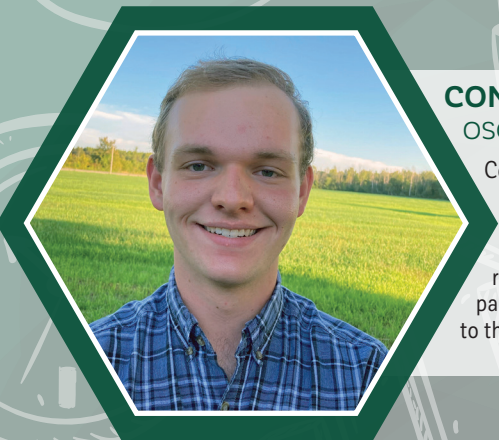




2023 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

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



CONNOR VELTHUIS
OSGOODE, ON

Connor grew up on his family farm, Velthuis Farms, where he was constantly involved in the daily operations. He is now studying towards his diploma in Farm Management and Technology (FMT) at the Macdonald Campus of McGill near Montreal. Connor is heavily involved in his school community, acting as President of the FMT Class of 2024, where he is the voice of the student body, the fundraising event organizer, and the FMT student representative on the Campus' Student Society. In April 2023, Connor was a member of the FMT team that participated in the Dairy Challenge Academy in Saratoga Springs, New York. Connor is looking forward to returning to the family farm after graduation, where he wants to focus on animal nutrition and crop management.



DANI KARN
WOODSTOCK, ON

Dani is currently in her 2nd year at the University of Guelph, working towards her Bachelor of Commerce degree in Food and Agricultural Business. Dani is the 6th generation on her family's dairy and cash crop farm, Karnvilla Holsteins and Jerseys. In 2017, Dani purchased her first jersey calf, later registering her own prefix, Karnelle Jerseys, in 2020. To date, she has grown the herd from 1 to 12 animals. In addition to her numerous achievements within 4-H, Dani was also selected as Team Pitcher on the U19 Women's Softball team at the Canada Summer Games in 2022. After university, she plans to continue as an Oxford dairy producer, focusing on breeding cows for production and type.



JULIA DEKLEIN
MOSSLEY, ON

Julia is currently enrolled in her 4th year of Sport Psychology at Laurentian University in Sudbury, ON. Growing up on the farm, her key responsibilities were cropland preparation, facility maintenance, and dairy heifer care. She has always been actively involved in Middlesex County 4-H, her community, and her school. At university, Julia is a member of the varsity curling team and has had the opportunity to compete at a national level. She was honoured to receive the Coach's Award in 2022 and 2023. Upon completion of her degree, Julia hopes to continue her studies at the University of Ottawa for a Master of Human Kinetics - Concentration in Intervention and Consultation.



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Supporting & Educating Ontario's Dairy Youth!



MEGAN ATKINSON
WOODSTOCK, ON

Megan is enrolled in her 2nd year at the University of Guelph, studying towards her Bachelor of Science in Agriculture with a Major in Animal Science. Although she wasn't raised on a farm, it was her initial participation in Oxford County 4-H that piqued her interest in agriculture and the dairy industry. After borrowing calves from Karnview Farms for the first few years, Megan was excited to purchase her first calf with them in 2020. It was then that she registered her own prefix – At-Holme Holsteins. This year, Megan is looking forward to acting as the OAC Class of 2026 Representative for the Dairy Science Club, as well as working with her peers to rebuild the U of G Judging Club. In the future, she plans to complete a Masters in Ruminant Nutrition, followed by obtaining a career in dairy nutrition.



NICOLE DANEN
TAVISTOCK, ON

Nicole is entering her 2nd year in the Bachelor of Science in Agriculture program at the University of Guelph. In addition to working on the family farm, she has enjoyed working at B-W Feed & Supply, where she has had the opportunity to learn more about the feed industry and create lasting relationships with local farmers. Nicole is no stranger to being involved in her community, which shows through her active participation in Oxford County 4-H and her role as Social Media and Newsletter Representative on the Oxford Junior Farmers Executive. During the upcoming school year, she is excited to be the Female Sports Representative for her class and looks forward to being involved in the rebuild of the U of G Judging Club. Nicole's ultimate goal for the future is to return to the family farm after a few years of experience in different aspects of the agriculture industry.



ROBERT GOODWILL
OWEN SOUND, ON

After pursuing a comprehensive study of business management at Toronto Metropolitan University for two years, Robert's desire to be closer to his family's dairy motivated him to enroll in the business program at Georgian College in Barrie. On the farm, Robert has many responsibilities, some of which include milking, calf care and medication administration. Recently, Robert has become a shareholder in the GayLea Foods Cooperative, and hopes to one day become a member on the board. He is very proud of his community and enjoys actively contributing through his involvement in 4-H, where he can typically be found mentoring younger members. Upon completion of his studies, Robert aspires to work alongside his family and eventually take over operations at the farm.



SAMANTHA HILDBRAND
ST-ALBERT, ON

Samantha is entering her 3rd year in Farm Management Technology at the Macdonald Campus of McGill near Montreal. On the family farm, Rosenhill Holsteins, Samantha's focus is selecting bulls that suit the breeding program and introducing new genetics to the herd. She enjoys being involved in Russell County 4-H, and in addition to her achievements within the association, Samantha was selected as one of the Holstein Canada Young Leader Education Award winners for 2022. In the future, her goal is to co-manage the family farm with her younger brother and continue to pursue genetics that will improve production and conformation within their herd.



LAUREN HOONAARD
EXETER, ON

Lauren is enrolled in her 3rd year at the University of Guelph in the Bachelor of Commerce program, majoring in Food and Agricultural Business. Lauren grew up working on her family's dairy farm in Exeter but work with a local greenhouse, Hensall Co-operative, and BASF has proven very interesting. At university, Lauren has served as the Secretary for the OAC Class of 2025 Executive as well as the Registration and Social Media Director for the annual OAC Leadership Conference. This year, she looks forward to taking on the role of Communications Director for the Student Federation of the OAC. After completion of her undergraduate degree, Lauren hopes to work in agronomy, field crop sales or vegetable production. She also plans to take over the farm's book work and potentially manage the cropping operations.

