

2017 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

2017 MEMORIAL AND HONORARY SCHOLARSHIP AWARD RECIPIENTS

ZACH HERMAN: Scholarship in memory of Marion Storm, founder and first President of the Fine Arts Society of Sarasota

SKYLER MILLER: Scholarship in memory of Harriet Bell, supported by a donation from her daughter, Susan Schober

ABIGAIL HODGSON: Scholarship in memory of Linda Kopeck, supported by a donation from her mother, Carol Kopeck

JOSH GALINDO: Scholarship in honor of Gregory Murphy, past Fine Arts Scholar, supported by a donation from his mother, Lucille Murphy

ZOE VERBIL: Scholarship supported by a donation by Lynda Doery.



MARGAUX B. ALBIEZ
Studio Art/Painting
School of the Art Institute of Chicago

Margaux's art work is unique and imaginative. She shows enormous promise for a successful career in the arts. She was awarded a highly prestigious prize—the Gold Key—from the Scholastic Arts & Writing Competition in 2015. There were 300,000 submissions for this award and only one percent was selected. The award was presented at Carnegie Hall in New York City. Margaux also excels at speaking and debating.

SOMMER ALTIER
Music/Violin
Florida State University



Sommer is described by her teachers as gifted musically as well as intellectually. She performs as solo violinist as well as being the leader in orchestra ensembles, always as First Chair. She has achieved the rank of Booker High School Advanced Orchestra Concert Master (2013-Present). She has worked professionally with the Venice Symphony Orchestra and the Port Charlotte Symphony Orchestra.



MARISSA BROTZ
Musical Theater
University of Florida

As an Honor student at Pine View High School, Marissa directed Mr. Pine View, the annual talent show as well as maintaining a stellar academic record. Known for her “outstanding talent and extraordinary voice,” Marissa aspires to a career in musical theater.

EMILY CAIN
Architecture
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute



Emily Cain, a Pine View High School honor student, has long had the dream of becoming an architect. She researched, planned and built a “Tiny House,” and will pursue her passion for architecture at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute as a freshman this fall.



AUSTIN B. CANON
Music/Trombone
 New England Conservatory of Music

Austin is a FASS scholarship recipient for a second year. After having a successful first year at the New England Conservatory in Boston he will be entering his sophomore year, and plans to continue pursuing his goal of being the principle trombonist in a professional orchestra. He would also like to teach in a university or conservatory and perhaps have his own private studio to teach young students.

ANDRE DeGRENIER
Music Performance
 Northwestern University



Andre is finishing his senior year at the prestigious Interlochen Center for the Arts in Michigan. After 3 years at Booker High School he transferred to Interlochen where he flourished both artistically and academically. His major will be music, specifically percussion performance, and music composition. He performed on the marimba for his CD submission to the committee and it was beautiful with a very a high level of difficulty. His career goal is to work in the music industry performing and composing.



JOSHUA GALINDO
Motion Design
 Ringling College of Art & Design

Joshua is a Sophomore at Ringling College of Art & Design with a major in Motion Design and a GPA of 3.53. Joshua has been honored with a Ringling College Dean's Scholarship and named Outstanding Freshman in the Best of Ringling Juried Student Show. His professors praise him as a hard-working, gifted student and an inspiration to his classmates.

MELANIE GASPARONI
Communications Design
 Pratt Institute



Melanie, moving forward in her Freshman year at Pratt Institute, has chosen to Major in Communications Design, which includes Illustration, Advertising and Graphic Design. She feels comfortable in knowing that these courses will more readily lead to job opportunities upon graduating from Pratt Institute. She has found an exciting environment in which to grow at Pratt Institute.



DAVID J. GEIGER
Film/Writing & Directing
 State College of Florida

David is a senior at Suncoast Polytechnical High School. His goal is to become a writer and director. He would like to start his own film company. David volunteers as the videographer for the drama club at The Island Village Montessori School and created the Youth Media Team at Lift Church.

JOSHUA GUAITA
Music/Piano
 Cedarville University



Joshua plays piano and the cello and has been Principal Cellist for the Sarasota Youth Orchestra and Sarasota Youth Philharmonic. He has been a finalist and winner of the Sarasota Orchestra Young Artists Competition, among other honors. Joshua has a 4.23 GPA and will continue to study piano as a Freshman at Cedarville University in Ohio.



ZACHARY HERMAN
Musical Theater
Carnegie Mellon

Zach is an extraordinarily talented young man. Two years ago, when first applying for a scholarship, we were amazed by his singing, dancing, and acting abilities. In the last two years, he has improved his skills tremendously. It is obvious he has matured greatly not only in his acting and singing, but as a person as reflected in his personal statement. Also, he has become a certified fitness trainer. He has, in addition, developed an interest in writing and directing.

ABIGAIL HODGSON
Jewelry Design
Savannah College of Art & Design

Abigail's career goal is to become a Bench Jeweler and own her own company. She proved herself a worthy recipient of a Fine Arts Society Scholarship last year after graduating from Booker High School. As a Freshman at SCAD, she is a highly accomplished student in their prestigious Jewelry Design program. She has already received two scholarships for both academic and artistic excellence and plans to use this scholarship award to take advantage of studying abroad to obtain training in European Casting.



NO PHOTO

Madison T. Miller **MADISON T. MILLER**
Illustration/Art Directing
Wellesley

Madison graduates from Pine View School and will attend Wellesley College. She is focused on painting and drawing. In addition to academic excellence, she has found time to design a book cover and illustrate a children's book. Her graphic design and color sense enhance paintings that reflect history, people, and lore, and take you beyond the beauty of the image. Her long term goals are to be an illustrator and art director.



SKYLER MILLER
Music/Piano
Jacksonville University

"In my twenty-seven years of college and university teaching, I have met no student equal to Mr. Miller" writes one of Skyler's professors in his letter of recommendation. This is the second time Skyler has been awarded a FASS Scholarship, and he has indeed proven himself worthy. Accepted into Jacksonville's very competitive Honors Program, he has won the University's Concerto Competition. Skyler is a gifted classical pianist.

MAYA O'DAY
Comedic Acting
Emerson College

Maya is a senior at Booker High School and is the Assistant Stage Manager of their Visual Performing Arts program. She is planning to major in acting and really enjoys comedy and improvisation. Maya loves making people laugh. The Chairman of Booker's Visual Performing Arts program said of Maya, "She balances a rigorous course load, demanding rehearsal schedules, and extracurricular responsibilities, all with a great sense of independence and unwavering enthusiasm."





AMANDA PEREZ PRIETO
Studio Art
Florida State University

Amanda is a Senior at Booker High School. Her intended major will be painting, drawing and sculpture. Her art work is based on her memories of Cuba and its culture. One of her professors sums up Amanda by saying that “Amanda is a young adult of substance, with a thirst for learning without attitude”. Amanda is looking forward to fulfilling her goal of being the first in her family to obtain a college degree.

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HALEY FAYE ROSENTHAL **HALEY FAYE ROSENTHAL**
Musical Theater
Boston Conservatory

Haley is a senior at Booker High School who is passionate about performing in Musical Theatre. You may have seen her perform at Booker, Venice Theatre, or Manatee Performing Arts Center. She has been “praised for her talent as a three octave singer and actor with special comedic ability...” In addition to winning Miss Access Broadway Triple Threat, she won 1st Place in a Florida Studio Theater Young Playwright Competition.



ELIJAH SCHILDKRAUT
Musical Theater Composition
Berklee School of Music

Eli has a PASSIONATE drive to become a musical theater composer. Eli is the youngest Music Director at the Venice Theater (assumed role at 15.) Graduating from Booker High School, Eli received Best Leading Actor in a Play 2016, is Musical Director and composer for Booker High shows, and received the All Star award at the Florida Theater Conference. He plays at least eight musical instruments and is a proficient sight reader.

ZOE VERBIL
Musical Theater
Pace University

Zoe is currently a student at Pace University and is a two time recipient of a FASS Scholarship. She is preparing for a career in Musical Theatre Performance, Writing, and Designing Websites. A Pace Professor wrote, “Doubtlessly she will continue to grow and become one of the great student representatives of our program, and we will be lucky to brag about her accomplishments.”

