



PITTSBURGH HISTORY & LANDMARKS FOUNDATION

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PHLF Will Recognize 10 College-Bound Students from Allegheny County During Its 20th Anniversary Celebration of the Landmarks Scholarship Program

PITTSBURGH, PA— During a reception on Tuesday, June 19, from 5:30 to 7:00 P.M. in Sewickley Heights, David Brashear, Chair of the Landmarks Scholarship Committee of the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation (PHLF), will award **college scholarships** (\$6,000 each, payable over four years for book and tuition expenses) **to four high-school graduates** from Allegheny County. In addition, **six high-school graduates** will receive **honorable mention awards** (a one-time gift of \$250). A record number of 89 students applied in the 20th-anniversary year of PHLF's scholarship program.

Since 1999, PHLF has awarded 72 scholarships and 14 honorable mentions to high-achieving students who are active in their communities and pursuing a college education. Of these 86 winners, 34 graduated from Pittsburgh Public Schools and 52 graduated from other schools within Allegheny County.

"The Landmarks Scholarship recognizes students who have achieved academic excellence and possess the potential to make a difference in the Pittsburgh community and beyond," said Mr. Brashear. "The essays that these young people write show how they are personally connected to the historic built environment that our organization works so hard to protect."

Landmarks Scholarship Award Recipients

- **William Johnson**, from Pittsburgh Allderice, will be studying International Business at La Roche College. In his essay, Mr. Johnson expresses how the Duquesne Incline demonstrates that the "tracks" of Pittsburgh's past are still visible in its 21st-century landscape. He notes, "the Duquesne Incline ... convinced me that tracks are not dead. That there are always alternatives to roads. And I think that makes all the difference."
- **Katherine McRury**, from Mt. Lebanon High School, will be studying Architecture at Penn State University. In her essay she describes moving from Atlanta to Pittsburgh and her first impressions of the "Steel City": "... it seemed to me that the strength of its character was as old as the hills where coal for the furnaces was mined and as present as the rushing rivers on every side."
- **Chandler Searcy**, from Pittsburgh Obama, will be studying Marketing at Robert Morris University. Ms. Searcy became involved in neighborhood advocacy because of the City steps on Pittsburgh's North Side. She writes: "I became a community activist and found a career path at the top of a concrete staircase."
- **Daniel Speer**, from Upper St. Clair High School, will be studying History & Political Science at the College of William and Mary. In his essay, Mr. Speer draws historical parallels between Pittsburgh and the former Penn Station, whose "magnificent architecture reflected Pittsburgh's status for the Pennsylvania Railroad and, indeed, for much of the country during the 19th and 20th centuries."

Honorable Mention Award Recipients

- **Daniel Bigley**, from Bishop Canevin High School, will be studying Chemistry and Spanish at the University of Pittsburgh, while pursuing a pre-med track.

- **Jennifer Jaffe**, from Shady Side Academy, will be studying Philosophy, Politics & Economics at the University of Pennsylvania.
- **Franziska Nace**, from Quaker Valley High School, will be studying English at Columbia University.
- **Zachary Trusky**, from Bishop Canevin High School, will be studying Electrical Engineering at Grove City College.
- **Giovanna Varlotta**, from Pittsburgh CAPA, will be studying Environmental Studies at the University of Pennsylvania.
- **Zoe Vongtau**, from Baldwin High School, will be studying Global Liberal Studies at New York University.

Generous Gifts Continue to Make the Landmarks Scholarship Program Possible

PHLF's Scholarship Program is funded by generous contributions from the Brashear Family Named Fund, the McSwigan Family Foundation, and the Landmarks Scholarship Fund, including donations to the 2008 and 2014 Scholarship Celebrations. To contribute, visit: **www.phlf.org** or contact Mary Lu Denny at PHLF (marylu@phlf.org; 412-471-5808, ext. 527).

The Landmarks Scholarship Program is the *culmination* of PHLF's educational programs for thousands of students from grades PreK-12 and the *beginning* of its programs for adults. It gives Allegheny County students an incentive to excel in school, become involved in their communities, and express their commitment to this region in a meaningful way.

The Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation Scholarship is offered each year.

Applications for the 2018-19 school year will be available in January 2019. Applicants must:

- live in and attend school in Allegheny County;
- be a high school senior who has been accepted to a college or university;
- have a cumulative GPA at the end of the first semester senior year of 3.25 or greater;
- have a significant interest in local history, architecture, and/or landscape design; and
- write an essay describing a place in Allegheny County that is important to him/her, complete an application, and submit two letters of recommendation (*one must be from a community representative*).

*Founded in 1964, the **Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation** is a nonprofit membership organization working to: **identify and save** historically significant places; **revitalize** historic neighborhoods, towns, and urban areas; **preserve** historic farms and historic designed landscapes; and **educate** people about the Pittsburgh region's rich architectural heritage. www.phlf.org*

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