

The Phillips Scholar

Stephen Phillips Memorial Scholarship Fund, Inc.

Volume 15

Fall 2013



Stephen Phillips Memorial
Scholarship Fund, Inc.
P.O. Box 870
Salem, Massachusetts
www.phillips-scholarship.org

Trustees

Lawrence Coolidge
Arthur Emery
John Finley, IV
Richard Gross
Robert Randolph

Staff

Barbara Welles Iler,
Executive Director

Pamela Constantine,
Program Director

Kate Gearan,
*Associate Program
Director*

Daniel K Flynn,
Program Associate

A Phillips Scholar Providing Scholarships



Samantha holds a picture of her brother

Samantha Pearsall Mueller, a graduate of Endicott College (2009) personifies the service to community so common in Phillips Scholars.

Jack's PACT Origin and Message

After Samantha's 16-year-old brother Jack Pearsall was tragically killed by a drunk driver in 2011, Samantha and her family established Jack's PACT in his memory; PACT stands for Positive Alternatives for Community and Teens. Samantha explains, "We wanted to get not just parents, but kids, teens, and the whole community involved with thinking proactively about preventing drunk driving. The principle is to bring

more awareness to the issue of drunk, drugged, and distracted driving while also highlighting the safe, fun, and engaging pro-social alternatives to such risky behaviors."

Jack's PACT Programs and Scholarships

Jack's PACT supports programs and activities such as after school programs, peer mentoring, anti-drunk driving activities, scholarships for substance-free students, and sports nights for youths. Since 2012, over \$9,000 has been awarded in Jack Pearsall Memorial Scholarships to Falmouth High School seniors pursuing college careers and activities upon graduating from high school. By making the Jack's PACT pledge, people of all ages promise not to drink and drive and receive a wristband and a bumper sticker to demonstrate their commitment. Over 1,000 people of all ages have pledged and continue to make pledges for Jack's PACT. The organization also collaborates with several other groups including the Falmouth Prevention Partnership, the Falmouth Recreation Department, and the Falmouth Public Schools.

Samantha's Work

Along with her involvement in Jack's PACT, Samantha is earning her Masters in Clinical Social Work (MSW) from Boston University through a part-time Off Campus Program on Cape Cod. This has allowed Samantha to work with the Community Health Center of Cape Cod. After graduating, Samantha hopes to continue working as a therapist or counselor for at-risk youth and teenagers along with coaching high school girls' soccer.

Stephen Phillips Is Going Green!

- After two decades of paper applications, Stephen Phillips has gone green!
- This year we transitioned to a fully online application.
- Applicants saved on postage, as did the Phillips Scholarship.
- An overwhelming majority found the online application very user-friendly, as well as environmentally sound.

If you would prefer to receive the newsletter electronically, to save even more paper, please send an email from your preferred email address to dflynn@spscholars.org. We'd love to hear from you!



A day's worth of paper applications

A Phillips Scholar Encourages Sustainability on Campus



Alina and the Greenbean Machine

In keeping with our green theme, we would like to commend Alina Usmanov, a Phillips Scholar at Bentley University (2015), who is double majoring in Business and Environmental Science.

Bentley Green Society and the Greenbean Machine

With the goal to promote environmental awareness at school, Alina joined an environmental group on campus called the Bentley Green Society during her freshman year. This past year, Alina became a board member and the webmaster with the task of revamping the group's website. As the Sustainability Intern on campus, Alina organized the funding and installation of the first reverse-vending machine on Bentley's campus! After applying for funding from the Facilities Office, Alina gained approval for the installation of a Greenbean Recycle machine. The "Greenbean Machine" recycles glass and plastic bottles and aluminum cans and deposits the five cent refund into a PayPal account, student account, or to a designated charity. Students can sign up to track their progress online including the number of containers they have recycled and the number of Kilowatt hours (Kwh) of energy they have saved and take part in recycling competitions. Other colleges with this technology include Brandeis University, Harvard University, MIT, Merrimack College, Northeastern University, Tufts University and Wellesley College.

Bentley's First Technology-Based Student Organization

Alina also co-founded the first technology-based student organization on campus, creating the Bentley chapter of the Association for Information Systems (AIS). Alina and her fellow chapter members competed in the 2012-2013 AIS National Student Competition and the Wal-Mart Competition, in which they proposed innovative solutions to address real-life business issues. The Bentley chapter placed second in the National Student Competition; Bentley students also served on the winning team and the two runner-up teams in the Wal-Mart Competition. The students donated their winnings from the Wal-Mart Competition to the Wounded Warrior Project and the Boston One Fund. In addition to continuing her work with sustainability, Alina will also be working as a Research Assistant to one of her professors and contributing to his research project in health-care systems.

Saving Money on Your Federal Student Loans

College graduates with low earnings may want to change their repayment plan for federal student loans to better suit their financial situations. Is one of the following right for you?

- Income-Based Repayment (IBR) considers your income and family size to adjust your annual payments to keep them affordable. After 25 years of qualifying payments, the remainder of your debt may be forgiven.
- The Pay As You Earn plan has an even lower monthly cap than the IBR and provides for loan forgiveness after 20 years. Only available for borrowers of Direct Student Loans, there are more restrictions than the IBR plan.
- Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) is another option for some borrowers with Federal Direct Loans and high debt-to-income ratios. This program is for people with federal student loans who work full-time in a range of “public service” occupations including employment in government, teaching, 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations, and AmeriCorps or Peace Corps positions. Remaining debt may be forgiven after 10 years of eligibility.
- Visit **www.ibrinfo.org** for more information on each of these options. Be sure to watch the Debt Gremlin video!



Jobs Corner

For Current College Students:

The Forest Foundation’s Undergraduate College Fellowship Program offers current college students diverse placements, leadership development and opportunities to work at non-profit agencies that are making a difference in the community. Individuals who have a passion for and excel in their engagement with community service, volunteerism, and non-profit agencies are encouraged to apply. Information and the application for 2014 Summer Internships will be available on December 15, 2013 at **www.forestfoundation.net**.

For Phillips Alumni:

Bottom Line is a dynamic Massachusetts and New York City-based college access and success organization that is currently expanding. It is dedicated to helping at-risk urban youth get into college, graduate from college, and go far in life. Bottom Line achieves this mission by providing low-income and first-generation students with one-on-one guidance through the application process and during college. Each spring they recruit new college access counselors. Visit **www.bottomline.org** for more information.

Do you need another idea?

Visit **www.masspromisefellows.org** for more information about a year of service with involvement in youth development projects across Massachusetts.

Have you ever thought of becoming a teacher?

Visit **www.teachforamerica.org** for more information regarding their mission and how to apply. The next two deadlines for the 2014 corps are January 24, 2014, and February 20, 2014.

Interested in finding a job in the non-profit world?

Visit **www.bridgespan.org** and navigate to the Nonprofit Job Board for more information.

2013 Alumni Scholar

We are proud to recognize Anton Pettiford, University of Hartford (2015), as the Phillips Alumni Scholar for 2013! Here's a brief introduction to Anton. For more information please visit the alumni scholar page on the Phillips Scholarship website.



Anton Pettiford

Anton's Leadership and Service in College

Before entering the University of Hartford this year, Anton completed his Associates Degree at Manchester Community College, where he quickly became a student leader of his peers and an advocate for community service. Soon after being inducted into Phi Theta Kappa, international honor society of two year colleges, Anton was elected chapter president. Under his leadership, the society sponsored a school-supply drive for local children and a Community College Completion Corps (C4) Signing Drive to encourage success and completion of community college. Anton also organized a peer mentor program called "Pay it Forward: Coaching for Student Success." Anton was also the president of the Criminal Justice Club from 2011 to 2012, through which he became a Hartford Police

Explorers volunteer and a Community Partners in Action (CPA) volunteer. It was through this organization that Anton helped to donate toys to children with incarcerated parents and facilitated an initiative to provide teddy bears for children who were victims of or witnesses to crime.

Recognition and Service in the Wider Community

This spring, Anton was chosen as a member of the All-Connecticut Academic Team. Students selected for this unique honor are recognized for academic achievement and leadership in the community colleges of Connecticut. Anton also received the Community College Leadership Award which recognizes minority students for academic excellence and commitment to community service. Anton is very active in the Manchester Area Community of Churches (MACC), an organization comprised of twelve churches dedicated to providing shelter and meal services to the community. At the MACC center, Anton served as the shelter assistant on weekends and enjoyed interacting with the often-overlooked members of the community. Currently, Anton is working as a Client Supervisor at a halfway house in Willimantic, where he helps recovering drug users.

Words of Thanks

The following Phillips Scholar Alumni have donated generously to the Phillips Scholar Alumni Award over the past year. Matched dollar for dollar by a friend of the scholarship, these funds helped assist more students with the increasing costs of education. A sincere thank you to all.

\$5,000 and above

†*Emma Nowinski
*Anonymous

\$500 - \$999

*Michael Bednark

\$100-\$499

*Kimberly Beiler
†*Sean and Joseph Callahan
Matthew Cate
†*Matthew and Michael Coelho
*Christopher Contino
†Alexander Dana

Aaron Davis

*Justine Evans

*Matthew

Harutunian

†*Ross Hogan

*Michael Kishko

*Matthew

Kozlowski

*Thao Mai

†*Nathaniel Malloy

*Monica Scott

*Jesenia Tejada

*Aimee Valeras

†*Stephanie Wong

Paul Yee

\$50-\$99

Jerry Alcuis

Bryson Cowan

*Eileen Cuddy

*Thomas Farrell

Daniel Flynn

*Tessa Gallant

*David Gay

*Seamus Kraft

†*George Lewis

Laura Mason

*Michael Piche

†Adriana Raudzens

*Jennifer Scafidi

Paul Sullivan

Bethann Swartz

*Victoria Wong

up to \$49

†*Elizabeth

Brackbill

Rebecca Brown

†*Peter Colleran

† Douglas Cooper

†*Marianne Corley

*John DeCaro

†*Joseph

Ferrantino

†*Michael Insler

†*Joseph Kimok

*Liam Kraft

*Fanny Lau

*Phyllis Linane

*Samantha Pearsall

Mueller

Megan Oliveira

Allegra Parrillo

*Brad Russo

*Nicole Shadeed

*Adam Shain

†Shelby Strong

†*Sean Tulloch

*Multiple-Year Donor

† Parent Donation