



# Annual Scholarship Award Celebration

2020-2021 Awards & Recipients

# **3M** Science. Applied to Life.™

## 3M MAP Scholarship

3Mgives, in conjunction with the 3M Manufacturing and Academic Partnership program and 3M Plant Engineering Global Excellence wishes to encourage students to pursue fields of study in Plant Engineering and Maintenance. These \$2500 scholarships are awarded annually to students pursuing degrees in Mechatronics, Advanced Manufacturing Technologies, Robotics, or Industrial Maintenance.

### Student Recipients:



**Austin Gieseke**

Automation & Robotic Systems  
Technology



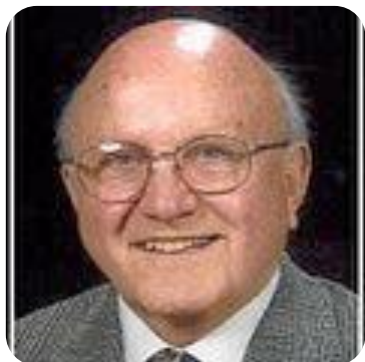
**Blake Worthington**

Automation & Robotic Systems  
Technology



**Ryan Ziems**

Automation & Robotic Systems  
Technology



# Paul J. Aamot Memorial Scholarship

Paul was a long-time English instructor at the College, teaching from 1963-1985. He authored many books on writing and politics. This scholarship in Paul's memory is funded by his family and is awarded to Liberal Arts students pursuing a degree in Education, English, Journalism, or Communications.

## Student Recipient:



**Jordyn Walstrom**  
Liberal Arts and Sciences



# AAUW-American Association of University Women Scholarship

The AAUW has been empowering women as individuals and as a community since 1881. For more than 130 years, AAUW has worked as a national grassroots organization to improve the lives of millions of women. This scholarship is awarded to a Ridgewater student who will be transferring to a 4-year college or university to continue their studies.

## Student Recipient:



**Tayha Nohrenberg**  
Early Childhood Education



# Adams Honors Memorial Scholarship

Elaine Adams was a long-time math teacher for Willmar Schools and a former Ridgewater College Foundation Board member prior to her retirement in 1979. The Adams Honors Endowment is in memory of Elaine and her late husband Ray, and these scholarships go to students who exhibit strong academic achievement.

## Student Recipients:



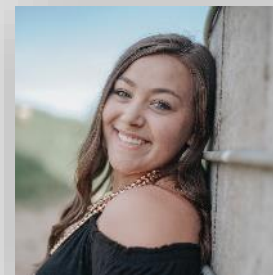
**Jessica Beckendorf**

Pre-Nursing



**Elizabeth Drevlow**

Professional Photography  
Technology



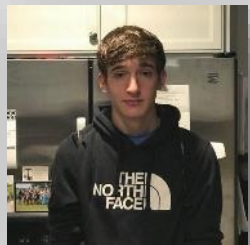
**Emily Powell**

Agri Business

# Adams-Siksne Memorial Scholarship

This endowment fund was established to honor Ray Adams and Richard Siksne by their wives, Elaine Adams and Norma Siksne. These scholarship(s) are awarded to Machine Tool students.

## Student Recipients:



**Jacob Albers**

CNC Precision Manufacturing  
Technician



**Chase Engelke**

CNC Precision Manufacturing  
Technician



**Derek Ortloff**

CNC Precision Manufacturing  
Technician



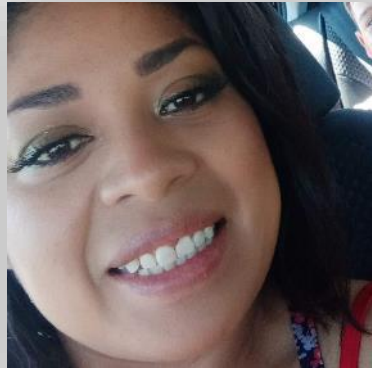
**Nola Schwarzrock**

CNC Precision Manufacturing  
Technician

# Adult Basic Education Scholarship

The Adult Basic Education scholarship recognizes a student who has worked with ABE to earn a GED or to prepare in a career pathway and who is pursuing coursework at Ridgewater College.

## Student Recipient:



**Laura Rosales-Curtiss**  
Administrative Assistant

# James Albrecht Memorial Scholarship

James was a student at Ridgewater studying Automotive Technology when he passed away in an automobile accident in 2011. His family and friends established an endowment fund in his memory through an annual “Circle of Friends” golf tournament. The scholarship goes to students from Gibbon-Fairfax-Winthrop High School.

## Student Recipient:



**Andrew Adema**  
Welding





# Alliance Pipeline Scholarship

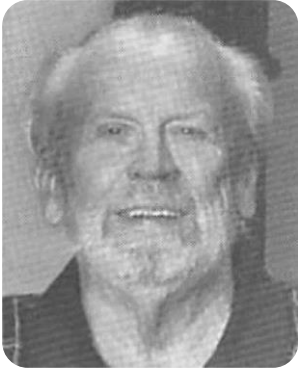
The Alliance Pipeline company transports natural gas underground from Canada through North Dakota, Minnesota, and Iowa to Illinois. The pipeline delivers more than 1.6 billion cubic feet per day of liquids-rich natural gas to the Chicago market. Alliance Pipeline's scholarship endowment fund supports students enrolled in an Agriculture-related program.

## Student Recipient:



**Kortney Jensen**

Farm Operation and  
Management  
& Agri Business



# Patricia & Delbert Allinder Memorial Scholarship

Patricia made a career of counseling and education, serving on Willmar School Board from 1974-1983 and on the State Board of vocational technical education from 1983 until her death in 1991. She was active in the college's Campus Ministry and in her church. Delbert owned and operated West Central Steel from 1972 until his retirement in 2012. He was an active volunteer for the Chamber, Willmar Opportunity Club, Relay for Life, and many other community causes. This scholarship is for non-traditional Nursing students.

## Student Recipients:



**Chelsey Goff**  
Nursing



**Alissa Ricci**  
Nursing



# Alumni Scholarship

Though general scholarship donations, this scholarship is awarded to full-time students whose parents are a graduate of Ridgewater College, Willmar Technical College, Willmar Community College or Hutchinson Area Vocational Institute.

## Student Recipients:



**John Walsh**  
Auto Body Collision  
Technology



**Lauren Wulf**  
Liberal Arts and Sciences



# American Welding Society Scholarship

AWS was founded in 1919, as a nonprofit organization with a global mission to advance the science, technology and application of welding and allied joining and cutting processes, including brazing, soldering and thermal spraying. AWS strives to move the industry forward in both thought and action, as well as inspiring new generations to see the exciting career opportunities available today.

## Student Recipients:



**Brenden Lapp**  
Welding



**Luke Tollefson**  
Welding



# Anderson Chemical Company Scholarship

Anderson Chemical Company of Litchfield has provided professional cleaning and sanitation programs to the food processing industry for over a century. Anderson also develops and maintains water management programs for boilers, cooling systems, process water, and wastewater systems. Each year, Anderson Chemical Company awards \$4000 in scholarships to students who graduated from Litchfield High School.

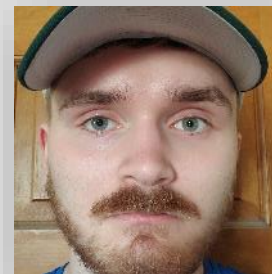
## Student Recipients:



**Logan Peterson**  
Automotive Service  
Technology



**Anna Euerle**  
Ag Business



**Noah Parenteau**  
Nondestructive Testing  
Technology

# Murl E. Anderson Memorial Scholarship

This fund was established in 1999 by the family of Murl E. Anderson. The scholarships go to students enrolled in various technical programs.

## Student Recipients:



**Desiree Burggraff**  
Veterinary Technology



**Erik Dennie**  
Veterinary Technology



**Grace Garoutte**  
Veterinary Technology



**Angela Gerken**  
Veterinary Technology

# John Arndt Memorial Scholarship

John started the carpentry program at Willmar Vo-Tech, retiring in 1992 after 33 years of teaching. John and his wife, Leila, owned and operated J&L Bison Ranch on their home in Dovre Township for many years. Along with Leila, they were foster parents for over 10 years. Raising Bison was not just a second job; John truly enjoyed being a rancher and also enjoyed hunting, fishing and traveling. John's greatest enjoyment came from his grandchildren and great grandchildren.

## Student Recipient:



**Brady Hogrefe**  
Carpentry



# Art Scholarship

This scholarship was established by art faculty at Ridgewater for Liberal Arts students who have an intent to transfer to a 4 year university or art institute to major in Art, Film, Music or Theater.

## Student Recipient:



**Lyla Ulferts**  
Liberal Arts and Sciences





# Kristina Baune Memorial Scholarship

Kristina, the daughter of Ginger and Tom Baune, passed away in 1985 at age 10 after an extended illness (Late Infantile Metachromatic Lycrodystrophy). Kristina's dad, Tom, was the department chair for the Auto Body program for many years; this scholarship honors Kristina's memory and goes to students enrolled in Auto Body.

## Student Recipient:



**Kaylee Esterberg**

Auto Body Collision Technology

# Corky & Ramona Berg Social Work Scholarship

George “Corky” and Ramona Berg, both long-time residents of Willmar, established this scholarship in 2019 to support students pursuing careers in the area of Social Work. Corky and Ramona believe in giving back to their community, and this scholarship is a way for them to help others through education

## Student Recipients:



**Teresa Jaeger**  
Chemical Dependency Counselor  
& Liberal Arts & Sciences



**Madison Linder**  
Liberal Arts and Sciences



# Bergh's Fabricating, Inc. Scholarship

Bergh's Fabricating was established in 1976 and specializes in all types and sizes of steel fabricating projects. Each year, Bergh's gives scholarships to students enrolled in the Welding program.

## Student Recipient:



**Luke Tollefson**  
Welding



# Kelly Berghorst Memorial Scholarship

Kelly Berghorst had just graduated from the Medical Assistant program at Ridgewater when she passed away in a car accident in 2011. Remembered for her great smile, laugh and her passion for helping others, Kelly's classmates and instructors raised funds to establish this scholarship in her name. The scholarship is awarded yearly to a non-traditional student enrolled in the Medical Assistant program.

## Student Recipient:



**Amery Ruffin**  
Medical Assistant

# Elaine & D.J. Black Memorial



Elaine was a loving wife, mother, and homemaker who also worked for a time as a nurse. She was active in her community church and a member of the PTA, AFS Committee, American Legion Post 96 Auxiliary, General Federated Women's Club (GFWC), and McLeod County Republican Committee. Elaine was an election judge on the Hutchinson Health Hospital Board and Burns Manor Nursing Home Board of Directors in Hutchinson. When Elaine passed away in 2013, her family established this scholarship for nursing students to honor both Elaine and her late husband D.J.

## Student Recipient:



**Sarah Miller Aberle**

Nursing

# James Black Memorial Scholarship

James was a Ridgewater College counselor on the Hutchinson campus for many years. Jim passed away in a tractor accident shortly after his retirement. The scholarship was established by his family and friends and is for a Hutchinson Campus student.

## Student Recipient:



**Grace Rudlong**

Nondestructive Testing  
Technology



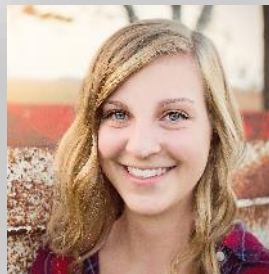
# Blue Pearl Veterinary Partners Scholarship

Blue Pearl has provided urgent, emergency, and critical care services in support of referring veterinary hospitals and their surrounding communities since 1979. Owned and operated by practicing veterinarians of the local community, Blue Pearl functions as an extended resource by providing high quality care and outstanding customer service for dogs, cats and small mammals.

## Student Recipients:



**Cassie Beaudin**  
Veterinary Technology



**Angela Gerken**  
Veterinary Technology





## Bookstore / Phi Theta Kappa

The Willmar Phi Theta Kappa organization, in partnership with the Ridgewater Bookstore, collects outdated/obsolete textbooks to be sold to agencies that market the books to other countries. The profits from these book sales support scholarships for students who are Bookstore work study students or who are active members of PTK.

### Student Recipients:



**Greta Christenson**  
Veterinary Technology



**Katelyn Huls**  
Massage Therapy





Business and  
Professional  
Women's  
Foundation

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

# Business & Professional Women (BPW) Scholarship

BPW develops the professional, business and leadership potential of women on all levels through advocacy, mentoring, networking, skill building and economic empowerment programs and projects around the world. The Willmar chapter provides this scholarship to a non-traditional student enrolled in any program.

## Student Recipient:



**Alissa Ricci**

Nursing



# Carpentry Contractors Scholarship

CCC has been providing carpentry labor to the residential professional home builder in Minnesota since 1980. On every home, CCC is dedicated to ensuring safe working conditions and a quality end product. In 2016, CCC established this scholarship for students enrolled in the Carpentry program at Ridgewater College.

## Student Recipient:



**Gregory Francis**  
Carpentry



# CHS Scholars First Year Scholarship

The CHS Foundation is the major giving entity of CHS Inc., the nation's leading farmer-owned cooperative and a global energy, grains and foods company. As a part of the CHS stewardship focus, the CHS Foundation supports education and leadership programs that invest in the future of agriculture, cooperative business, and rural America. CHS scholarships are awarded to Agriculture students.

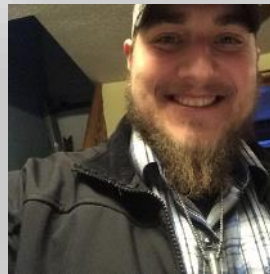
## Student Recipients:



**Noah Blonigen**  
GPS/GIS Technology  
for Agriculture



**Emma Friauf**  
Agri Business



**Clayton Schreifels**  
Agri Business, Farm  
Operation and Management



**Kellie Wilts**  
Agronomy Technology



# CHS Scholars Second Year Scholarship

The CHS Foundation is the major giving entity of CHS Inc., the nation's leading farmer-owned cooperative and a global energy, grains and foods company. As a part of the CHS stewardship focus, the CHS Foundation supports education and leadership programs that invest in the future of agriculture, cooperative business, and rural America. CHS scholarships are awarded to Agriculture students.

## Student Recipients:



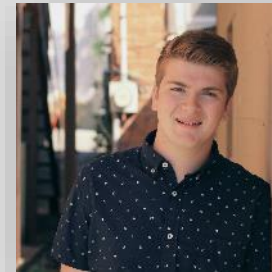
**Kortney Jensen**  
Agri Business, Farm  
Operation and Management



**Brittney Schultz**  
GPS/GIS Technology  
for Agriculture



**Mariah Theuringer**  
Agri Business



**Bryce Thompson**  
Agri Business, GPS/GIS  
Technology for Agriculture



# Computer Aided Drafting and Design Scholarship

This scholarship is awarded to full-time or part-time students in the computer aided drafting and design technology program. The student must have a 3.0 minimum GPA.

## Student Recipients:



**Dylan Larson**  
Computer Aided Drafting  
and Design



**Jaime Olmeda**  
Computer Aided Drafting  
& Design



## Custom Products of Litchfield Scholarship

Custom Products was founded in 1959 in response to local building construction contractors that required reliable metal fabricators. The first product produced by the company was rafter sockets. Shortly after opening, founder Arvid Reinke was approached by a local farmer with an idea for a cab enclosure for his tractor. The core product of the business immediately changed to cab products, and ever since, Custom Products has been focused on cabs and structures that protect equipment operators from nature's elements and on-the-job hazards. The scholarships go to students enrolled in the Welding program.

### Student Recipient:



**Brenden Lapp**  
Welding

# Jan Dahl Memorial Scholarship

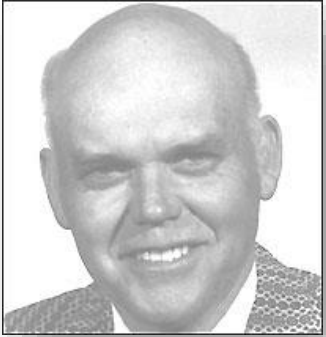
Jan received her Cosmetology license from Willmar Technical College in 1975; she later became an instructor in the program and also worked for Peterson Brothers Funeral Home as a cosmetologist. Jan loved being with family and friends and enjoyed gardening, decorating, reading, cooking, and lake activities. She passed away from cancer in 2007 at the age of 51. This scholarship, for Cosmetology students, honors Jan and is funded by current Cosmetology instructors.

## Student Recipient:



**Jasmin Velez**  
Cosmetology





# Danielson Nursing Scholarship

This fund was established in 1991, through a series of gifts from brothers Leonard and Willard Danielson. The brothers were so impressed by the nursing care they received over the years, the Danielsons were moved to help others pursue education and training in nursing. This endowment provides over \$20,000 in nursing scholarships annually.

## Student Recipients:



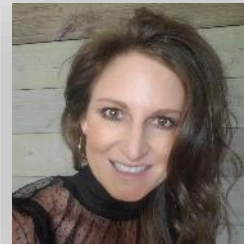
**Garrett Becker**  
Nursing



**Kristin Blume**  
Nursing



**Brianna Grangroth**  
Nursing



**Kali Gravley**  
Nursing



**Andrew Hatlestad**  
Nursing



# Danielson Nursing Scholarship (cont.)

## Student Recipients:



**Joy Ingenito**  
Nursing



**Mackenzie Kurkosky**  
Nursing



**Morgann Lee**  
Nursing



**Jessica Meierhofer**  
Nursing



**Damaris Nyankabaria**  
Nursing



**Brittney Richter**  
Nursing



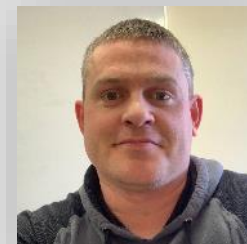
**Kennedy Schoenecker**  
Nursing



**Kera Sluka**  
Nursing



**Maranda Wieber**  
Nursing



**Steven Wilburn**  
Nursing



# Marilyn & John Docksey Memorial Scholarship

This fund was originally established in memory of Marilyn, a long time Willmar resident and RN, by her husband Dr. John Docksey in 2007. When John passed away in 2009, the family renamed and fund to honor both parents. John received his medical degree from Marquette University in 1950, the same year the two were married. He completed his internship in medicine and surgery at the National Naval Medical Center in Philadelphia in 1951 and his residency in general surgery at the Veteran's Hospital in Milwaukee in 1955. He joined the Willmar Clinic in 1956 and practiced medicine and surgery until retiring in 1989. This scholarship fund honors both Marilyn and John and is given to Nursing students.

## Student Recipients:



**Amal Abdulahi**  
Pre-Nursing



**Nataly Alvarez**  
Pre-Nursing

# Early Childhood Education Scholarship

Thanks to a community fundraising effort in the summer of 2019, this scholarship was established to help address the critical shortage of childcare workers in Kandiyohi County. This scholarship is funded by Ridgewater instructors for students enrolled in the Early Childhood Education Program.

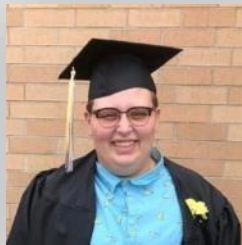
## Student Recipients:



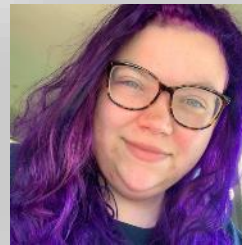
**Stephanie Barrett**  
Early Childhood Education



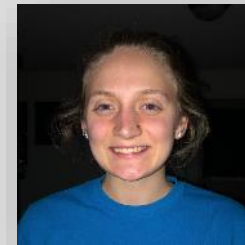
**Paw Blut**  
Early Childhood Education



**Baylor Kardell**  
Early Childhood Education



**Letitia Thomas-Skalicky**  
Early Childhood Education



**Shantell Van Vleet**  
Early Childhood Education

# Education & English Scholarship

This scholarship is funded by Ridgewater instructors for students enrolled in a Liberal Arts program on the Hutchinson campus with an intent to transfer to a 4-year degree in Education or English.

## Student Recipient:



**Naomi Ling**

Liberal Arts and Sciences &  
Early Childhood Education  
Pathway



# Mabel Erickson Memorial Scholarship

This endowment was established by a bequest from Mabel Erickson's will to the Willmar Technical Institute in 1992. Mabel was a member of United Methodist Church and was active in many women's groups. She passed away at the age of 95 and was preceded in death by her husband, Victor, and sons, Dale and James. This scholarship helps students enrolled in a variety of technical programs.

## Student Recipients:



**Brian Rogers**  
Automation & Robotic Systems  
Technology



**Ryan Ziems**  
Automation & Robotic Systems  
Technology



# Robert Erickson Memorial Scholarship

Robert was a rural mail carrier and partner in Erickson Plumbing & Heating and Erickson Hardware for 34 years. He was on both the Blomkest and Willmar School Boards, was active at the Blomkest Baptist Church, and a member of the Blomkest Fire Department. Robert passed away in a car accident in 1989 at the age of 56. This scholarship is awarded to students enrolled in select technical programs.

## Student Recipient:



**Hsa Lar**

Administrative Assistant





# Ron Flannigan Memorial Scholarship

Ron was the Mobile Sim Lab Coordinator at Ridgewater when he passed away in 2013 after a long battle with cancer. Ron was instrumental in creating and launching a new Code Blue training curriculum at that time. This scholarship honors Ron's passion and desire to help others, and seeks a student in a health care program who has strong family values, a strong work ethic, and a passion for their studies.

## Student Recipient:



**Rae Krumrey**  
Nursing



*Rice Memorial Hospital*

# Foot Lake Four Health Care Scholarship

The Foot Lake Four Walk / Run is one of the premier events that takes place during Willmar Fests. It is designed to provide fun for all age groups and levels of participation. From 1996-2006, Rice Health Foundation donated a portion of funds raised from the event to establish an endowed scholarship fund for Ridgewater students. It is awarded to students pursuing a health care degree.

## Student Recipients:



**Lenny Cerros**  
Medical Assistant



**Brittney Ellefson**  
Medical Assistant





# Clayton Fossum Memorial - Auto Body Scholarship

Clayton was a beloved member of the Willmar community for 70+ years. He co-owned and operated the West Central Wheel and Body shop in Willmar for more than 40 years before retiring in 1988. Customers fondly recall a welcoming atmosphere, great service, a cup of coffee, and a laugh or two with Clayton, Buzz and their employees. Clayton was an active member of the Willmar community in many ways and a volunteer fireman for 21 years. His compassion for his family, friends, neighbors, and pets was evident. This kind and gentle man's presence was usually known before you could see him by his melodic whistle. This scholarship goes to an Auto Body student.

## Student Recipient:



**Madison Rothwell**

Auto Body Collision Technology



# Ken Frederickson Memorial Scholarship

Ken was a long-time Welding instructor at the college until he passed away from cancer in 1991. This scholarship honors Ken and is awarded to Welding students.

**Student Recipient:**



**Jaime Rivera**

Welding

# Freshman Scholarship

This scholarship is funded by general scholarship donations and is awarded to incoming first year Liberal Arts students, who are full time status, with a minimum 3.0 GPA. Student must have graduated from high school within past 18 months. No single student can receive the Freshman Scholarship more than once.

## Student Recipient:



**Anthony Maher**  
Liberal Arts and Sciences



# Ed & Clara Gesch Memorial Scholarship

In 1996, Edward and Clara Gesch of Willmar established an endowed scholarship fund to support Ridgewater College students. Eligible students can be enrolled in any program on the Willmar Campus.

## Student Recipient:



**Ashley Hommerding**  
Veterinary Technology



# Lyle Goeddertz Memorial Scholarship

Lyle (Bud) joined the Willmar Police Department in 1953 as a patrolman and later was appointed Juvenile Officer. In 1961, at age 31, he became the Chief of Police for Willmar – and the youngest police chief in the entire state of Minnesota. Bud and a colleague started the “Intro to Law Enforcement” program at the college and he taught there for 12 years. Bud also started the “ride along” program for students interested in law enforcement and a prisoner work program in which inmates helped with recycling for the city. When Bud passed away in 2001, his family, friends, and colleagues created this scholarship for Law Enforcement students.

## Student Recipient:



**Celena Jenkins**  
Law Enforcement



# Gene Haas Machine Tool Scholarship

The Gene Haas Foundation is a private foundation committed to manufacturing education and providing support for local communities; the Foundation offers scholarships to high schools, community colleges, and special educational programs that help build skills within the machining industry, and has granted over \$52,000 to Ridgewater College over the past 4 years.

## Student Recipients:



**Jacob Albers**

CNC Precision Manufacturing  
Technician



**Chase Engelke**

CNC Precision Manufacturing  
Technician



**Derek Ortloff**

Machining Technician



**Nola Schwarzrock**

CNC Precision Manufacturing  
Technician



**Hunter Trnka**

CNC Precision Manufacturing  
Technician



**Adam Wraspir**

CNC Precision Manufacturing  
Technician



**Jorge Uvalle**

CNC Precision Manufacturing  
Technician

# Helen S. Hatlelid Memorial Scholarship

Helen was a 1948 graduate of the U of M with a Public Health Nursing degree. She worked as a public health nurse for over 26 years and was a member of the American Nursing Association for 30 years, serving on district, state, and national committees. This scholarship was established when Helen passed away in 2001 at age 91.

## Student Recipient:



**Mackenzie Pederson**

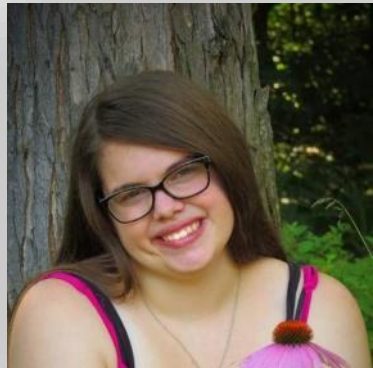
Nursing



# Health Information Tech/ Medical Coding Specialist (HIT/MCS) Scholarship

This scholarship was established by faculty and is given to a student enrolled in the HIT/MCS program each year.

Student Recipient:



**Kayla Johannes**

Health Information  
Technology



# Heritage Bank N.A. Scholarship

Heritage Bank started over 45 years ago with a few tiny banks in Minnesota and Iowa. With its strong commitment to local communities, Heritage Bank has grown to \$400 million in assets. One way Heritage Bank gives back to it's community is through scholarships, which are awarded to one graduating senior from each of these area high schools: Willmar, NL-S, KMS, and Maccray. Students may attend Ridgewater or any other college to be eligible.

## Student Recipients:



**Haylee Johnson**  
Marketing and Design



**Dylan Larson**  
Computer Aided Drafting and  
Design



# Bernard Hoidal Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship is funded by close family friends of Bernie, who passed away in 2013, and goes to one Agriculture student and one Automotive student. Bernie farmed for several years and then built and operated a garage and gas station in Holloway for 10 years. After selling the station he worked as a heavy equipment mechanic for local road construction crews. He was a proud member of the 49ers union and received numerous awards and recognitions for his dedicated union affiliation. He and his wife Helen also owned and managed Hoidal's Trailer Court in Montevideo for 20 years. Bernie enjoyed traveling, camping, and summertime adventures. Bernie was a celebrated race car drivers and loved hunting, fishing, and spending time with his family.

## Student Recipients:



**Taylor Clark**  
Auto Body Collision  
Technology



**Lucas Doll**  
Agri Business, GPS/GIS  
Technology for Agriculture



# Helen Hoidal Memorial Scholarship

Helen (Bernie's wife), helped run the family businesses while raising four children. Helen played a huge role in encouraging her kids to pursue their educational dreams: two are teachers, one a nurse, and one a chemist. When Bernie's scholarship was created, the family also created one in Helen's honor and name to support Nursing students.

## Student Recipients:



**Damaris Nyankabarua**

Nursing



**Mackenzie Pederson**

Nursing



**Caitlin Zachary**

Nursing



# Claire Houchens Memorial Scholarship

Claire passed away in 2010 at the age of 59, after a long and courageous battle with cancer. Inspired by the care provided to Claire during her illness, Claire's children, Sarah and Michael, completed the nursing program at Ridgewater and became nurses. This scholarship is meant to help others and goes to Nursing students.

## Student Recipient:



**Dieula Thomas**  
Pre-Nursing

# Wayne Hulstein Memorial Scholarship

Wayne was in the Welding program at Willmar Vo-Tech until 1975, when he lost his sight due to high blood pressure and kidney failure. He received a kidney transplant from his father. He then attended Willmar Community College and later SCSU where he earned a Master's Degree. Wayne taught at Ridgewater from 1986 - 1992. He passed away on July 7, 1992 after a lengthy battle with cancer. Many students who worked with him remain forever changed by the positive impact he had.

## Student Recipient:



**Mackenzie Barker**

Chemical Dependency  
Counselor, Liberal Arts and  
Sciences



**Elks Lodge #2427**  
Hutchinson, MN

# Hutchinson BPO Does Scholarship

Affiliated with the Elks Lodge #2427 of Hutchinson, the B.P.O. Does have been supporting scholarships at Ridgewater College for more than 20 years. This scholarship is awarded to a student pursuing a Nursing career.

## Student Recipient:



**Renee Vasko**  
Practical Nursing





HealthPartners®

Hutchinson Health Foundation

# Hutchinson Health Foundation Scholarship

Founded in 1984, the Hutchinson Health Foundation has been dedicated to facilitating community support and financial donations for high quality health care programs and services in Hutchinson and the surrounding area. This scholarship is awarded to Ridgewater students enrolled in a Health Care program.

## Student Recipient:



**Sarah Potts**

Pre-Nursing



# Hutchinson Liberal Arts Scholarship

Funded by donations from Liberal Arts faculty, this scholarship goes to students enrolled in the Liberal Arts program seeking an AA degree and who intend to transfer to a 4-year college or university.

## Student Recipients:



**Emilie Minkin**  
Liberal Arts and Sciences



**Riley Olson**  
Communication Studies,  
Liberal Arts and Sciences



# Hutchinson Veterans of Foreign Wars of United States -VFW Post # 906

The VFW traces its roots back to when veterans of the Spanish-American War (1898) and the Philippine Insurrection (1899-1902) founded local organizations to secure rights and benefits for their service: many arrived home wounded or sick. There was no medical care or veterans' pension for them. In their misery, some of these veterans banded together and formed what would become known as the VFW. Their voice had been instrumental in establishing the Veterans Administration, creating a GI Bill for the 20th century, the development of the national cemetery system, the fight for compensation for Vietnam vets exposed to Agent Orange, and for veterans diagnosed with Gulf War Syndrome. This scholarship is for students who are veterans themselves or who have parent who are veterans.

## Student Recipients:



**Cody Forester**  
Pre-Nursing



**Sarah Potts**  
Pre-Nursing

# Kandiyohi COVID Kickstart Scholarship

This award was made possible through CARES Act funding provided by the Kandiyohi County and City of Willmar EDC (Economic Development Commission). Scholarships were available to students who experienced hardship due to COVID-19, lived and/or worked in Kandiyohi, demonstrated financial need, and registered for Spring 2021 classes at Ridgewater College.

## Student Recipients:



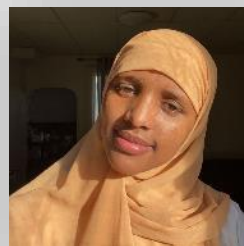
**Kateri Abraham**  
Liberal Arts and Sciences



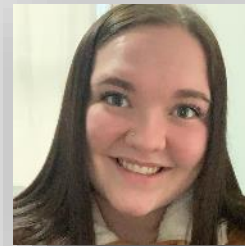
**Dawn Bitzan**  
Practical Nursing



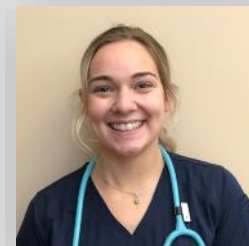
**Sumaya Dahir**  
Nursing



**Amel Dayib**  
Liberal Arts and Sciences



**Hailey Downey**  
Practical Nursing



**Grace Garoutte**  
Veterinary Technology

# Kandiyohi COVID Kickstart Scholarship (cont.)

## Student Recipients:



**Amanda Hanson**  
Nursing



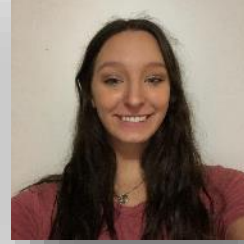
**Kathryn Juetten**  
Veterinary Technology



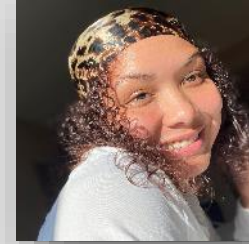
**Kaylee Kleene**  
Marketing and Design



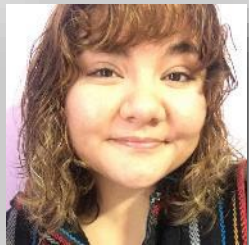
**Tara Kompelien**  
Pre-Nursing



**Kelli Kostohryz**  
Cosmetology



**Kiara Lindsey**  
Pre-Nursing



**Bobbi Maldonado**  
Pre-Nursing



**Stee Na Moo**  
Pre-Nursing



**Madison Rothwell**  
Auto Body Collision  
Technology



**Jennifer Shoumaker**  
Nursing



**Ellie Skaalerud**  
Law Enforcement



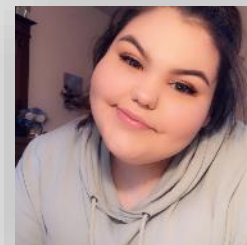
**Kera Sluka**  
Nursing



**Jorge Uvalle**  
CNC Precision  
Manufacturing Technician



**Shannon Wander**  
Carpentry



**Faith Wendt**  
Estheology

# Estelle Kettner Memorial - Accounting Scholarship

Estelle was an instructor at Willmar Tech College from 1961 until her retirement in 1990, at which time she provided a savings certificate to the Foundation with earnings to be used for student activities and scholarships. This scholarship is for students enrolled in an Accounting program.

## Student Recipient:



**Levi Schmitz**  
Accountant





## Kleespie Tank Scholarship

Kleespie Tank & Petroleum (now known as WestMor Industries) is a manufacturer of petroleum and liquid handling equipment and services including propane, carbon dioxide, and nitrogen tank trailers. The company operates facilities in Minnesota, North Dakota, Wisconsin, California, and Michigan. In 1993, the Kleespie family established an endowment at Ridgewater which supports one annual scholarship to a Welding student.

### Student Recipient:



**Michael Dietz**  
Welding





# Frederick A. Kovall Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship was established with memorial gifts made by the family and friends of Fred. Fred was an employee with MN DOT for over 41 years, retiring in 1999 as the District #8 Maintenance Supervisor. Fred served for 11 years with the MN National Guard, and he was a member of the Church of St. Mary, often serving as a Eucharistic Minister. Fred was a true believer in education, having earned his AA from Willmar Community College and later his Bachelor's Degree from SMSU. At the age of 60, Fred earned his Masters degree in Business Administration. He was a "Fred-of-all-trades" with family and friends seeking him out to fix whatever needed repair. Fred's hobbies included hunting, photography, painting, music, woodworking and raising and selling many Christmas trees. This scholarship is awarded to the dependent of an employee of MnDOT District 8.

## Student Recipient:



**Kasten Lindemann**

Computer Aided Drafting and  
Design



# Alana Carrigan Krick Memorial Scholarship

Alana Krick was a born nurse, focused on healing the body and the soul. She had a rich laugh and an ever present sense of humor; her smile and eyes lit up the room any time she was present and there was no bad day that wasn't happier when she was around. Although she had a tough start and was abandoned as a small child, it was Alana who taught her family not to take themselves and their lives too seriously. She lived a lot in her 19 years. She, like her father, worked very hard and chased every dream with an inspiring drive and passion. She was a student at Ridgewater when she died. It is our hope that this scholarship will help this nursing student learn to nurse the soul as well as the body with humor as well as science.

## Student Recipient:



**Mackenzie Pederson**

Nursing



# Joe Krick Memorial Scholarship

Joe was an Agriculture instructor at Ridgewater College and farmed near Spicer. He was a member of Peace Lutheran Church, served on the church council, and played in the Praise Band. He was a member of Ag Sales and Minnesota Corn Growers Association. This scholarship was established by Joe's family and friends and is awarded to a second year student enrolled in an Agriculture program.

## Student Recipient:



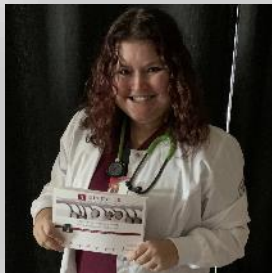
**Katelyn Dammann**

Farm Operations  
and Management

# James W. Leyk Nursing Scholarship

Jim Leyk was definitely a people person! He was truck driver and everyone knew him and loved him! When he became afflicted with Alzheimer's Disease at age 58, he lost the ability to remember people and events and he withdrew into himself. He was able to live at home with his spouse for 10 years – Jim's family believed he did well for so long because he kept his mind and body active, working puzzles and walking for miles every day. In his last year of life he needed to be moved to a long term care facility. Jim's daughter-in-law, Mary, worked for 16 years in long term care and knows how difficult it is for loved ones of those afflicted with this disease. It is also difficult for staff to care for these residents that have literally lost everything when they have lost their memories and their abilities to be who they are. With this award Jim's family honors the memory of a man whom they loved, and the people that care for all of the residents that can no longer live out their days in their own homes.

## Student Recipients:



**Ashley Haarstad**  
Practical Nursing



**Renee Vasko**  
Practical Nursing

# Liberal Arts Faculty Scholarship

This scholarship is funded by donations from Liberal Arts Faculty members on the Willmar campus. Students must be enrolled in the Liberal Arts track, seeking an AA degree, with intent to transfer to a 4-year college or university.

## Student Recipients:



**Connor Aalderks**  
Liberal Arts and Sciences



**Clarie Eckstein**  
Liberal Arts and Sciences



**Anthony Maher**  
Liberal Arts and Sciences



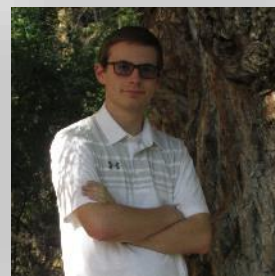
# Life-Science Innovations Scholarship

Life-Science Innovations is the umbrella company for a family of innovative affiliated companies which unite agriculture, engineering and the biosciences. LSI has never believed in the status quo for agriculture practices, and for nearly 70 years, has fostered an environment of discovery, invention, innovation and collaboration. LSI has provided scholarships to dependents of its employees dating back to 1990.

## Student Recipients:



**Dillon Doty**  
CNC Precision  
Manufacturing Technician



**Dylan Larson**  
Computer Aided Drafting  
and Design

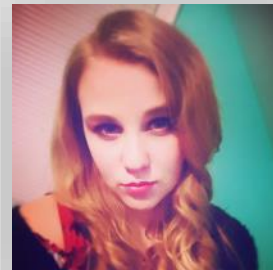
# Don Lindgren Memorial Scholarship

Don was a former college employee who worked for the Maintenance Department. This scholarship was established by co-workers, friends and family in his honor, and goes to students employed by the college's Maintenance Department through the work study program.

## Student Recipients:



**Atlanta Hanson**  
Liberal Arts and Sciences



**Naomi Lucken**  
Veterinary Technology





## Loffler Companies Scholarship

Loffler, is widely recognized as the best business technology and service provider in the Midwest. Loffler delivers multifunctional imaging products and services, managed print services, voice technology, document workflow consulting and software, on-site managed services, and IT managed services. A family-owned and nationally recognized organization, Loffler employees embrace the company philosophy that “to whom much is given, much is expected” and are active in the community working to make a positive impact on the lives of others. This scholarship is awarded to an Information Technology (IT) student.

### Student Recipient:



**Phillip Konsor**  
Computer Programmer



# Marketing Scholarship

Funded by faculty and community donations, each campus offers a scholarship to students enrolled in a Marketing program each year.

**Student Recipient:**



**Haylee Johnson**  
Marketing and Design



# Carol McGarvie Memorial Scholarship

Carol worked as a Financial Aid Assistant for 15 years at Ridgewater and was a member of the First Presbyterian Church. She passed away in 1956 at age 50 from cancer. This scholarship was established by co-workers, family and friends in her memory and is awarded to a non-traditional student.

## Student Recipient:



**Kali Gravley**  
Nursing



# Medical Assistant Scholarship

Funded by an endowment established many years ago, this scholarship is awarded to students enrolled in the Medical Assistant program.

**Student Recipient:**



**Brittney Ellefson**  
Medical Assistant



# McLeod Cooperative Power

McLeod Cooperative Power is a member-owned cooperative that provides electricity to more than 6,000 residents, businesses and industries in central Minnesota primarily in McLeod, Renville, Sibley and Carver Counties. Over the past 25years, McLeod Cooperative Power Association has provided more than \$75,000 in scholarships to Ridgewater College's students.

## Student Recipients:



**Nathan Litzau**  
Electrician



**Reece Schwirtz**  
Electrician



# Midwest Industrial Tool Grinding, Inc. (MITGI) Scholarship

MITGI manufactures and markets standard and custom carbide cutting tools. Combining innovation with quality and repeatability, MITGI tools has become the product of choice in many R&D departments and manufacturing facilities that serve the medical, automotive, computer, and aerospace industries. Located in Hutchinson, MITGI is proud to be an award-winning manufacturer and employer. MITGI awards scholarships to Machine Tool and Computer-Aided Drafting & Design students.

## Student Recipients:



**Chase Engelke**

CNC Precision Manufacturing  
Technician



**Jerry Hill**

Computer Aided Drafting and  
Design



**Kasten Lindemann**

Computer Aided Drafting and  
Design



# Mills Automotive Group Scholarship

Each year, the Mills Automotive Group, on behalf of the Willmar Mills Ford Chrysler and Mills Auto Center dealerships, provides significant funding to support program and equipment needs as well as scholarships to students enrolled in the Auto Body Collision and Automotive Service Technology program.

## Student Recipients:



**Levi Lundgren**

Automotive Service Technology



**Jaden Niemeyer**

Auto Body Collision Technology



**Madison Rothwell**

Auto Body Collision Technology



**Daniel Thompson**

Automotive Service Technology



**John Walsh**

Auto Body Collision Technology



**Kaleb VanHavermaet**

Automotive Service Technology





# Minnesota Elks Scholarship

Each year, the Central District of the Minnesota Elks Association allocates funding for scholarships at Ridgewater College. This scholarship is open to students enrolled in a technical program.

**Student Recipient:**



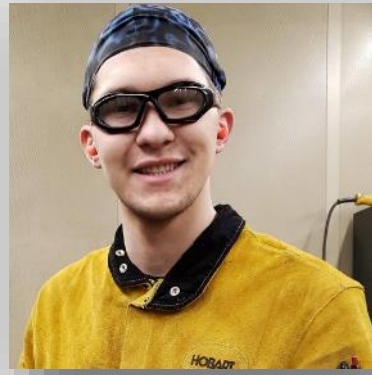
**Lauren Munn**  
Electrician



# Minnesota Section of the American Society for Nondestructive Testing Scholarship

The MNASNT scholarship was created to provide a Ridgewater Nondestructive Testing student with financial assistance to help with college coursework and obtain a degree. The scholarship awards \$500 during the Spring semester to eligible students pursuing either the Diploma or Associates degree in Nondestructive Testing Technology.

## Student Recipient:



**Michael Dietz**  
Nondestructive Testing  
Technology



# Minnesota Veterinary Medical Foundation Scholarship

Affiliated with the Minnesota Veterinary Medical Association which promotes professional excellence in veterinary medicine, the MVMF has been providing scholarships to Veterinary Technician students at Ridgewater since 1997.

## Student Recipients:



**Desiree Burggraff**  
Veterinary Technology



**Erik Dennie**  
Veterinary Technology



**Brooke Jepma**  
Veterinary Technology



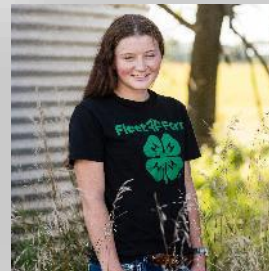
# MinnWest Technology Scholarship

The MinnWest Technology Campus is a business community located in Willmar. MTC is currently home to 31 companies, hosting a rich network of talent and expertise in the areas of agribusiness, bioscience, and technology. MTC generously supports scholarships for students enrolled in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) fields at Ridgewater.

## Student Recipients:



**Saul Guzman**  
Liberal Arts and Sciences,  
Computer Science



**Kellie Wilts**  
Agronomy Technology

# Steve Nelson Memorial Scholarship

Steve Nelson was a member of the Willmar Area Emergency Radio Club in 1984 when he passed away from injuries sustained in an explosion at the Lake Lillian Elevator. His friends, family, and club members established this scholarship in his memory. It is given to second year students enrolled in automation, robotics or electronics courses.

## Student Recipient:



**Austin Gieseke**

Automation & Robotic  
Systems Technology

# Nondestructive Testing Management Association Scholarship

The Nondestructive Testing Management Association (NDTMA) formed over fifty years ago and provides a forum for the open exchange of managerial, technical, and regulatory information critical to the successful management of NDT personnel and activities. The membership is comprised of delegates from member companies involved in the use, practice, and promotion of NDT. NDTMA offers (2) \$2500.00 scholarships annually to students enrolled in an NDT program at a post-secondary institution of higher education.

## Student Recipients:



**Erik Bjorkstrand**  
Nondestructive Testing  
Technology



**Grace Rudlong**  
Nondestructive Testing  
Technology



# Renee Oliver Memorial Scholarship

Created in memory of Renee, this scholarship is awarded to a student enrolled in the Cosmetology program.

**Student Recipient:**



**Heidi Imker**  
Cosmetology



# Margaret Osteraas Memorial Scholarship

Established by Margaret's daughters to honor their mother who was a registered nurse, the scholarship is for a student pursuing a career in nursing.

**Student Recipient:**



**Mackenzie Kurkosky**  
Nursing



# People Helping People - Juul Family Scholarship

Established in 2007, this scholarship is funded by the Juul Family Endowment Fund through Southwest Initiative Foundation. This scholarship is awarded to long-term care nursing assistants who are pursuing training to become a licensed nurse. Applicants who are employed by Burns Manor are given first priority.

## Student Recipients:



**Katelynn Babb**  
Pre-Nursing



**Alycia Keenan**  
Nursing



# George Pherigo Memorial Scholarship

George Pherigo – the founder of Ridgewater's NDT program -- was honored during a ceremony that attracted former students, faculty and NDT industry officials from across the country. At the conclusion of the ceremony, a plaque honoring the Litchfield native who died in North Carolina in 2009, was unveiled and friends and colleagues introduced an initiative to endow a scholarship fund in George's memory, to provide scholarships to future generations of NDT students.

## Student Recipient:



**Erik Bjorkstrand**

Nondestructive Testing  
Technology



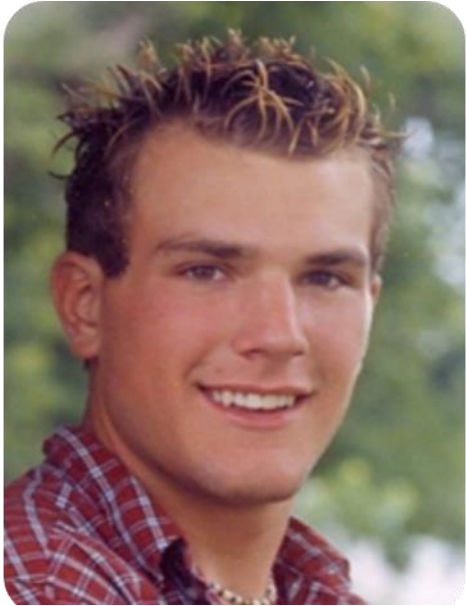
# Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) Hutchinson Scholarship

The Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society (PTK) is the international honor society of two-year colleges and academic programs, whose mission is to recognize academic achievement of college students and to provide opportunities for them to grow as scholars and leaders. This scholarship is awarded to a Hutchinson student with a cumulative GPA of at least 3.5 and who exhibits leadership, service, fellowship and community involvement.

## Student Recipient:



**Roxanna Sanchez**  
Automation & Robotic Systems  
Technology



# Shane Piehl Memorial Scholarship

Shane received his Welding degree from Ridgewater in 2005. He was an active outdoorsman and enjoyed hunting, fishing, four-wheeling, snowmobiling, and riding his Harley. He was very good at fixing things and loved lending a helping hand to those in need. When Shane passed away unexpectedly in 2010 at the age of 25, his final act of kindness was to be an organ donor to give others a chance for a better quality of life. This scholarship is awarded to a Welding student.

## Student Recipient:



**Logan Hempel**  
Welding



# Presidential Scholarship

Named in honor of the college's past presidents and to recognize academic excellence, the Presidential Scholarship (along with the Adams Honors Scholarship) is our most prestigious award. The scholarship gives \$2,000.00 per semester for up to 4 semesters to students who have demonstrated exemplary academic achievement in high school; as a Presidential Scholar, students must main a 3.50 GPA at Ridgewater to maintain the scholarship.

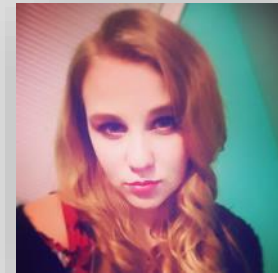
## Student Recipients:



**Courtney Gessner**  
Biological Sciences



**Coral Mattison**  
Veterinary Technology



**Naomi Lucken**  
Veterinary Technology



# Brad Preslicka Memorial Scholarship

Brad started “Double B Repair & Manufacturing” in 1990 when he converted a machine shed on the farm into his repair shop. He had a high school degree and taught himself the welding trade. He was a successful businessman, taking time to visit with and listen to his customers. He enjoyed sharing stories and telling jokes. Brad was devoted to his customers, often opening the shop after hours to help farmers during harvest. Brad enjoyed doing welding repairs and also manufacturing some of his own ideas. Brad enjoyed fishing, hunting, playing cards, and flying his powered parachute plane. Brad passed away unexpectedly on March 15, 2014 at age 59. This scholarship in Brad’s name is awarded to Welding students.

## Student Recipient:



**Justice Masters**

Welding





# E.J. Quinn Memorial Scholarship

Established in honor of former Photography instructor; is awarded to a student enrolled in the Professional Photography program.

## Student Recipient:



**Kelsey Boerboom**

Professional Photography  
Technology

# Kari Reilly Achievement Award

This award is given in memory of Kari, who was a graduate of the Ridgewater College In-Home Care program in 1987, and who passed away in 1988. Though handicapped, Kari applied herself to all that she did. She was both an achiever and a giver. This scholarship was established by Kari's family to provide a scholarship to students enrolled in the Activity Director or Activity Assistant programs.

## Student Recipient:



**Amber Jaeger**  
Activity Director

# Rice Hospital Physicians Scholarship

Rice Memorial Hospital (now Carris Health) is a Level 3 Trauma hospital located in Willmar. It serves a 14-county area, maintains 100 inpatient beds, employs more than 900 staff, and credentials over 350 physicians. Rice Hospital Physicians group, made up of medical doctors at Rice Hospital, has been contributing to scholarships at Ridgewater for over 20 years. This scholarship supports a student enrolled in the practical nursing or BSN nursing program.

## Student Recipient:



**Nevaeh Timm**  
Nursing

# Ridgewater Cares Business Pathway Scholarship

The Ridgewater Cares Business Pathway scholarship is supported through unrestricted (Ridgewater Cares) donations from community members, alumni, and Ridgewater employees. The award goes to students in one of the following programs: Accounting, Administrative Assistant, Business, Healthcare Admin Assistant, Legal Assistant, Marketing & Design, Marketing & Sales Mgmt., Multimedia Design, Photo & Design, Professional Photography.

*\*Unrestricted funding allows the Foundation to allocate funding which supports students in gap areas that are not financially supported with designated funds or have a high number of applicants with limited number of funds available. This is one of those areas.*

## Student Recipient:



**Brittney Asfeld**

Legal Assistant &  
Education Paraprofessional

# Ridgewater Cares Equity & Inclusion Scholarship

The Ridgewater Cares Equity & Inclusion scholarship is supported through unrestricted (Ridgewater Cares) donations from community members, alumni, and Ridgewater employees. Preference is given to students in underrepresented populations, are not pell-eligible, or are not eligible for traditional Financial Aid.

*\*Unrestricted funding allows the Foundation to allocate funding which supports students in gap areas that are not financially supported with designated funds or have a high number of applicants with limited number of funds available. This is one of those areas.*

## Student Recipients:



**David Cairns**  
Liberal Arts and Sciences



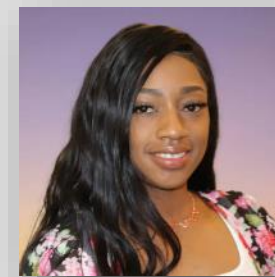
**Miriam Castilla**  
Marketing & Sales  
Management



**Diana Gonzalez**  
Medical Assistant



**Afusat Springer**  
Pre-Nursing



**Dieula Thomas**  
Pre-Nursing



# Ridgewater Cares Liberal Arts Scholarship

The Ridgewater Cares Liberal Arts scholarship is supported through unrestricted (Ridgewater Cares) donations from community members, alumni, and Ridgewater employees.

*\*Unrestricted funding allows the Foundation to allocate funding which supports students in gap areas that are not financially supported with designated funds or have a high number of applicants with limited number of funds available. This is one of those areas.*

## Student Recipients:



**Nicole Anderson**  
Liberal Arts and Sciences



**Jenna Schiller**  
Liberal Arts and Sciences &  
Chemical Dependency Counselor

# Pre-Nursing Scholarship

The Pre-Nursing scholarship is supported through general nursing donations from community members, alumni, and Ridgewater employees. “Pre-Nursing” students are those pursuing their general education courses in preparation for formal admittance into a nursing program (either LPN or RN/BSN).

## Student Recipients:



**Kristine Anderson**  
Pre-Nursing



**Autumn Buseman**  
Pre-Nursing





# Don Rinke Scholarship

Don was a former counselor at the college and upon his retirement, he established this scholarship. Students must exhibit initiative and enthusiasm in meeting their academic goals. This award alternates each year between Liberal Arts and technical students.

## Student Recipient:



**Nimo Diriye**  
Pre-Nursing



# Calvin S. Robnik Memorial Scholarship

Calvin Spencer Robnik lived and worked in the Willmar, MN area from the time he was seven years old. Calvin was severely dyslexic but graduated from Willmar High School with a B average though no one knew he could not understand written/printed material beyond a third grade level. Although physically handicapped with exertional asthma, he played wide receiver on the football team and ran the high hurdles in track. Upon graduation he took an entry level job selling cars at a dealership and through hard work advanced to managing the service department. In 2002, along with two partners, he founded "Willmar Auto, Sales and Service." Because of his love for cars and people, coupled with his outgoing personality and desire to help anyone in need, his business thrived. Calvin then began losing his vision from an eye disease (keratoconus), but fortunately his vision was restored by corneal transplants. He overcame adversity, always seeing the positive side of any situation. His persistence in life was no match for a large, speeding SUV with a distracted driver who ran through a stop sign, broadsiding his car and killing him instantly on Dec 26, 2016. The world lost a very special person on that day.

## Student Recipients:



**Logan Peterson**  
Automotive Service  
Technology



**Jaden Niemeyer**  
Auto Body Collision  
Technology



# Ben Sanden Memorial Scholarship

Ben graduated from the NonDestructive Testing (NDT) program at Ridgewater in 1990. Following graduation, he worked for GE, BGE, and SGS PfinDE, providing NDT services for petroleum pipeline industries. Ben enjoyed fishing, hunting, gardening, bowling, and working on his farm. Throughout his life and career, Ben displayed the utmost professionalism and integrity, as well as, great work ethic and skill. This scholarship was established by one of Ben's closest colleagues and is awarded to a NDT student.

## Student Recipient:



**Grace Rudlong**  
Nondestructive Testing  
Technology



# Saturday Night Cruisers Car Club Scholarship

Established in 1999, the Saturday Night Cruisers of Hutchinson has funded scholarships for Ridgewater students since 2004. Originally set up to provide scholarships for students enrolled in an automotive program, it is now available to any Hutchinson campus student residing in McLeod County. The club promotes fellowship among the community and with fellow car enthusiasts. SNC has two car shows per year, one during Water Carnival at the Hutchinson City Airport and one during St. Anastasia Fall Festival next to the church. They also volunteer to roadside clean up twice a year on a stretch of Highway 7 on the outskirts of Hutchinson.

## Student Recipient:



**Ashley Haarstad**

Practical Nursing



# Ken Schmiesing Memorial Scholarship

Ken was a 1969 graduate of the Marketing program and served on the Advisory Board for that program for many years; he was honored in 1988 as a Distinguished Alumni. In 1976, Ken opened Ken's Casuals in Willmar, a men's wear store, and was active on the Downtown Council and Willmar Area Chamber for many years. This scholarship is awarded to a Marketing student.

## Student Recipient:



**Haylee Johnson**  
Marketing and Design

# Skills Fest Scholarship

Skills Fest is an annual hands-on competition hosted on the Willmar Campus of Ridgewater College each year, with high school students competing in various skills competitions in the areas of agriculture, welding, cosmetology, auto body, photography, information technology, and more! First place winners from each competition are given a scholarship voucher worth \$1000 to use if they enroll at Ridgewater College following graduation from high school. The scholarships are distributed in \$250 increments over 4 semesters. Funding for Skills Fest scholarships comes from faculty, staff and community contributions to our general scholarships fund.

## Student Recipients:



**Seth Arvila**  
Network System  
Administration



**James Orsten**  
Farm Operations  
and Management



**Jack Zeidler**  
Farm Operations  
and Management

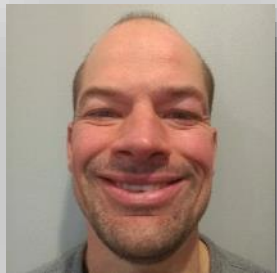




# Staff Technical Scholarship

Established over 30 years ago by staff who worked at the technical college at the time, this fund supports scholarships provided to students enrolled in technical programs at the college.

## Student Recipients:



**Andrew Barnhart**  
Paramedic



**Chad Dischinger**  
Farm Operation  
and Management





# Stearns Electric Association Trust Scholarship

Stearns Electric Association is a member-owned electric cooperative. Since 1937, Stearns Electric Association has provided electricity and related products and services to nearly 25,000 members in six central Minnesota counties including Stearns, Todd, Morrison, Kandiyohi, Pope, and Douglas. Through its Operation Round Up grants, Stearns Electric gives back to the community. This scholarship is awarded to a Ridgewater Electrician student.

## Student Recipient:



**Timothy Savage**  
Electrician

# Success Part Time Scholarship

Funded by general scholarship donations, the Success scholarship is awarded to students on both campuses who are enrolled in any program, who maintain a minimum 3.0 GPA, and who have successfully completed at least one semester of credits at Ridgewater College.

## Student Recipient:



**Megan Kiffmeyer**  
Law Enforcement



# Duke Thiele Memorial Scholarship

Duke owned and operated Thiele Studio in Glencoe until 1971, when he moved to Willmar and established the Photography program at Willmar Vo Tech. He served as chair of the department until his retirement in 1991. He received craftsman and master's degrees in Photography from the National Photographers Ass'n and instructed Photography at the National School of Photography. Duke passed away in 2000; this scholarship honors his memory and is given by his family to a dedicated and talented photography student.

## Student Recipient:



**Elizabeth Drevlow**

Professional Photography  
Technology



# Robert L. Thurston Scholarship

Robert graduated from Willmar Vo-Tech in 1969 with a degree in Agriculture. In 1980, he started with a small group of regional customers and a vision and built what is now Thurston Inc., a leading hybrid seed corn brokerage firm in the United States. Its customer base extends nationally, as well as internationally. Bob also built the Thurston Genetics company and was a long time Foundation Board Member This scholarship goes to a Agriculture student.

## Student Recipient:



**Nikki Schlueter**

Agri Business



# Peter Tintes Scholarship

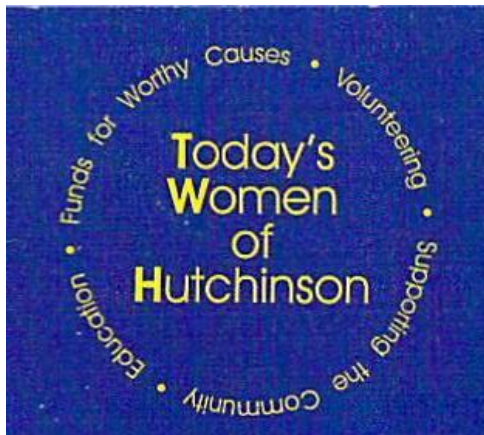
Peter was an ordained priest serving parishes in the Willmar area before developing an interdenominational Life Center at Ridgewater College. In 1968, he began teaching college courses in philosophy, sociology and psychology while pursuing his Master's degree from Loyola University. During the latter part of his career, Pete directed the Chemical Dependency program at Ridgewater College before retiring in 1997. He passed away in a car accident in 2004. This scholarship is awarded to students studying psychology or sociology, or who are involved in organic farming.

## Student Recipient:



**Emily Powell**

Agri Business



# Today's Women of Hutchinson Scholarship

Today's Women of Hutchinson is a non-profit women's organization seeking to support the community. The group is made up of 25+ members who volunteer and support many worthy causes including scholarships at Hutchinson High School and Ridgewater College.

## Student Recipient:



**Renee Vasko**  
Practical Nursing



# John Torgelson - Presidential Scholarship

John was a former President at the college; this scholarship was established in his honor and is awarded to a student who demonstrates strong academic achievement.

## Student Recipient:



**Ashley Hommerding**  
Veterinary Technology



TORGERTSON  
CHARITABLE  
TRUST

# Torgerson Charitable Trust Scholarship

The Torgerson Charitable Trust Scholarship was established by the children of Tom and Suzie Torgerson of Willmar. The scholarship provides a first generation, low income or otherwise disadvantaged student with financial assistance of \$1500.00, to be disbursed in equal installments over 3 semesters, to help the student successfully complete his/her college coursework and obtain a degree.

**Student Recipient:**



**Jaime Olmeda**

Computer Aided Drafting  
and Design



# Trustee Scholarship

The Trustee scholarship is awarded in recognition of academic excellence and success among students who have never had the opportunity to pursue a higher education or who have been away from college 6 years or more.

## Student Recipients:



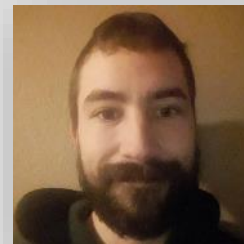
**Christine Bowles**  
Electrician



**Nicole Crowe**  
Liberal Arts and Sciences



**Sarah Miller Aberle**  
Nursing



**Jeffrey Wimette**  
Chemical Dependency  
Counselor



# Sharon Varner Memorial Scholarship

Sharon Varner, the daughter of Vic and Delores Olsen of Willmar, graduated from Willmar High School in 1965 and from the U of M in 1969 with her B.S. in Nursing. For 28 years, she dedicated herself to Labor and Delivery nursing and was an incredibly caring professional who preferred the challenge of working with high risk pregnancy patients. She had a special love for her Hispanic patients and was taking Spanish classes to improve her ability to communicate with the families. Sharon succumbed to Non-Hodgkin T-cell lymphoma in October 2001. Her unique combination of qualities—caring, dedication, and profession accompanied by a gentle touch and an encouraging smile made the delivery room an especially happy place for her patients. This scholarship is made by Wayne in her memory.

## Student Recipient:



**Heidi Fernandez**  
Nursing



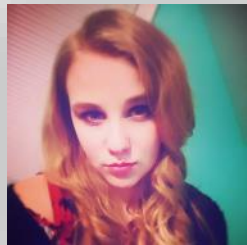
# Veterinary Technology Scholarship

Funded by faculty, staff and other community donations, the Veterinary Technology scholarships support outstanding students enrolled in this program.

## Student Recipients:



**Ashley Hommerding**  
Veterinary Technology



**Naomi Lucken**  
Veterinary Technology



**Sarah Moore**  
Veterinary Technology



# Veterinary Technology Association Scholarship

At Ridgewater College, students enrolled in the Veterinary Technology program are members of the VTA. This campus club provides a scholarship every semester to a Vet Tech student / VTA member who has demonstrated excellence in the classroom.

## Student Recipients:



**Harlee Ahrens**  
Veterinary Technology



**Abigail Schmieg**  
Veterinary Technology



# Steve Walter Memorial Scholarship

Steve served as the Maintenance Supervisor for Affiliated Community Medical Center (now Carris Health) for 20+ years and for Central Sheet Metal for 22 years prior to that retiring from ACMC in 2007. This scholarship was established by his wife, Marlys, after his death in 2008 from malignant mesothelioma; it is awarded annually to a student pursuing a career in health care and who resides in a Carris Health community.

## Student Recipient:



**Jessica Beckendorf**

Pre-Nursing

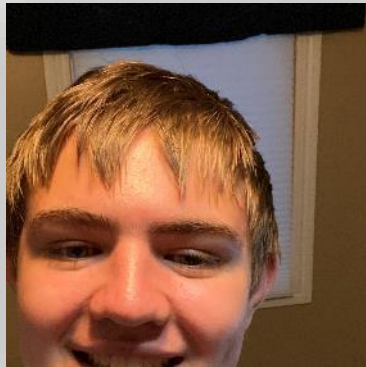




## Walt's' Soft Cloth Car Wash Scholarship

At Walt's, customer satisfaction is top priority. Walt's provides full-service attention and friendly assistance to all customers. Located at the corner of Willmar Avenue & 1st Street South, Walt's offers fuel, snacks, in-and-out oil changes, car wash, auto detailing, and free popcorn.. Walt's believes in giving back and supports many worth community causes, including scholarships for Ridgewater students. Eligible students must be employed at Walt's.

### Student Recipient:



**Jackson Spencer**

Biological Sciences





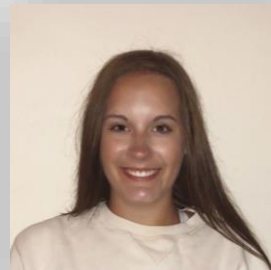
# Mark Welter World Citizen Award

Mark Welter is a retired history teacher whose overwhelming purpose now is to teach commonalities, not differences. He says "We are all interdependent. We need world citizens because no one nation can solve world problems, whether they be global warming, terrorism or pandemics." His scholarship is to provide tribute to a Minnesota State student who most exemplifies the thoughts, words, and actions demanded by a 21st century world citizen. Students must have graduated from high school prior to attending Ridgewater and be in good academic standing.

## Student Recipients:



**Heidi Fernandez**  
Nursing



**Alyssa Anderson**  
Nursing



# Larry Wepplo Memorial Scholarship

Larry was an integral part of the Conway, Deuth & Schmiesing firm for 23 years. He began his career with CDS in 1988, after graduating from the Accounting program at Ridgewater. In 1992 he became a Certified Public Accountant and in 2001 he was admitted as Partner. Larry was a leader in the firm; he was excellent at training staff and served as an informal mentor to many. Larry was dedicated to his clients, staff, and partners and his professionalism was an example for those who were fortunate to work with him. Larry was also committed to the community and was generous with his time and talents. He served as the treasurer for Main Street Willmar, the Willmar Area Community Foundation and E-quip Africa. Larry was a member of the Willmar Noon Kiwanis and was on the Sacramental Life Committee at St. Mary's Church in Willmar. Larry's family, friends, and the CDS firm provide funding for this scholarship which goes to students pursuing an Accounting degree.

## Student Recipients:



**Alyssa Kurkosky**  
Accountant



**Nicole Thonvold**  
Accountant



# Willmar Electric Service Scholarship

In 1920, S.B. Chapin founded Willmar Electric Service upon three principles: make quality electrical installations, offer a fair and reasonable price for those services, and treat everyone – clients and employees – with integrity and respect. Four generations later, the Chapin name is still on the door and those same principles remain intact. Since 1999, Willmar Electric Services has been providing scholarships to Electrician students.

## Student Recipient:



**Timothy Savage**  
Electrician



# Willmar Fraternal Order of Eagles Scholarship

Since 1898, the F.O.E. has played a key role in the creation of Mother's Day, Social Security, Medicare and more thanks to a dedicated membership base working daily throughout the United States and Canada to help friends and neighbors in need. Everyday, in their more than 1,600 locations throughout North America, Eagles are hard at work raising nearly \$10 million annually. This scholarship goes to a Willmar Campus student enrolled in any program.

## Student Recipient:



**Emma Henle**  
Electrician



# Willmar Lakes Area Chamber Agri Business

The Agriculture Committee of the Willmar Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce provides scholarships to Agriculture students who have been involved in 4-H or FFA.

## Student Recipients:



**Emma Friaauf**  
Agri Business



**Kalvin Koenig**  
Farm Operation and  
Management

# Willmar Liberal Arts Scholarship

This scholarship goes to students enrolled in the Liberal Arts program on the Willmar Campus seeking an AA degree and who intend to transfer to a 4-year college or university.

## Student Recipient:



**Anthony Maher**  
Liberal Arts and Sciences



# Willmar Noon Lions Scholarship

The Willmar Noon Lions Club was chartered on September 13, 1940 and is one of 45,000+ Lions Clubs in over 202 countries doing volunteer work, helping, leading, planning and supporting. It serves the community in many ways, including: sign programs, health programs, youth volunteer opportunities, and numerous other community and environmental programs. This scholarship is for graduating Willmar High School students who have demonstrated outstanding leadership and community service.

## Student Recipients:



**Parker Cook**

Law Enforcement  
Transfer Pathway



**Saul Guzman**

Liberal Arts and Sciences





MINNESOTA STATE

# Workforce Development Scholarships

As an incentive to encourage students to enroll in one of six high demand industry areas, the Minnesota State Legislature has provided Ridgewater College and other Minnesota State institutions with significant annual funding since 2017 to provide scholarship awards of \$2500 each to eligible students. The six high demand areas include advanced manufacturing, agriculture, early childhood education, healthcare, information technology, and transportation. Students must be Minnesota residents enrolled in at least 9 credits per semester with a 2.0 GPA to be considered. For academic year 2020-21, over \$170,000 in Workforce Development Scholarships was awarded to Ridgewater students.

## Student Recipients:



**Timi Jo Abbas**  
Chemical Dependency  
Counselor



**Kateri Abraham**  
Massage Therapy



**Karissa Anderson**  
Nursing



**Emmanuel Atuke**  
Nursing



**Kaleb Bakeberg**  
Welding



**Paw Blut**  
Early Childhood Education



**Amanda Bzdok**  
Massage Therapy

# Workforce Development(cont.)

## Student Recipients:



**Ashley Cobain**  
Medical Assistant



**Mataya Czech**  
Agri Business



**Kaitlyn Decknatel**  
Medical Assistant



**Yaile Delgado-Alvizo**  
Medical Assistant



**Kolette Duscher**  
Early Childhood Education



**Brianna Eggers**  
Early Childhood Education



**Jennifer Elsing**  
Early Childhood Education



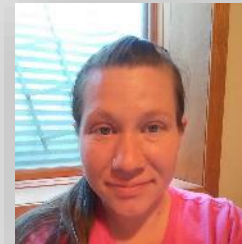
**Ty Feuchtenberger**  
Farm Operation  
and Management



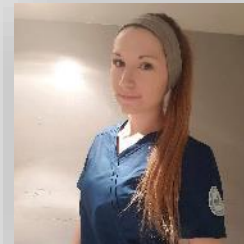
**Evan Fischer**  
Agri Business  
Transfer Pathway



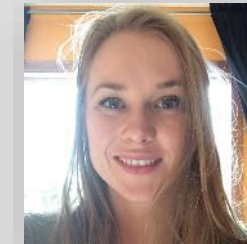
**Ne Gay**  
Automotive Service Technology



**Theresa George**  
Nursing



**Mikaylin Goetze**  
Nursing



**Chelsey Goff**  
Nursing



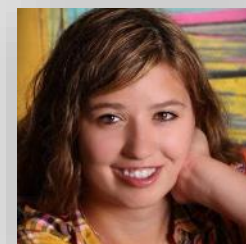
**Ashley Gruenes**  
Farm Operation  
and Management



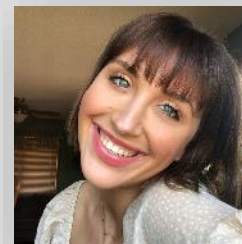
**Eric Hadtrath**  
Nursing



**Austin Halbleib**  
Paramedic



**Tracy Huettl**  
Early Childhood Education



**Katelyn Huls**  
Massage Therapy



**Michelle Ignaszewski**  
Massage Therapy



**Katlyn Iverson**  
Early Childhood Education



**Amber Jaeger**  
Activity Director



# Workforce Development(cont.)

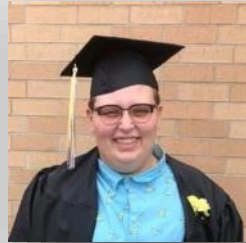
## Student Recipients:



**Kiersten Jenneke**  
Nursing



**Drew Kallhoff**  
Computer Programmer



**Baylor Kardell**  
Early Childhood Education



**Amber Knott**  
Nursing



**Kalvin Koenig**  
Farm Operation  
and Management



**Phillip Konsor**  
Computer Programmer



**Dylan Larson**  
Computer Aided Drafting  
and Design



**Michael Ludewig**  
Agri Business



**Rebecca Lundeen**  
Early Childhood Education



**Morgan Mandel**  
Agri Business, Dairy Management



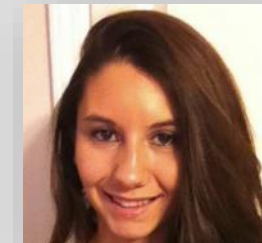
**Laci Mccann**  
Early Childhood Education



**Leah Mohs**  
Agri Business



**Rejino Moise**  
Network System Administration



**Elizabeth Nelson**  
Medical Assistant



**Briana Oestreich**  
Nursing



**Hailiy Okins**  
Paramedic



**Amber Olsen**  
Nursing



**Logan Peterson**  
Automotive Service Technology



**Michele Plumhoff**  
Early Childhood Education



**Miranda Rannow**  
Nursing



**Benjamin Rasmuson**  
Paramedic



# Workforce Development(cont.)

## Student Recipients:



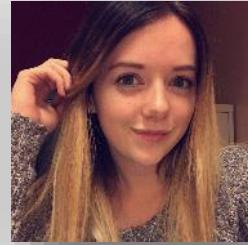
**Haylea Reigstad**  
Massage Therapy



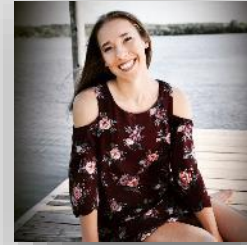
**Corey Roberts**  
Farm Operation  
and Management



**Carlos Robles Ibarra**  
Automotive Service Technology



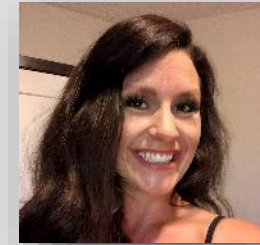
**Amery Ruffin**  
Medical Assistant



**Megan Schindler**  
Early Childhood Education



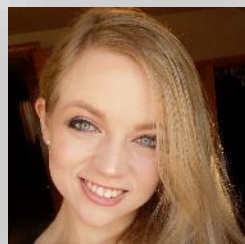
**Madelyn Schmidt**  
Agri Business



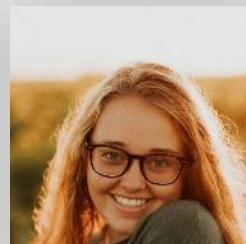
**Samantha Seifert**  
Early Childhood Education



**Kaytlin Sellner**  
Web Developer



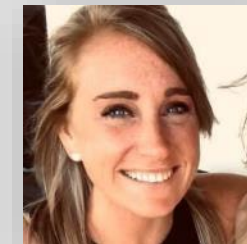
**Laura Sietsema**  
Health Information Technician



**Anna Storm**  
Early Childhood Education



**Dylan Swan**  
Agri Business



**Maisie Theisen**  
Nursing



**Randi Thiel**  
Chemical Dependency Counselor



**Matthew Thofson**  
Dairy Management



**Letitia Thomas-Skalicky**  
Early Childhood Education



**Perri Torkelson**  
Early Childhood Education



**Hunter Trnka**  
Computer Aided Drafting  
and Design



**Mason Van Essen**  
Agriculture Power  
and Equipment Technician



**Kyle VanHavermaet**  
Auto Body Collision Technology



**Kayla Ver Steeg**  
Nursing



**Parker Viaene**  
Agri Business

# Workforce Development(cont.)

## Student Recipients:



**Katie Winters**  
Medical Assistant



**Joseph Worm**  
Agriculture Power  
and Equipment Technician



**Caitlin Zachary**  
Nursing



**Jack Zeidler**  
Farm Operations  
and Management



**Grace Zeidler**  
Dairy Management



**Jerika Ziermann**  
Early Childhood Education



Congratulations to all  
Ridgewater College  
Scholarship recipients!