’s.

Sachs Construction, LLC Scholarship Martin Thompson \$1000

This scholarship goes to a student who has overcome obstacles. Martin Thompson experienced a difficult home life throughout his childhood, and he stated in his application that “times in school were always the highlight” of his day, when he could see friends, have a meal and “learn something new.” He was always the first up, always ready early for the bus, and in fact, eager for everything his day could offer. He will be the first in his family to attend college. Donor Rob Sachs saw in this young man an optimist with a plan.

One-year Awards, continued...

Louis S. Tamez Memorial Scholarship (Girl's) Jenifer Bogarin Garcia \$2500

Jenifer is an emancipated minor who stayed in the U.S. when her family returned to Mexico two years ago. She is entirely self-supporting and has had to live alternately with various friends. Yet she is undaunted, working hard at numerous jobs and arranging her life with education always her top priority. She will attend Northern Arizona University, where her goal is to earn a degree in Hospitality Management and eventually open her own catering business to offer affordable and healthful food. As the first in her family to attend college, she hopes she is establishing a new pattern for her siblings, and eventually her children and on through the generations.

Louis S. Tamez Memorial Scholarship (Boy's) Dillon Flowers \$2500

Dillon's story is triumphant. Diagnosed in elementary school as dyslexic, Dillon has developed excellent coping mechanisms, a fine commitment to furthering his education, and the courage to pursue lofty goals. Although his mother attended college, his father did not, so most of Dillon's motivation has been self-generated. He will major in marine biology/zoology/wildlife biology, with the eventual plan of having a facility in which to do dolphin therapy. Dillon's GPA is 3.76.

Zink Family Scholarship Tyllor Ledford \$2000

Clear-eyed and very bright, Tyllor embodies the ideal Zink Scholarship recipient. She plans to attend Texas Tech University to attain a BS in Nursing and prepare for a career with an eventual Masters as a Nurse Practitioner. She says, "I hope to use my nursing degree to promote wellness in the community, form tight knit relationships with my patients, and have a meaningful and positive influence in my patients' lives as they work to achieve their goals." Right now she is working to obtain a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) certificate which will allow her to work in the healthcare industry while she attends school, to gain skills to prepare for admission to nursing school. Her focus is on rural healthcare, and her college choice will keep her in touch with agriculture and a community in which she is thoroughly at home, having spent 10 years in 4-H and four in FFA. With a GPA of 4.09, Tyllor's likelihood of success is great.

Renewals

DLM Family Scholarship #1 Natasha Rodriquez (year 4) \$10,000

Tasha is thriving at Fort Lewis, majoring in business finance. Very careful about the stewardship of her scholarship, Tasha has maximized her college experience while still honoring her family life. Her son, Jace, attends Florida Mesa pre-K, where Durango 9-R Early Childhood Director Libby Culver reports he is a delightful member of his class.

Renewals, continued...

DLM Family Scholarship #2

Jazmyne Davis (year 2)

\$10,000

Jazmyne has encountered some challenges she didn't anticipate at University of Colorado at Denver, and this fiercely independent young woman has learned that asking for help indicates maturity, not weakness. Her fall semester was rocky, but she has adjusted some of her goals to broaden her possible career choices, and the DLM donors, the Mitzlaffs, are pleased with her progress. A pre-med major, Jazmyne earned a 3.2 average her freshman college year.

Robert and Christine Finegan Heinich Scholarship

Alyssa Montoya (year 3)

\$2000

Alyssa continues to pursue her undergraduate degree in education, with the goal of elementary or middle school math teaching. She has enjoyed her observation/participation periods at Park Elementary, and is looking forward to her immersion teaching semester in the fall. The Heinich scholarship supports an Hispanic student desiring a career in education, a perfect match for Alyssa.

Newbold Family Scholarship

Justin Marcum (year 2)

\$2000

Mrs. Newbold chose to renew Justin's scholarship at the University of Oklahoma, rather than give a new award this year, because she believes he truly represents the spirit of the Newbolds' intention to support a student who combines an interest in the world around him, thoughtfulness in his career choice and ability to balance his academic life with athletics (track and field).