



The Cook Family Foundation

PURPOSE

Serving as both a resource for the community and a catalyst for positive change.

OBJECTIVE

Through strategic, proactive use of funds and grants, strengthen institutions, extend their mission and enable their growth.

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Sarah Rice, shown with Tom Cook and Bruce Cook, is the 2012 recipient of the Donald Cook Scholarship at U of M.

Donald Cook Scholarship Awarded to Sarah Rice

Sarah Rice exemplifies what it is to be a model student citizen, and has been named as the 2012 recipient of the Donald Cook Scholarship at University of Michigan.

Sarah was one of the top students in her class at Owosso High School. She served as the vice-president of the student body and participated actively in many service projects. Sarah was a four-year member of the tennis team and played flute in the marching and symphonic bands. One of her teachers noted, "Sarah ranks among the most talented and driven students that I have ever seen." Sarah is enrolled in the Residential College.

The Donald Cook Scholarship is a four-year, \$40,000 scholarship funded jointly by the Cook Family Foundation and University of Michigan. The scholarship was established to honor the work of Donald Cook, a 1924 graduate of U of M and the founder of the Cook Family Foundation. The scholarship is awarded every two years to a Shiawassee County student selected by the College of Literature, Science and the Arts (LSA).

This year, the University of Michigan, Cook Family Foundation and Bruce and Jackie Cook have awarded U of M Scholarships to 31 Shiawassee County students with a collective value of over \$233,000.



Class of 2012 Scholar Spotlight: *Heading to U of M!*

Thirty-one Shiawassee-area students will begin their first year at University of Michigan in Fall 2012.

These students (listed to the left) received scholarship assistance from the Cook Family Foundation, in addition to merit-based scholarships and/or need-based financial aid from the University. While all of the students have outstanding high school careers, we highlight a few below.

Shiawassee 2012 U of M Scholars

Byron

Jennifer Burack
Ryan Madar

Chesaning

Rebekah Andrews
Melissa Escamilla

Corunna

Beau Bremer
Alexandra Cole
Kaitlin Cooper
Dominick Cortez
Kristin Gilbert
Nicholas Howes
Emma Tompkins

Laingsburg

Emily Ling
Kiya Sessions

New Lothrop

James Urban

Ovid-Elsie

Devin Bengel
Brandon Crocker
Morgan Kernohan
Janelle McClelland

Owosso

Luke Collard
Nicole Constine
Allison George
Jacob Gerstler
Bonham Killewald
Evan Klinkoski
Mitchell Opanasenko
Sarah Rice
Evan Ritter

Perry

Karla Graves
Jordan Killingsworth
Bradley Liestenfeltz
Samuel Whaley



Byron High School – Ryan Madar is involved in a variety of community and church activities and is a member of Business Professionals of America. He is enrolled in the College of Engineering with plans to major in Computer Science.



Chesaning High School – Rebekah Andrews was the valedictorian of her class as well as the National Honor Society president. She is enrolled in the College of Engineering with a major in Nuclear Engineering.



Corunna High School – Nicholas Howes was the valedictorian of his class. An outstanding athlete, he was an all-conference selection in baseball and football. Nick plans to major in Business or Communications.



Laingsburg High School – Emily Ling was heavily involved in the concert and marching bands, performing arts and the Science Olympiad. She plans to major in Cellular and Molecular Biology.



New Lothrop High School – James Urban was an outstanding pitcher who led his baseball team to a perfect conference record and was named All-Area Baseball Player of the Year. He is enrolled in the College of Engineering.



Ovid-Elsie High School – Devin Bengel was co-valedictorian of his class as well as class president. He was a finalist for the Bruce and Jackie Cook Scholarship. He plans to major in Pre-Med with the goal of becoming a psychiatrist.



Owosso High School – Jacob Gerstler was third in his class and a Shiawassee Scholar. He is the winner of a Regents Merit Scholarship and an LSA Scholarship of \$40,000. He plans to major in Pre-Med.



Perry High School – Bradley Liestenfeltz was a co-valedictorian and a Shiawassee Scholar. He is the recipient of a Regents Merit Scholarship and a \$40,000 Mary Raymond Creer Scholarship from the School of Nursing.



Shiawassee Scholars Program Upgraded

How to best motivate and help our brightest youth succeed in high school? For 13 years that has been the question behind the Shiawassee Scholars, the program operated by the Shiawassee Regional Education Service District (SRES D) and funded by the Cook Family Foundation that recognizes the most academically-talented eighth graders from eight local school districts.

This year, two changes were made in the Shiawassee Scholars program. First, 47 Scholars spent three days on the campus of the University of Michigan getting to know one another, and getting to see first-hand what college life is like. In addition to fun and games (literally), the newest scholars got to meet several current University students including those involved in research projects, be enthralled by a chemistry demonstration, learn more about other academic disciplines, and meet with an admission counselor who explained what it takes to be admitted to a competitive college. "I learned what to expect in college and how to get prepared for it," one of the Scholars reported.

The scholarship portion of the Shiawassee Scholars program has been upgraded as well, so that students can apply for assistance to attend an academic enrichment program to supplement their education, either as part of a summer program or during the school year. This competitive program replaces a more limited scholarship award made to every Scholar; financial need is also taken into consideration when awarding funds.

Shiawassee Scholars are selected by the SRES D based on their performance on the SAT (Scholastic Aptitude Test), a test designed for high school seniors and used by colleges as an admission criteria. The top scorers from Shiawassee County, who chose to enroll full-time in one of eight public high schools, are eligible for participation in Shiawassee Scholars.

For more information on the program, contact Lisa Seigel at the SRES D at Seigel@sresd.org 989-743-3471

Shiawassee Scholars – 2012 Inductees *Graduating Class of 2016*

Byron

Skyler Christopher
Kaila Daley
Mitchell Lawrence
Bethany Trites

New Lothrop (cont.)

Harrison Miller
Paul Pomrehn
Caleb Stankiewicz
Jessalyn Taylor

Corunna

Brandon Barker
Mary Basso
Nicholas Mars
Robert Massie III
Alex Nicolli
Nicholas Palasio

Owosso

Derek Beard
Carmen Chamberlain
Nicholas Delaney
Maria Doerfner
Jhoshua Hickey
Sarah Kilbreath
Erin Konopacke
Noah Slusher
Meredith Walter

Durand

Anna Dietrich
Daniel Greeson
Allison Luchenbill
Cole Szakal
Brittany Tillman

Perry

Autumn Ash
Breanna Bixler
Ross Kelly
Gabriel Pavlica
Benjamin Price
Lauren Steel
Charlie Szur

Laingsburg

Hanna Angst
Daniel Briggs
Jacob Danek
Katrina Granger
Olivia Hill
Sarah Ling
Tristan Merchant
Karissa Stephens

St. Paul

Brendan Hrcka
Zachary Hufnagel
Valentina Larrivey

New Lothrop

Clara Devota
Charles Dunn
Levi Krupp

Home School

Madeline Ardelean
Delaney Atkinson
Claire Mandley

Sam Whaley Earns Bruce and Jackie Cook Scholarship

Sam Whaley has accomplished a lot in his school career.

Sam was the 2012 co-valedictorian at Perry High School, president of Student Council, vice-president of the National Honor Society and won All-State Academic Recognition as a member of the cross-country team. He has won numerous awards as a trumpet player, culminating with his nomination to the prestigious Spartan Youth Symphony. Sam was a student ambassador in Europe for the People to People program and attended the National Student Leadership Conference in Washington DC.

Because of his past success and future promise, Sam was selected as the 2012 Bruce and Jacqueline Cook Scholarship recipient. This is a four-year, full tuition scholarship for a talented student from Shiawassee County. The Cook Family Foundation assists in the recruitment and selection of the recipient of this award, which is funded by **Bruce and Jackie Cook**. The Foundation also provides a scholarship to all award nominees and finalists attending U of M.



Sam Whaley is pictured with Bruce and Jackie Cook.

Inside:
A Tradition of Academic Excellence:
New 2012 Shiawassee Scholars
University of Michigan Scholars 2012

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