

The Scholarship Committee Program



Our Scholarship Program is having a very positive impact on the seven scholarship winners since the program started in 2012. The recipients are involved in human resources, labour law, education, computer science, neuroscience, life sciences, business and medical technology. To win a scholarship, of up to \$10,000 a year for four years, they had to demonstrate financial need, academic excellence, leadership, school involvement and community service. This scholarship program has made university education possible for impressive young people who might not otherwise have been able to continue their studies due to financial circumstances. This year's winner and the four prior recipients (who will be in undergraduate studies this fall) are presented here.

Congratulations to our present and past recipients!

— by **Don Brooks**,
Scholarship Committee Chair

Marketing & Communications Committee Chair &
"Making A Difference" Issue Editor: Heather Gordon



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Rotary Club of Toronto "Buzz Group"
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Rotary Club of Toronto Scholarship Winners Past and Present

— by **Don Brooks**, Scholarship Committee Chair



Rotary Club of Toronto Scholarship Winner 2018 – Maryam Ali

Our Scholarship Committee is pleased to present Maryam Ali as this year's scholarship winner. Maryam will be studying Biomedical Engineering at Ryerson University. Her goal is to be a medical doctor specializing in the MedTech field.

Maryam has an International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma, receiving Honours standing throughout high school and was a member of the IB Mentorship Club. She is an Ontario Scholar and a member of M.P. Arif Virani's High Park Youth Advisory Council. Maryam graduated as valedictorian from the Horizons Summer Program held at Upper Canada College (UCC) which is an enriched academic summer program targeting high achieving inner-city students for three consecutive years (2011 to 2013). She was also one of 10 students selected from the Horizons graduating class to attend the Leadership Training Camp at UCC. Maryam was involved with Horizons throughout high school by participating in the Horizons graduate program.

She was very active at her school, as a Parkdale Collegiate Institute Student Ambassador and as a Student Director of the Parkdale Mentorship Program. Maryam was a Group Leader at UoffT's program for Engineering Outreach and participated in the UoffT's Math in Motion Girls in Gear program. It was there that she led her team to 1st place in the Design Challenge by identifying and harnessing each member's skills and empowering them to succeed by being a strong and thoughtful leader.

Her community involvement has included participation at the Ontario Model United Nations Conference, debating issues on the Sudan crisis, being a Teacher's Assistant and Camp Counsellor at the Islamic Information and Dawah Centre International Summer Day Camp and participating in a 3D program at Hot Pop Factory where she designed and printed her own necklace. She hopes to pursue 3D technology in the medical field. Maryam also volunteers at Lakeside Long Term Care Home where she assists with the Horticultural and Music Therapy Programs. She has found that facilitating these activities revive emotions and feelings in the residents and brings them, and her, much joy.

Maryam's leadership, academic excellence, school and community involvement and discipline are only a few of the reasons that she has received the Rotary Club of Toronto's seventh scholarship award.

Prior Scholarship Winners



Lorenzo Penate - 2017 Scholarship Winner

Lorenzo is completing his first year studying Business Administration at York University's Schulich School of Business. He has had a full year with activities in addition to his studies. This includes being Vice President of Corporate Relations at HULT PRIZE, an international organization focussing on generating start up ideas from young adults/university students to sustainably solve the world's most critical social challenges. Lorenzo is on the Toronto Youth Cabinet, has worked on a citywide homeless food drive action day, is founding a charitable organization named One-A-Day and is an Executive member of York University Sports Business Association.



Amna Majeed - 2016 Scholarship Winner

Amna is completing her 2nd year of university in the Life Sciences Program at the University of Toronto. She is completing a double major in Chemistry and Immunology with a minor in French. She is an active part of her university community, participating in volunteer and leadership initiatives, including with our Club and the Health and Humans Rights Committee with the University. She also continues to volunteer at Mount Sinai hospital, in their Medical Imaging and X-Ray ward. She is enjoying the exciting adventure of University, including exploring her interests and making new friends, as she works toward her objective of being a specialty surgeon.



Poorva Patel - 2015 Scholarship Winner

Poorva is completing her 3rd year at the University of Toronto. She is working towards a bachelor's degree in Neuroscience while also pursuing a major in Molecular Biology. She is taking many science courses such as Chemistry, Biology and Psychology along with Statistics and Calculus. Her studies have introduced her to different work environments in which her degree can be applied, such as teaching, research labs and hospitals. Poorva also took several language courses to further expand her communication skills and gain more exposure to various and diverse cultures and skills. Poorva plans to continue focusing on her organizational and time management skills to assist in achieving good overall results.



John Chen - 2014 Scholarship Winner

John has completed his 3rd year in the Computer Science Specialist Program at the University of Toronto. He was awarded a Goodwin O'Grady Academic Achievement Award from the UoffT's Woodsworth College for strong academic performance. He also received a Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada Undergraduate Student Research Award, which is given to outstanding undergraduate students to fund their research. This past year John took a year off from his classes and got professional experience with the Ontario Teacher's Pension Plan as a Programmer Analyst. John will enter 4th year this September.



The Rotary Club of Toronto

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