

Main St. Community Foundation awards \$216,000 in scholarships

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BRISTOL - The Main Street Community Foundation awarded 174 scholarships to 143 students to help further their education in a variety of fields Monday at DoubleTree by Hilton.

The scholarships, which totaled \$216,285, were awarded to students who plan to continue their educations at four-year colleges, military academies, community colleges and technical schools.

There, they will prepare themselves for careers in business, health care, criminal justice, journalism, education, engineering, visual arts, skilled trades and more.

Parents and siblings accompanied the honorees to the dinner to share in their celebration. About 270 people attended.

“This year’s group of scholarship recipients is very accomplished,” said Susan Sadecki, president and CEO of the foundation. “We are proud to support these students and grateful to the donors whose generosity has made these scholarships possible for over 20 years.”

Sadecki congratulated all the recipients for receiving “well-deserved honors” for their hard work.

“I hope they will help you to advance toward your goals and land the careers you are searching for,” she said. “I wish you all the best.”

Sadecki also thanked those who donated to the Foundation for “believing in the importance of education and supporting educational pathways in their local communities.”

She also congratulated the parents and family members of the recipients and thanked them for encouraging those students to “keep striving no matter what challenges they face.”

The students, who included graduating seniors, college students and adult learners, were from Bristol, Burlington, Plainville, Plymouth, Southington, Wolcott and other area cities and towns.



Brian M. Johnson | Staff Susan Sadecki, president and CEO of the Main Street Community Foundation, speaks to scholarship-winning students and their families Monday.

Emanuel Yawin, a sophomore at the University of Connecticut originally from Plainville, who received the Radcliff Plainville High School Fund Scholarship, said he hoped to make a career of manufacturing prosthetic limbs.

“I always really got a lot of satisfaction from helping people,” he said. “I was drawn to the biomedical field so I chose to enroll in UConn. I feel like this area is a place that could use more help and I want to provide it.”

Quinn Vontell, a senior at Bristol Central High School who plans to study accounting at Bryant University, received the McMaster Moulthrop Scholarship.

“In my junior year I was originally thinking of going into calculus, but I found the accounting system very interesting,” he said.

Matthew Erb, from Plainville, a senior at Goodwin Technical High School in New Britain, plans to study HVAC at the Bristol Technical Education Center. He received the Douglas Roland Aid for the Trades Scholarship.

“I’ve always been interested in electronics. I was on my school robotics team,” he said. “I’m very handy and I like working with machines.”

Celina Daigle, from Burlington, who is attending Lewis Mills High School, received the E. Bartlett Barnes Award in Journalism.

“I plan to study journalism at UConn. It seems like a good fit for me,” she said. “I’m a very personable person. I might be a reporter or I might do something in communications.”

Jordan Brunelle, of Plainville, received the Yarde Metals Memorial Scholarship. She is studying criminal justice at Roger Williams University.

“I want to work in the justice system,” she said. “I started taking classes during my freshman year and I found it really interesting. I want to make a difference.”

Scholarships were awarded from 76 of the foundation’s 238 named funds. These funds were established by local individuals, families and businesses.

Sadecki said more than 1,000 applications were received this year.

Scholarships are awarded through a competitive application process. A volunteer selection committee appointed by the foundation’s board of directors evaluates all applicants before recommending recipients.

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