



NPMHU Arthur S. Vallone SCHOLARSHIP

2020 VALLONE SCHOLARS BRIGHT MINDS AND INSPIRATION IN TIMES OF UNCERTAINTY

The NPMHU Scholarship Committee completed their task of evaluating many applications from well qualified NPMHU members and members of their immediate families. Thirteen applications were selected from the pool and chosen were a group of well qualified now awarded Vallone Scholars.

The NPMHU National Scholarship was dedicated and named after Arthur S. Vallone after his passing in 2005. Arthur S. Vallone served as the elected President of Local 309 which is headquartered in Buffalo, New York and represented approximately 1,000 Mail Handlers throughout upstate New York. Vallone also served 3 terms on the National Executive Board as the Northeast Region Vice President. Vallone's strong belief in learning and education are just a few reasons why the NPMHU dedicated this legacy to brother Vallone.

Each NPMHU region has been granted up to three scholarship awards in the amount of \$1,000 each, renewable by the recipient for up to four years or until the completion of the students undergraduate or trade school degree, whichever occurs first for a maximum of \$4,000 per recipient over four years.

The Arthur S. Vallone Scholarship is now in its 20th year of existence. This

award was designed to offer deserving Mail Handlers and members of their immediate families some relief from the financial burden of paying for higher education. With fewer and fewer resources becoming available for paying for higher education it can become a burden for families to absorb the cost of college this can become very overwhelming to families. While some individuals and families develop savings plans for higher education there are some that do not and that's why the NPMHU has dedicated such an award for deserving individuals.

In these times of uncertainty most students will not be receiving the formal end to their school year that they imagined and deserved. Some students are being thrust into the workforce before they are ready, some are planning their leap to colleges and universities and others are at home contemplating the next evolution of their young lives. It is times like these that a little inspiration goes a long way. I would like to share a few excerpts from several NEW Vallone Scholars that shared some very inspiring words in their written essays.

Amberlee Robertson from Williamsville, NY wrote: *"I believe even if small, we can all reach our goal to spread awareness to people in hopes that we can breakdown*

negative societal norms and stereotypes. We can advocate for issues and educate people in how they are behaving towards different groups. Sometimes we subjectify oppressed groups without fully realizing it due to socialization. So, in turn we need to consciously work to treat others with love, forgiveness, and become more conscious to other cultures traditions.”

Jagraj Atwal from Lodi, CA wrote: “In addition to providing financial assistance in fulfilling my academic ambitions, the NPMHU scholarship will also motivate me to accomplish my goals of restoring human health as a medical professional, as it will serve as a striking reminder of how I was considered worthy of being rewarded for my past, present and future efforts of achieving excellence, in and out of the classroom, and aspiring to help people, from patient intake to patient discharge, in the medical field one day”.

Jack Miller from Pleasant Hill, IA wrote: “After college, I aspire to work in the research field. For years, I have dreamt of being a pathologist to fight the diseases and illnesses that affect so many people around the world. I dream of discovering, exploring, and creating solutions that would make the world a better place. I want to have a positive impact on my community and the people around me. I feel I can achieve that by studying and combating the things that affect our bodies every day in order to keep people healthy and thriving.”

I hope that these words of inspiration from these fine New Vallone Scholars find you well. We are in unprecedented times due to the spread of the Coronavirus at the time of writing 4 Mail Handlers and may other postal workers have lost their lives due to Coronavirus complications. These students (children of Mail Handlers) are certainly having to grow up fast due to the current state of things. Let us all join and wish them god speed and kindly remember their bright young minds and words whenever you need a bit of inspiration.



**Local 305-E
AIDEN
THOMAS**



**Local 309-NE
AMBERLEE
ROBERTSON**



**Local 305-E
BRIANNA
VONDERHAAR**



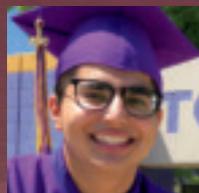
**Local 301-NE
DEREK
JOYCE**



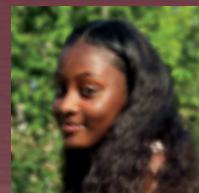
**Local 332-W
HANNAH
GARRETT**



**Local 333-C
JACK
MILLER**



**Local 302-W
JAGRAJ
ATWAL**



**Local 310-S
JAMYA
BEEBE**



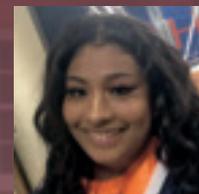
**Local 311-S
KIARA
GRAHAM**



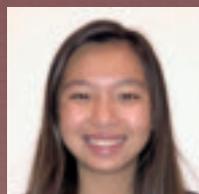
**Local 301-NE
MADISON
CONLEY**



**Local 306-C
MIHIR
KADIWALA**



**Local 304-E
NYLA
WILLIAMS**



**Local 303-W
THANH
TONG**



**Local 321-C
THOMAS
MORGAN**