



# 2021 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

CONGRATULATIONS TO THIS YEAR'S SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS! EACH OF THESE POST-SECONDARY STUDENTS WILL RECEIVE A SCHOLARSHIP WORTH \$1,000.



**TAYLOR VANDERMEULEN**  
BRIGHTON

Growing up at Avonlea Genetics, Taylor's heart has always been set on studying agriculture at the University of Guelph. Today she is enrolled in her third year of the university's Food and Agricultural Business program. She enjoys the economics and marketing side of the program, as well as the countless connections she has made to date. At home on the farm, Taylor takes pride in feeding and caring for young calves. She also enjoys looking after the farm's show cattle, preparing special diets, training, washing and getting things "show ready." Photographing and marketing Avonlea's animals and helping out at various sales over the years also rank high among her interests. Taylor has been actively involved in Northumberland's 4-H program, holding a wide variety of executive positions since she first became involved in 2011. She has proudly represented her county a total of six times at the TD Canadian 4-H Dairy Classic and has helped her team remain calm and focused. As a senior member, she enjoys helping the junior members wherever possible. Off the farm, Taylor enjoys playing competitive volleyball, both on the court and on the beach. Upon graduation, Taylor hopes to secure an internship before settling into a long-term career in the Agricultural industry.



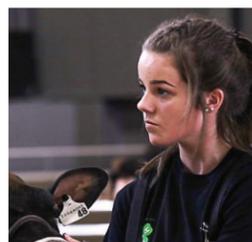
**SARAH PRINS**  
CORBYVILLE

Sarah is enrolled in Business Management at Redeemer University and plans to use the knowledge she gains upon returning to her family dairy farm, Prinsview Holsteins in Corbyville, Ont. She takes great pride in the life skills she has gained while working on the farm, and over the years, has learned to feed calves, operate equipment, milk cows and train new employees to carry out these same tasks. Her summer job at the local Agromart has taught her a lot about crops and weed control, while also drawing on the the business skills she is gaining at school. In her past eight years in 4-H, Sarah has been a member of the dairy, exchange, poultry and scrapbooking clubs, to name a few. She has held a variety of executive positions over the years and received the Top Novice Showman award early on. Through the program, Sarah has learned how to be an effective leader, how to communicate effectively, and that hard work pays off. At school, Sarah was involved with a team called Rooted Worship. The group met weekly to engage and pray with people, reach out to the community and during lockdown, they provided care packages to students in isolation on campus. She is a member of the school's varsity soccer team and active in her local church. In the future, Sarah plans to return to her family's dairy farm, but first would like to work at a few other farms to gain knowledge and experience. She plans to stay involved with her church and raise a family with the same farming values and skills she has been fortunate to acquire growing up.



**MORGAN ANDERSON**  
RIDGETOWN

Morgan is in her second year of Food and Agricultural Business at the University of Guelph. Influenced by her hardworking family and the abundance of opportunities the industry has to offer, her decision to attend Guelph just made sense. At home on her family's grain operation, she has been responsible for caring for and feeding the 4-H dairy heifers, rabbits, chicken and beef, helping to drive tractor and maintain the property. She has also worked for DuPont Pioneer for two summers and for Parks Blueberries since 2016 where she helped pick berries, bake and work the cash. This past summer saw her working as a Summer Intern for Maizex Seeds where she made deliveries and worked on test plots. Morgan's involvement in 4-H is highlighted by clubs in photography, scrapbooking, sports, veterinary, rabbit and dairy. She is enormously grateful for the skills she has learned and the connections she has made, which she knows will prove valuable in the future. She is actively involved in her community, volunteering at local farm safety days and other such agricultural events. When envisioning her future, Morgan says there is no question that the agricultural industry is where she wants to be. Though currently leaning towards work in agricultural finance, Morgan is open to a wide variety of opportunities. She hopes to secure a job where she will be able to explore other parts of Ontario and Canada and looks forward to being involved with, and giving back to, whatever community she is a part of.



**EMILY DEKLEIN**  
MOSSLEY

Emily is entering her second year of the University of Guelph's Science in Agriculture program, where she is specifically interested in animal nutrition and crop research. Her passion for agriculture has been honed on her family's farm in Mossley, Ontario, where she helps with a variety of chores to support her dad's livestock business. She feels fortunate to have been taught how to look after animals from a young age and thankful for the strong work ethic her parents have instilled. This past summer she worked as a Field Research Associate for Bayer Crop Science out of Elora. Emily has been involved in 4-H since 2012 and has completed clubs in Dairy, Swine, Rabbit and Birdwatching, among others. She has also participated in several 4-H Camps and other 4-H experiences including the Intercounty 4-H Dairy Judging Competition, where she was High Junior Individual in 2019, and as a member of the Middlesex TD Canadian 4-H Dairy Classic team for six years. In her free time, Emily enjoys curling for the University of Guelph's Varsity team and serving as part of the OAC Class of 2024 executive. In the future, she looks forward to pursuing a career geared toward animal nutrition or crop science.



**MICHAELA MCKAY**  
STRATFORD

Michaela has always had a keen interest in dairy farming and is currently working toward a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture at the University of Guelph. She is interested in dairy nutrition and reproduction and is looking forward to furthering her knowledge about crops. At Kaymanor Holsteins, Michaela assumes the role of herd manager, feeding and milking the cows and caring for the dry cows, heifers and calves. She is responsible for letting the cows in and out each day and assists with field work as needed. Michaela has been a 4-H member for four years and is grateful for the friendships she has formed during this time. Not only has the program taught her great patience through working with her 4-H calf and how to be a gracious winner and loser, but it has also made her aware of the many career opportunities available in agriculture. Upon graduation from Guelph, Michaela hopes to continue onto Teacher's College and become a primary school teacher, while also helping to run the family farm. She loves sports and has been heavily involved in hockey and volleyball, the latter of which she enjoys coaching. Her summers have typically been spent working as a counsellor at Spike Zone Volleyball camp or at Farm Camp held at her neighbour's hobby farm, teaching kids where their food comes from.



**JUSTYN BENSCHOP**  
BOWMANVILLE

Justyn is attending Olds College in Olds, Alberta where he is working toward a diploma in Agriculture and Heavy Equipment. The course focuses on all aspects of farm equipment, from old to brand new and he is enjoying learning to repair and maintain it all. Upon completion of the program, he looks forward to returning home to his family's dairy farm (Benrise) and putting his knowledge and skills to good use. He would also like to build a shop and perhaps invest in a newer forage harvester to produce a better quality feed. With his passion for fixing things, one of Justyn's main duties on the farm is to keep the equipment in good working order. His duties over the years have ranged from milking the cows, mixing daily feed rations, and during planting and harvest, spreading manure, working fields and running grain wagons, harvesters and balers. During the show season, he has helped fit and show animals at the county, provincial, national and international level. While he was away at school last year, he secured a job on a dairy farm and hopes to return when he resumes his studies this Fall. Through his involvement in 4-H, Justyn has become more comfortable taking on leadership roles and assisting younger members. He credits the program for giving him the confidence and drive he needed to pursue his education outside of Ontario, far from home. To date, he has completed 20 clubs, including dairy, woodworking, farm machinery and plowing. He is honoured to have been awarded the Spirit of 4-H Award and to have represented Durham East at the TD Canadian 4-H Dairy Classic. In his free time, Justyn enjoys spending time with friends and family and getting away to do some fishing when he can.



**SARAH DANEN**  
TAVISTOCK

Sarah is completing a degree in Food and Agricultural Business at the University of Guelph and currently enrolled in her third year of studies. Her decision to go to Guelph was an easy one: it felt like home from the start. Choosing this program allows Sarah to marry two things she is passionate about: the agriculture industry and important knowledge and understanding of the business side of things. At home on her family's 100-head dairy farm, she has always been a "great littler worker." While she has come a long way from feeding cats and calves, she recognizes these smaller jobs formed a good foundation and allowed her to develop a strong work ethic while learning some responsibility along the way. Today she can make feed, clean pens, drive tractor and manage a variety of tasks on the farm. Growing up at Danensview has taught her skills such as organization, determination and problem-solving, all of which she has been able to apply to other off-farm jobs she has held over the years. Sarah has been involved in 4-H for the past 10 years and has completed an impressive list of clubs including quilting, dairy calf, square dancing and welding. She has attended Provincial Leadership Camp and participated in an exchange to Alberta. In 2018, she was honoured to serve as the Fall Fair Ambassador for Tavistock. Off the farm, Sarah is involved in Junior Farmers, baseball and step dancing. Upon completing her degree, Sarah plans to return home, with the hopes of one day taking over the family farm.



**LEXI JOHNSTON**  
LISTOWEL

Lexi is pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture degree at the University of Guelph and is looking forward to meeting her classmates in person as she enters her second year of the program. Her decision to choose the science stream over the business one was largely fueled by her interest in vet work, which she discovered through helping her family's vet treat animals at Mapleview Farms. She has always been involved in farm work at home, whether it was feeding calves, milking or helping in the barn before and after school. This past summer, she was happy to play a supporting role while working off the farm for Maizex Seeds as a Summer Intern. In the past, she has worked at various farms in the area as well as for an equipment dealer where she planned open houses and assisted customers installing robotic milking systems. As an active 4-H member in Perth County, Lexi has completed over 35 clubs including dairy, square dancing and baking. 4-H has been a huge part of her life and she has taken advantage of an impressive list of opportunities over the years including Intercounty, Go for the Gold, several Provincial Leadership Camps and a National Members Forum in Calgary. Lexi excels in judging, and in 2019, traveled as part of Ontario's Dairy Judging team to compete at World Dairy Expo. In the future, she hopes to become an official judge. Off the farm, Lexi has a busy agenda and is involved with the Women in Agriculture Club, Soil & Crop Club and the Dairy Science Club at university, where she is the Class of 2024 Rep. She is also involved in College Royal and works on the Class of 2024. She is actively involved in her church community, teaching Sunday school and volunteering with various church dinners and fundraisers. She enjoys hockey and promoting/advocating for agriculture and can often be found helping at the Listowel Ag Society wherever needed. As she explains, "The community does so much for me and my family and I love to give back to it every chance I get!"



**LYLE MARTIN WINNER**

The Lyle Martin High Achievement Scholarship Award is awarded to the post-secondary student that displays the most impressive application based on community, post-secondary and agricultural involvement along with success in the 4-H program. The award of \$750 per year is sponsored by Lactanet and EastGen. Congratulations to this year's winner, Lexi Johnston.

The scholarship is established in the name of Lyle Martin, a well-respected dairy farmer from the Brussels area. He was a former board member for CanWest DHI and EastGen. He was always on a committee and often was the leader or chair. The award exemplifies many things Lyle found important in life, including further education in agriculture, community involvement, supporting youth and advancements in the dairy industry.



Trustees Karen Velthuis (L) and Phyllis MacMaster (R) presenting Bronze Donor level certificate to Murray Howes.



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