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Main Street Community Foundation hosts annual scholarship reception

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Rachel Dufresne, center, received the Kristen Warner Scholarship at the 2016 Scholarship Reception of the Main Street Community Foundation.

By MIKE CHAIKEN
EDITIONS EDITOR

Local recipients of scholarships had a chance to meet the people who offer the scholarships at the annual scholarship reception offered by the Main Street Foundation last Wednesday.

Susan Sadecki, CEO and president of the foundation, said 130 individual students received scholarships this year through the foundation. They were selected from 850 applications received.

Sadecki contrasted the 2016 numbers with an earlier annual dinner in 2001. That year, the foundation oversaw the award of 15 scholarships.

Southington's Rachel Dufresne was among the students attending the reception that packed Hawk's Landing in Southington. Dufresne, who will be attending Sacred Heart University in Fairfield in the fall, received a scholarship from the Kristen Warner Scholarship Fund. Dufresne, who also received several other scholarships other than those presented at the foundation reception, said the extra money was a help. Without the scholarships, Rachel said the financial burden of college would have been tough on her family.

Krysta Tsangarides of Southington, who will be attending Salve Regina College in Newport, R.I., also received a scholarship at the reception—one of many she received this year. The extra financial assistance was appreciated, she said. “College is kind of expensive. I have two older sisters who go to college already. So my parents can’t really help me out. So I need all the help I can get.”

Both Dufresne and Tsangarides recommended that students should take the time to apply for scholarships to defray the expense of college.

“You should definitely take advantage of scholarship if you can,” said Krysta.

All scholarships through the foundation were awarded through a competitive application process and were available to students at varying levels of their academic careers from the towns of Bristol, Burlington, Plainville, Plymouth, Southington and Wolcott as well as other communities. A selection committee appointed by the foundation’s Board of Directors evaluated all applicants before recommending recipients.

“This year’s group of scholarship recipients is very impressive,” said Sadecki, in a press release from the foundation. “We are proud to support these students and grateful to the donors whose generosity has made these awards possible for the last 21 years.”

The 2016 scholarship recipients from Southington are as follows:

- Because of 26 Kindness Award Scholarship Fund: Morgan Shubert
- Stanley P. Bitel Memorial Fund: Rachel Klem
- Peter and Marjorie Bossi Educational Fund: Kayla Rozanski
- Bristol Yale Club Scholarship Fund: Morgan Shubert
- Richard A. DellaVecchia Scholarship Fund: Alex Rasten
- Vincent T. Kozyrski Scholarship Fund: Morgan Shubert
- Thérèse MacCallum “Great Kid” Scholarship Fund: Garrett Gugliotti
- Robert E. and Angeline P. McCormack Scholarship Fund: Krysta Tsangarides
- AJR Nocera Memorial Fund: Morgan Shubert
- Dorothy Dewey Picard Music Scholarship Fund: Kayla Rozanski
- Douglas Roland Aid for the Trades Scholarship Fund: Tyler Chasse



Krysta Tsangarides received the Robert E. and Angeline P. McCormack Scholarship at the 2016 Scholarship Reception of the Main Street Community Foundation.

- Southington Observer/StepSaver Scholarship Fund: Rachel Klem
- Louise (Humphrey) Van Gorder Music Camp Scholarship Fund: Adam Gwara
- Kristen Warner Scholarship Fund: Rachel Dufresne

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