



# The Cook Family Foundation

Fall 2016

## 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.

## STAFF

Tom Cook, Executive Director

Yvette Collard, Associate Director

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bruce Cook, President

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## CONTACT US

P.O. Box 278

Owosso, Michigan 48867

Ph: 989.725.1621

[tom@cookfamilyfoundation.org](mailto:tom@cookfamilyfoundation.org)

[www.cookfamilyfoundation.org](http://www.cookfamilyfoundation.org)

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*Mitchell Lawrence poses with the benefactors of the Bruce and Jacqueline Cook Scholarship. He is the eleventh recipient of this scholarship, which is funded separately from the Cook Family Foundation.*

## From Byron to Japan to Ann Arbor

An inspiration. An opportunity. An extra effort. These are the components of success that Mitchell Lawrence has followed throughout his career at Byron High School. Now he will be attending the University of Michigan with a four-year, full-tuition scholarship from Bruce and Jacqueline Cook.

Mitchell Lawrence became intrigued with Japanese culture thanks to the Shiawassee Scholars program (see page 3). This inspired him to be part of an exchange program with Shiga Prefecture, Michigan's sister state in Japan. Subsequently, he studied Japanese through dual enrollment at Lansing Community College and he has returned to Shiga this summer. His ability to make the most of his opportunities is reflected in his recent accomplishment of becoming an Eagle Scout.

Mitchell, son of Jon and Christina Lawrence, is the valedictorian of Byron High School and served as president of the student council and National Honor Society. Mitchell has been admitted to the Taubman College of Architecture and the College of Literature, Science and the Arts.



# Top High School Graduates Shout “Go Blue”



This year, 27 of the leaders and best from nine high schools will enroll at the University of Michigan.

In keeping with the Foundation’s policy, all admitted students from the greater Shiawassee County region will receive a scholarship from the Cook Family Foundation to attend the University of Michigan. Many of these students have also earned other UM scholarships. The total value of these scholarships — which have unique criteria including academic merit, leadership, and financial need — exceeds \$400,000.

These 27 students are enrolled in five different undergraduate schools: The College of Literature, Science and the Arts (LS&A), the College of Engineering, the School of Kinesiology, the Taubman School of Architecture and Design, and the School of Music, Theater and Dance; and one student is starting at the University of Michigan-Dearborn with plans to transfer to Ann Arbor.

## Shiawassee 2016 U of M Scholars

### Byron

Kaila Daley  
Grant Floto  
Mitchell Lawrence

### Chesaning

Ryan Brian  
Cameron Cross  
Anthony Edgar

### Corunna

Alexander Backus  
Brooke Brandt  
Nicholas Mars  
Arionna Stockinger  
Connor Svrcek

### Durand

Jason Cottrell  
Tatianna Fraley

### Laingsburg

Katrina Granger  
Tristan Merchant

\*U of M Dearborn

### New Lothrop

Harrison Miller  
Hannah Thomas

### Ovid-Elsie

Clayton Alaga  
Conner Applebee  
Addison Hymer  
Emma Phillipson

### Owosso

Mary Basso  
Rebecca Huska \*  
Valentina Larrivey

### Perry

Breanna Bixler  
Micah Johnson  
Robert Massie

**For scholarship information follow  
us on Twitter @GoBlueGoBruce**

## Mary Basso of Owosso Recognized as Donald Cook Scholarship Winner

Donald Cook, the benefactor of the Cook Family Foundation, graduated from the University of Michigan in 1924. To recognize his legacy, a scholarship is now awarded annually that provides \$5,000 a year for four years.

This year’s recipient is Mary Basso, daughter of Daniel and Tamara Basso, and valedictorian of Owosso High School. She will be attending the Residential College at the University of Michigan to study French with a strong interest in international studies. Mary has served as the president of several organizations: key club, environmental club, quiz bowl, and the student body.



*Mary Basso is awarded a scholarship from the Cook Family Foundation from Executive Director, Thomas Cook. Erica Sanders, Director of the Office of Undergraduate Admissions at the University of Michigan, joins the celebration.*

## Ryan Brian Awarded Stamps Leadership Scholarship

Chesaning High School graduate Ryan Brian has been recognized as a Stamps Scholar, among the brightest group of new undergraduates.

The prestigious Stamps Scholarship provides funding to cover the full cost of attendance at the University of Michigan for four years, as well as a network of support. Ryan, the son of Tracy and Richard Brian, has a strong science background and looks to pursue a pre-med program.





# 2016

## Shiawassee Scholars Program in its 17th Year

With funding from the Cook Family Foundation, the Shiawassee Regional Education Service District (SRES D) supports the area's most academically talented students in their high school careers.

The Shiawassee Scholars program recognizes eighth grade students by their performance on the SAT (Scholastic Aptitude Test), a test designed for high school seniors. The top scorers from the Shiawassee County area, who chose to enroll full-time in one of eight public high schools, are eligible to become Shiawassee Scholars.

The Shiawassee Scholars are eligible to apply for scholarships for summer and school-year academic enrichment programs, are given counseling support, and are all invited to spend three days on the campus of the University of Michigan. The goal of these efforts is to inspire and qualify these students for admittance to top colleges and merit-based scholarships.



**Byron**  
Brandon Brozich  
Zoe McDowell



**Durand**  
Emily Cooney  
Jeremy Gooch  
Drew Jones



**Corunna**  
Jaylee Carpenter  
Abby Lake  
Elizabeth Norris  
Evan Roka



**Morrice**  
Jenna O'Berry  
Alina Stinson

### Shiawassee Scholars 2016 Inductees Graduating Class of 2020



**Laingsburg**  
Ava Brewer  
Tyler Brunette  
Annie Claus  
Adrian Eggleston  
Christopher Freels  
Chloe Gregg  
Parker Gregg  
Adriana Gruhn

Logan Hagerty  
Brady Hawks  
Calvin Koonter  
Anna Ludlow  
Samuel Marshall  
Dylan Olsen  
Emily Schaaf



**New Lothrop**  
Kami Aiello  
Luke Birchmeier  
Ean Gauthier  
Kerra Hinrichs  
Michael Klim  
Brianna Kline  
Julia Martin  
Lyndsi Wendling



**Owosso**  
Mason Collard  
Lynnae Gilman  
Ashtyn Guru  
Noah Jafri  
William Scrimger  
Hannah Walters



**Perry**  
Lindsey Bixler  
Elijah Delaney  
Olivia Lewis  
Ryan O'Neill  
Sydni Reeder  
Kyah Ribble  
Alex Scovill

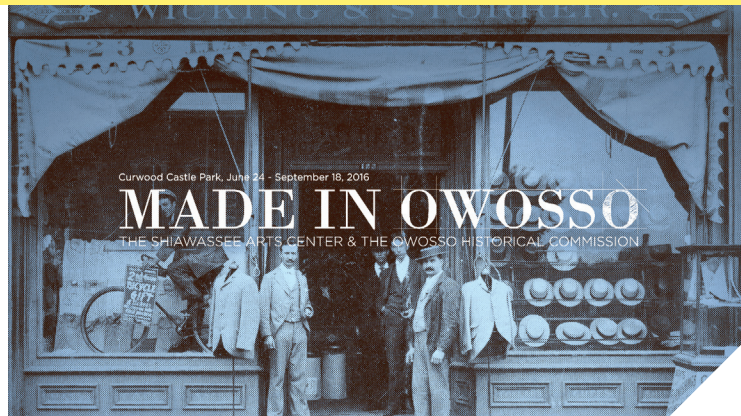
For more information on the program, contact Renee Dotson at the SRES D at [dotson@sresd.org](mailto:dotson@sresd.org) 989-743-3471 or visit the Programs & Services section of their website at [sresd.org](http://sresd.org)

# "Made in Owosso" Showcases History

Manufacturing made Owosso, just like many towns in Michigan that were settled in the 19th century and boomed in the 20th century.

The history of products made in Owosso is the subject of a current exhibit being put on by the Owosso Historical Commission and the Shiawassee Arts Council. Major financial support for the exhibit comes from the Cook Family Foundation.

The exhibit will be on display and open to the public free of charge through September 16. A series of events will be held throughout the summer that highlight the historical and cultural assets of several partner organizations. A calendar, along with background information, can be found at the exhibit's website [www.madeinowosso.org](http://www.madeinowosso.org)



Many of the businesses that were started in the previous century are now gone from Owosso. However, the influence they had on the design, growth, and development of Owosso are still felt. So too, the charity of individuals and families that started businesses has shaped the lives of many in the community and has served as a legacy to these entrepreneurs. Wolverine Sign Works, founded 100 years ago, generated the wealth that led to the creation of the Cook Family Foundation. We are proud to be part of the history, and future, of Owosso and Shiawassee County.

A Tradition of Academic Excellence:  
New 2016 Shiawassee Scholars  
University of Michigan Scholars 2016

## Inside:

The Cook Family  
Foundation  
P.O. Box 278  
Owosso, MI 48867



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