



2024 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

CONGRATULATIONS TO THIS YEAR'S SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS!
EACH OF THESE POST-SECONDARY STUDENTS WILL
RECEIVE A SCHOLARSHIP WORTH \$1,500.



MCKENNA STEPHENS

TROY, ON

An aspiring agricultural event coordinator, Mckenna is enrolled in the Business Administration in Marketing Communications diploma program at Mohawk College. Mckenna credits her deep appreciation for agriculture and community involvement to her upbringing on her family's dairy farm in Troy. She was recently named the 2024 Rockton Agricultural Society Fair Ambassador and has held the role

of Youth Leader in many of her 4-H clubs. Beyond the show ring, her dedication to the Hamilton-Wentworth 4-H association shines through her completion of over 60 projects and in her position as Junior Director on the Hamilton-Wentworth board of directors. One of Mckenna's notable achievements this year is the establishment of the Community Outreach 4-H Club, which focuses on giving back to the community through volunteering, fundraising, and environment stewardship and aims to create meaningful change and foster a spirit of service among the members.



EMILY LENNOX

ARTHUR, ON

Emily is entering her 3rd year at the University of Guelph and is enrolled in the Bachelor of Science in Agriculture undergraduate program, majoring in Honours Agriculture. Despite growing up on her family's beef and cash crop farm in Arthur, her heart belongs to the dairy industry. Her involvement in the dairy industry began when she took a part time job milking cows on a local dairy. Since then, Emily has joined her local 4-H Dairy Club, and has acted as President and VP of the Eramosa Dairy Club. She has also had the opportunity to show in the TD Classic at the Royal Winter Fair. In 2022-2023 Emily had the honour of representing the Fergus Agricultural Society as the Fergus Fall Fair Ambassador and this past year she was a Jersey Ontario Ambassador. Emily is heavily involved at the University of Guelph, having served as the Class President in her 1st year, and Clothing Director in her 2nd year. In her 2nd year, she also got involved with the College Royal Society as the Dairy Show Director. As she enters her third year, Emily currently sits on the Student Federation of the OAC as Secretary as well as the Tractor Tug for Tots Executive as a Recruitment Assistant. Her future goals include being more active within her local agricultural society and someday being involved in 4-H as a club leader.



MARY BRANDER

ROCKWOOD, ON

Mary is currently enrolled at the University of Guelph, working towards her Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture, majoring in Animal Science. Born and raised on her family's dairy, Branderlea Farms in Rockwood, Mary's responsibilities range from milking, feeding and fieldwork. Mary's active involvement in Wellington County 4-H has led to her completing over 70 projects and being a member on the

Wellington County TD Classic Team twice. She has also recently been named a 2024-2025 Youth Advisory Committee Member representing Ontario on the 4-H Canada Council. In addition to her outstanding involvement within her community, Mary has had the honour of holding the title of Fergus Fall Fair Ambassador. She is passionate about understanding better ways to diagnose, treat, and prevent disease in food production animals so upon completion of her degree, Mary hopes to be accepted into veterinary school or to pursue a master's degree in Large Animal Pathology.



ETHAN RINGELBERG

TROY, ON

Ethan is currently enrolled in the Heavy Equipment/Farm Equipment Mechanic/Technician diploma program at Conestoga College's Guelph campus. Ethan is the 4th generation on his family's dairy farm located in Troy, and has responsibilities such as feeding, milking, equipment operation and maintenance, and animal health observation. He is heavily involved when it comes to volunteering in his community, spending time helping at the Canadian National Exhibition, his local church, and the Rockton Fair. Ethan's passion for agriculture was recognized when he was awarded both the Ontario Plowmen's award for Top 4-H Agricultural Member and the Holstein Ontario Spirit of 4-H Dairy Award in 2022. Ethan has also recently started his own small business, Ethan's Clipper Sharpening and Drone Pilot, where he provides clipper sharpening services and custom drone photos/videos to help farmers create social media posts and locate tile runs in their fields. Ethan's future plans include bringing back skills learned from his post-secondary education to the farm, taking over operations and building a shop to fix not only his family's equipment, but neighbours' equipment as well.



EMILY PHILLIPS SUNDERLAND, ON

Emily grew up on her family's dairy farm, Phillhaven Holsteins in Sunderland, where her responsibilities range from milking cows and feeding calves to healthcare decisions and medication administration. Aside from the family farm, she has also worked for several local veterinary clinics and truly enjoys interacting with her community daily. She is very passionate about volunteering, having assisted at the Canadian Dairy Xpo, Royal Winter Fair, and with Ducks Unlimited Canada many times in the past. Emily is currently enrolled in her 2nd year at the University of Guelph, studying towards her Bachelor of Science in Agriculture degree, majoring in Animal Science. At university, Emily enjoys being an active member of the Dairy Science Club, Beef Science Club, and participating in College Royal events and Gryphon intramural hockey. Emily looks forward to using embryos purchased at the College Classic Heifer Sale to help start her own herd. In the future, Emily hopes to be accepted into veterinary school, where she would like to specialize in ruminant nutrition and reproduction. She aspires to one day start her own veterinary clinic and become a bovine reproduction specialist.



REEGAN CHARLTON BRANTFORD, ON

Reegan is currently enrolled in her 2nd year at the University of Saskatchewan in the Bachelor of Science: Agriculture – Environmental Science undergraduate degree program, minoring in Animal Science. Reegan plans to take her passion for the environment and regenerative agriculture practices and become a Regenerative Agriculture Consultant in the future. She has always been heavily involved in the dairy industry, having been raised on her family's dairy, Elm Bend Farms, located in Brantford. She is no stranger to commitment, and has volunteered with Brant County 4-H, the Paris Agricultural Society and the Brantford Rotary Club. In addition to her achievements in Brant County 4-H, Reegan enjoyed immersing herself in Swedish culture on her year-long exchange through the Rotary Long Term Youth Exchange Program in 2022-2023. While in Sweden, she acted as assistant coach for the Helsingborg Hockey Girls Program, assisting with practicing, training, and coaching. Reegan is looking forward to acting as the 2024-2025 Dairy Team President at the University of Saskatchewan this year.



MITCHELL ANDERSON RIDGETOWN, ON

Mitchell is entering his 3rd year in the Food & Agriculture and Resource Economics undergraduate degree program at the University of Guelph. Mitchell's passion for dairy and showing cattle started at a young age under the influence of his Uncle Terry at Elm Bend Farms. Since then, he has been heavily involved in the dairy industry, recently starting his own business as a fitter. Mitchell has had the privilege of working with herds across Canada, Australia and the United States fitting cattle for provincial, national and international-level shows. In addition to his extensive involvement in Chatham-Kent 4-H and the South Kent Hockey Team, Mitchell has taken a keen interest in judging dairy cattle and one day aspires to be an official dairy judge. Recently, he was named the 2023 Canadian Intercollegiate Judging Competition Champion and the 2023 Inter-County Dairy Youth Judging Competition High Individual. As a result of his achievements, Mitchell had the opportunity to compete as part of the Ontario Dairy Judging Team at the US National 4-H Dairy Cattle Judging Contest at World Dairy Expo in 2023. Mitchell looks forward to the future after graduation, and potentially sees himself working in dairy genetics and A.I., utilizing his education in agriculture and economics as an asset.



GRACE HALLAHAN BLYTH, ON

Grace is currently enrolled in her 2nd year at the University of Guelph, studying Political Science with a minor in Agriculture. She is the 7th generation on her family's dairy, Hallahan Farms in Blyth, ON. Grace has always been deeply interested in the agricultural community and is passionate about serving and protecting it. Alongside her involvement in Huron County 4-H, Grace has had the honour of representing the Huron County Plowmen's Association as the Princess of the Furrow from 2019-2022, and recently became a member of the Gay Lea Foods Co-operative. At the University of Guelph, Grace dove in head-first and joined the executive team for the 100th edition of College Royal, where she acted as the Square Dancing Assistant Director in 2023, helping with planning the event and making the competition one of the largest to date! In the future, Grace is considering moving out-of-province to continue her studies, particularly in Western Canada. She looks forward to advocating for rural communities, being involved on local agricultural boards and carrying out a successful, fulfilling, and impactful career.



CAMERON VELTHUIS OSGOODE, ON

Cameron was raised on his family's dairy, Velthuis Farms located in Osgoode, where his primary role is Young Stock Manager and his responsibilities range from feeding, tagging, dehorning and vaccinating calves less than 3 months of age, among other work on the farm. Cameron is currently enrolled in his 2nd year at the University of Guelph and is studying towards a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture undergraduate degree, majoring in Animal Science. An active member in 4-H, Cameron has been involved since 2015 and has enjoyed participating in the dairy, field crop, and judging clubs. He has also had the opportunity to attend the Royal Winter Fair as a member of the TD Classic team for 2 consecutive years. Cameron participated in the Inter-County Dairy Judging Competition in 2023 and again in August this year. He hopes to continue developing his judging skills to one day become an official dairy judge. At university, Cameron is involved with the local Junior Farmers group, the Judging Club and was recently named the Class of 2027 Representative for the Dairy Science Club. Cameron plans to return to the farm full-time upon graduation, and also aspires to continue showing commitment to his community by joining his local 4-H association as a Leader.



ALECSA VILLENEUVE MOOSE CREEK, ON

Alecsa's primary course of study is in Wildlife Biology and Conservation and is complemented by a minor in Agriculture at the University of Guelph. Alecsa started working on her uncle's dairy at nine years old, where she quickly developed a strong passion for the industry and being a part of the process of breeding healthy, productive animals. Her grandfather left behind a legacy of breeding successful show cattle, which Alecsa has shown much interest in through her active involvement in 4-H. A senior member with a deep-rooted commitment to nurturing the next generation's enthusiasm for agriculture and animal care, she firmly believes in the 4-H motto and enjoys mentoring younger members in caring for their calf, practicing showmanship skills, and learning clipping and fitting techniques. Alecsa also likes to dedicate her time to volunteering within her community, often helping with organizations like the Maxville Lions Club, Rachel's Kids House of Hope, and the Maxville Fairgrounds. In the future, Alecsa aspires to start her career as an Assessment Director, where she would be responsible for overseeing management efforts directed towards wildlife and economics.