



PITTSBURGH HISTORY & LANDMARKS FOUNDATION

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PHLF to Award Scholarships to Four College-Bound Students and Honorable Mentions to Four More

PITTSBURGH, PA—David Brashear, Chair of the Landmarks Scholarship Committee of the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation (PHLF), announced that **four high-school graduates from Allegheny County will receive \$6,000 college scholarships** during a reception on Tuesday, June 20, from 5:00 to 7:00 P.M. on Mt. Washington. These scholarships are payable over four years and are for book and tuition expenses only. The PHLF Landmarks Scholarship Fund has awarded sixty-eight scholarships to high-achieving students in Allegheny County since 1999. Thirty-one of those winners graduated from Pittsburgh Public Schools and thirty-seven 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 students we select already feel connected to the city and its history and will hopefully continue to serve the region as leaders in promoting PHLF’s values.” The four scholarship recipients in 2017 are:

- **Eleanor A. Newman**, from Barack Obama Academy of International Studies, who will be attending Harvard College and studying Government.
Ms. Newman's essay focuses on the University of Pittsburgh's Cathedral of Learning, where she attended college courses while a high school student. She examines the Cathedral's Nationality Rooms as a “reflection ... of the composition of Pittsburgh itself,” and explains how the Cathedral provided her with “a place of liberation and intellectual escape,” in her pursuit of an advanced academic career.
- **Brett Monae Searcy**, from Barack Obama Academy of International Studies, who will be attending Geneva College and studying Electrical Engineering.
Ms. Searcy's essay details the various ways in which the North Side of Pittsburgh has affected her life. From the Mexican War Streets to West Park, this “beloved and beautiful region” motivated Brett to become intimately involved in neighborhood advocacy. She is “proud to be a life-long Northsider.”
- **James J. Shaver**, from Pittsburgh Central Catholic, who will be attending the University of Michigan and studying Biology and Biomedical Engineering.
Mr. Shaver's essay credits the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh (Oakland) with a major role in his academic life. During his time at Pittsburgh Central Catholic, James spent many hours in the library studying for exams and completing school projects. In his essay, he recalls the “inspiring effect the Carnegie Library” had on him, and notes that the library “has honestly been like a second home” throughout his academic career.
- **Liza B. Wilson**, from Oakland Catholic High School, who will be attending American University in Washington, D.C, and studying International Business.
In her essay, Ms. Wilson explains her personal interest in the August Wilson Center and explores its impact on Pittsburgh's African American community. Liza notes that her “personal and academic aspirations are embodied in the design” of this building, and that its “amazing architecture remains as a testament to the resilience of the community.”

Because the Scholarship Committee received a record-breaking eighty-one applications and found so many of the candidates to be excellent, the committee also awarded four Honorable Mentions—a one-time award of \$250—to the following people:

- **Cassandra D. Hanna**, from Gateway High School, who will be attending Fisk University and studying History & Sociology;
- **Sarah T. Losco**, from North Allegheny Senior High School, who will be attending Penn State University and studying English & Secondary Education;
- **Breanna M. McCann**, from South Fayette High School, who will be attending Robert Morris University and studying Political Science & History.
- **Jiatian Qu**, from North Allegheny Senior High School, who will be attending Rice University and studying Psychology while pursuing a pre-med track;

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 and by donations to the Landmarks Scholarship Fund, including contributions 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 2017-18 school year will be available in January 2018. 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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