



# **Scholarships for Excellence Summary Reports**

## **May 2017**

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**ALTON DECORATIVE & FINE ARTS SOCIETY (ADFAS)  
ART FOUNDATION SCHOLARS**

**ADFAS Scholarships for Excellence in Art (One Year Foundation Course)**  
Sponsored by Alton Decorative and Fine Art Society

**DAISY CLARKE**

I am very grateful for this scholarship money as it has allowed me to purchase a camera, something I have been in need of for a long time but haven't been able to afford. I researched into high quality second-hand cameras so that I could get the best with the funds. I managed to find a Nikon D5200 usually worth around £600-£800 but for £300 second-hand and I have found the camera to be of really high quality. It also came with a detachable flash and remote control so this will allow me to take professional photos with a tripod, something I look forward to experimenting with in future projects.

This camera has already been of great use to me as I am currently at the mid-point in my Final Major Project. My project focuses on light and the effect this has on the figure so I have been able to take some great photos with my new camera. I am excited to experiment with the many settings available on the camera to produce the best images possible. The high quality also allows me to print off these photos much larger to be used in printmaking or as reference for paintings. As I nearly always use photographs as reference for my paintings and artwork, this has been invaluable for my progress.

My studies are progressing towards the final exhibition in June where I will get the chance to showcase my final piece. At the moment I plan for this to be a series of canvases depicting light entering or exiting through windows, involving human or animal figures. These subjects will be the result of my photos taken with the camera and will hopefully be of great aid to me during the final stages of my project. Similarly, it will aid me over my future years whilst studying Fine Art at Kingston University and I hope to progress my photography skills during this time. Over this summer I aim to set up a website where I will be able to present and show my art and hopefully receive commissions from this and from personal sources also. I also plan to continue taking photographs of my surroundings to build up my portfolio for the future. This will be enhanced when I go to university as London will only be 20 minutes away by train, therefore, it will offer its vibrant culture as another inspiration point for my work, as well as the many galleries.

**ADFAS Scholarships for Excellence in Art (One Year Foundation Course)**  
Sponsored by Alton Decorative and Fine Art Society

**JESS EVANS**

I am very grateful and feel that the Scholarship has significantly benefited my photography. I decided to use it to purchase a new camera, as I was having difficulties with my current one; it was no longer working efficiently, and was therefore restricting how much I could achieve with each photoshoot I did. I have used the new camera for all of the six photo shoots that I have undertaken for my Final Major Project (FMP), and could not be more pleased with how it has influenced my work. It focuses so much faster, enabling me to capture so much more with each shoot. I feel as though FMP so far has been both challenging and exciting; it has pushed me to develop my skills and consider new perspectives and ways of shooting. I hope that my final project will develop to a point,

whereby it reflects my personal style and individuality as a photographer. I find the prospect of university next year to be very exciting; the course I will be studying is Fashion Communication. This specific course covers more than just Fashion Photography; it includes fashion film, illustration, art direction, as well as marketing and advertising. While I do love photography, I am really looking forward to expanding my skill set, and exploring other mediums of Fashion Communication. Art direction in particular is something that appeals to me, because generating ideas and giving direction, whilst on shoots is something that I particularly enjoy.

## **ADFAS Scholarships for Excellence in Art (One Year Foundation Course)**

Sponsored by Alton Decorative and Fine Art Society

### **VICKI HILL**

I am currently studying an Art & Design Foundation Diploma. My specialism in this area is film, and receiving the ADFAS scholarship has allowed me to improve the quality my work and widen the possibilities of what I can make. Back in January, I received an unconditional offer from the University of South Wales, which is where I've wanted to go for about a year now, so it's great to feel that they want me as much as I want them.

For my Final Major Project, I am working on a feature film trailer for the first book in my favourite series, The Chaos Walking Trilogy. Taking on a challenge of this size where you have to take on every role in production yourself is daunting. Originally, I had concerns about the quality of the final outcome, seeing as I had limited equipment at my disposal. This was where the financial support provided by the ADFAS scholarship was crucial for me. I was able to buy a broadcast-quality microphone to record the sound for my feature trailer. This microphone is not only something I can use on this project to raise my game, but also throughout university and beyond. The same goes for the new DSLR camera that I also bought using my scholarship. The camera I had was so old it wasn't compatible with the microphone, and the video quality was shaky at best. I don't wish to be boring by sharing the exact specification differences between the old and new cameras, so I'll stick to saying the new camera has opened up many more possibilities for me.

On top of technical equipment, I also had to find outfits for my characters and some props. While I tried to be resourceful and use what I already had for the most part, in some particular instances I had to go out and search for things that I was envisioning in my head. Doing this, I used up the rest of the funding. Hopefully, everything will go well, and I look forward to being able to show it at the exhibition in June.

## FIRST YEAR SCHOLARS

### Scholarship for Excellence in Creative Media

Sponsored by Alton Beer Festival Charitable Trust

#### DAVID HALL

My studies are going very well currently. Our current project is to produce a documentary on a topic of our choice. My partner and I have planned to do it about the Dyatlov Pass Incident, because it's interesting, plus there are a lot of angles, facts and theories to cover (so it can easily meet minimum time the brief requests). A large proportion of the scholarship money has been spent. One of the items I purchased was a 50mm Prime Lens for my DSLR, allowing me to film in lower light situations, and gives me a sharper image quality when taking photographs or filming in RAW.

I also purchased a Boom Pole to pair up with the Rifle microphone I purchased to help me with audio for my produced work. The rest of the money I plan to spend on purchasing website software which will assist me with designing Alton Beer Festival's website and other projects beyond.

Outside of college, I am getting contract work as an Audio Editor for the Lundarian Press, editing Audiobooks. I have also been invited to be part of a live Multi-cam team in Keswick over the Summer Holidays. I plan to become a permanent addition to that team, to advance my ability and get further references to open up doors at other points during my career.

### Scholarship for Excellence in Creative Media

Sponsored by Alton Beer Festival Charitable Trust

#### SCOTT HIGHMOOR

I study a level 3 BTEC in Creative Media Production, a course which is heavy in practical work; providing a great deal of experience to take forward into later life. Past projects on the course have gone well, including my Music Video, Television Advertisement and Radio Drama - all of which I have achieved a distinction grade on. Other than the benefit of having experience in the media industry, I am getting experience in lots of different roles and production areas of media including radio, music and currently factual programming.

I was given the opportunity to apply for a scholarship sponsored by the ABF with a fund of £800 to spend as I wish. This money is going toward both camera equipment including a gimbal for recording running shots in rough environments and a powerful desktop computer capable of editing footage in much higher resolutions. These items will increase the production value of my products dramatically, with increased processing power allowing me to do more advanced visual effects on my film projects alongside college. This will in turn allow me to progress in my film directing and editing career, something I want to pursue in the future.

My long-term future plan is to direct feature length movies, although this is not something achievable simply with a better editing computer. My shorter term plan is to open up a YouTube channel on which I will upload short films, action sequences, skits etc. to build up a directors reel I can use in the future. I also plan to go to university where I will study film or science.

## Scholarship for Excellence in Science

Sponsored by Alton College Foundation Alumni Scholars

### THOMAS BRADFORD

Thank you for all of your support over my time at Alton College so far. My studies have been going really well particularly in chemistry and psychology. I am still enjoying all of my A-levels and their unique challenges academically they each bring.

Currently I am beginning to think about my future plans, predominantly focusing on potential universities I would like to go to. After attending the Surrey UCAS convention and collecting a 'library' of prospectuses I have been compiling a short list of universities including Cardiff and Oxford. I hope to use some of the money I received in my scholarship to attend the various open days across the country.

I have also recently received my reward from the Biology Olympiad I took part in back in January receiving a commendation, I found it really interesting to learn the IB specification in the short time frame as well testing my own organisation skills. As well as this as of the last day of the spring term I received my successful application to a competitive Surrey University summer school for chemistry, I hope that it will show me what a university environment is like as well as whether chemistry is something that I would enjoy studying at degree level. I have also started an Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) with my working title being whether Statins should still be used, the potential side effects and the viable alternatives. I hope to use some of the money to buy books and access resources to help me in my research, I hope to look at the chemical and biological causes of the side effects and how the alternatives avoid these by their chemical structure or biological focus.

I have currently spent some of the scholarship money on A-level revision guides for all of my subjects to try and help me succeed in the oncoming AS and mock examinations. Linked to this I am still really enjoying the peer mentoring that I do for biology. I find the experience really rewarding through how both of us are able to benefit through revision and explaining to ensure that we both have grasped the concepts that we cover in class for the exam so that we both are able to do as well as we possibly can through capitalising on our joint knowledge.

## Scholarship for Excellence in Art

Sponsored by the Dischma Trust

### ELISE COSTAIN

I'd like to begin this report by just saying how appreciative I am that I was awarded this scholarship, it's going to extend the amount of opportunities I had before! My studies are progressing well, some encouraging examples of this can be found in my latest 'Student Reflection' where my teacher has said that my project showed that I "clearly have the skills to make a successful career in the creative industries a realistic goal.", and that my work "is showing real personality and inventiveness." This feedback was given on my most recent project that I handed in, titled "Architecture", where I was able to submit whatever final outcome I wanted, I chose to create a graphic novel/comic book, which was extremely time consuming as it had 21 pages that I pencilled and then inked in. The scholarship allowed me to afford the ink required for this.

In the upcoming weeks and months I'm planning on spending some of the rest of my money on a scanner, so I'm able to distribute some of my work created outside of college onto social media etc., at the moment I'm just researching the best ones to purchase.

In addition to this, I'm already experiencing the benefits of putting my work out into the world as I've had feedback from various people saying they would be interested in buying some of my work, so I think the scholarship funds would be helpful in achieving the logistics of this, such as setting up a website or finding fun ways to create the work I'd sell, as I was looking into creating patches or badges for clothing.

I'll be spending more money on things that are required of me from the college as well, such as resources, for example at the end of my current "Illustration" project, we have to send off our books to be bound professionally which costs at least £15. As well as trips to go to universities I have an interest in, as the travel costs were something that would have been difficult to obtain before the scholarship.

For the future, I've been looking more into going down the route of animation as opposed to regular illustration, as working in the film industry would be my primary goal, therefore I've been spending some time looking at animation courses at universities. I've been interested in the SAE Institute, Brighton University and London College of Communication.

## **Scholarship for Excellence in English**

Sponsored by the Dischma Trust

### **JAY HAIGH**

Since receiving the scholarship money, my studies have been going well: I'm on course to receive my target grades and enjoying my studies immensely. My plans for university have changed since I am now looking at studying joint honours in psychology/linguistics, instead of just psychology, with the intention to continue one up to achieving a doctorate, although I haven't yet made a final decision on which to pursue.

Recently I have also been elected as the NUS Officer in the student union, and am very excited to attend the NUS conference in Bristol in order to participate more directly in matters of student welfare and activism. Over the course of my time at Alton, I intend to ensure all student voices are heard and to increase student awareness of the NUS' work outside of the discount card.

Currently much of my time is dedicated to creating the first musical written entirely in Esperanto, as part of my Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) project in researching how to write and produce a musical which promotes the learning and use of Esperanto to a British audience.

As I intend to create both an English and Esperanto version, I will be able to explore the linguistic features of both languages and utilise their unique properties in order to create effect. This is the primary reason I applied for the scholarship, as I intend to use the money to aid in my research and production of the musical, including purchasing props, costumes, and texts on Esperanto in order to understand the language's development more fully.

I'm particularly excited about this project as I'm able to explore a range of different topics such as how language affects perception of characters; how best to translate a text from

English to Esperanto or vice versa; and to what extent language and identity affect or are affected by one another.

Furthermore, I intend to use the money to pursue my interest in Romantic literature, with a specific interest in John Keats' works: I'm currently searching for an antique copy of Endymion to add to my poetry collection.

## **Scholarship for Excellence in Geography**

Sponsored by the Dischma Trust

### **SOPHIE DAVIS**

My studies at Alton College have been going really well so far, and I'm thoroughly enjoying them. With the Geology club I entered a regional competition where you create a presentation and poster on a chosen topic within Geology. We chose the Crystals Caves in Naica, Mexico; our team worked on it for the last couple of months and we even grew our own crystals. It was really interesting and we came 3rd in the competition, although we sadly didn't qualify for the further stages, but it was a great experience to go and listen to the other presentations too, featuring topics such as Tectonics on Mars and Microfossils.

I have plans to spend my money on a trip to Plymouth University in the summer to attend a 'Girls into Geoscience' workshop and field trip; I plan to attend workshops on 'Palaeomagnetism and Continents', 'Volcanology' and 'Microfossils and Climate' which I'm really excited for.

I also used my money to buy some books for my personal statement, the one I'm currently reading is called 'Wegener's Jigsaw' which is about the life of Alfred Wegener and his idea of continental drift. The two others I bought were 'The map that changed the world' which is about William Smith and how he mapped the geology of Britain in the 19th century, and 'the Earth' both of which I'm also looking forward to reading.

My subjects are also going well, I am preparing for my Maths AS level this summer. Geography is very engaging too, I prefer physical to human Geography, the carbon and water cycle have been really interesting especially as I have never learnt about them in so much detail before. My third subject, Chemistry is also going well although I'm finding the organic chemistry quite challenging.

## **Scholarship for Excellence in Performing Arts**

Sponsored by the Dischma Trust

### **RHIANNA SMITH**

I am very grateful for the generous scholarship you have awarded to me. I have several different ideas of what I think I am going to spend the money on over the next two years.

Firstly, I am in the process of purchasing a new pair of pointe shoes and soft blocks, which are used for vocational ballet classes and also for our schools summer show.

Secondly, this summer I will be attending the Urdang Pre Audition Course, in London, for one week. I will be using some of the money to help pay for accommodation and travel during this week.

The audition course will help me develop the skills needed for auditions the following year, which is another aspect I will use the scholarship to help fund. Each audition varies in cost but they range from around £40-£70. Before auditioning for most places I will attend an open day for the colleges, using some of the money to contribute towards travel costs.

Finally, I will use some of the money to contribute towards singing and acting workshops/lessons as I don't have much experience in these areas and would like to develop at this before auditions so I give myself the best chance possible.

Thank you again for giving me the opportunity to explore options in performing arts and I hope you agree with what I have chosen to spend the scholarship fund on.

## **Craven Brothers Scholarships for Excellence in Engineering**

Sponsored by the Ellis Campbell Charitable Foundation

### **SAM ADAMS**

I am currently concentrating hard on revising for my engineering principles exam in June and completing mock exam papers to make sure I achieve my potential. I have a great interest in electronics and I plan to use the scholarship money to purchase relevant books and design kits related to the subject. In particular, I plan to purchase a mini alarm electronic kit to help further my knowledge of the subject and also breadboard designs to help me with electronics too so that it can help with my understanding of the subject.

The scholarship funding will also help me purchase other books and attend open days, given that I wish to go on to study aeronautical engineering, as I wish to explore into the subject. I am keen to spend some of the funding on developing and building model planes to investigate the effects of weight and wingspan, also I want to visit places that explore things about planes and the history of them to help me with my idea of how plane history has developed. I particularly enjoy the practical nature of engineering and have enjoyed using both machines and hand tools in the practical skills projects that I have undertaken; this helps me improve my skills for my future as I can learn different ways on how to make things and how to make things with a lower tolerance. The scholarship funding has really allowed me to expand my knowledge of this subject that I have a real interest in it and I intend to make my future career out of it.

## **Craven Brothers Scholarships for Excellence in Engineering**

Sponsored by the Ellis Campbell Charitable Foundation

### **HAMISH de WATTEVILLE**

After two terms at the college I have experienced a wide range of subject areas and activities. I have found some of the subject areas challenging, particularly the electronics, but they have all been interesting and enjoyable. I have especially enjoyed the fabrication because it lets me use and expand the skills that I have acquired from all my past years of making different things in my workshop at home.

The business part of the course is one which I was pleasantly surprised by and I think that a good understanding of this subject will put me in good stead for going into the commercial world of work. I am currently revising for the 8 hour design exam in June which incorporates all that I have learnt in the design lessons, including drawing techniques, material properties and different manufacturing processes.

I am currently looking for a work experience placement for the first half term of next academic year and have been specifically looking at the automotive or motorsport industry.

The first instalment of my Scholarship money has been received, but has not been spent yet. I have a pretty good idea what I would like to spend it on. A small metal working lathe is top of my list, followed closely by a welding machine but the decision whether to get MIG, or one of the more flexible but more expensive MIG machines is a complex one. I'm working too, to top up the funds, and I hope to spend the money before the summer holidays where I will then have time to develop my skills on whatever machine I choose to purchase.

## **Scholarship for Excellence in Science**

Sponsored by the Ellis Campbell Charitable Foundation

### **GREGORY ANDREWS**

The £400 of the scholarship that I received this year has been extremely useful to pay for the trip to the CERN facility in Geneva, which I otherwise wouldn't have been able to take part in.

The costs include flights, accommodation, the visit and living costs that the visit incurs. Geneva is an extremely expensive city on the Swiss/French border with a lot of history and political influence, hence why costs are so high. The 'Conseil Européen pour la Recherche Nucléaire' is an exceptional institution, funded by 22 member states and 6 'associate members' and has run 8 previous experiments, and is currently running 25 to answer various questions about matter, energy and forces at the most fundamental level. It's especially useful for me to go on this trip because I plan to go into particle physics in the future and this trip allows me to get a much better feel of the environment that the science happens in, as well as first-hand experience.

My studies are going well. I've currently got an Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) and a placement with the Nuffield foundation to take part in a 4 week research programme which will both be happening over the summer, and will likely complete a CREST gold award as well. Exams are coming up and I'm currently trying to focus on scoring well in my maths modules to make the second year a little easier, and scoring well in my physics too, which will mean I can get the predicted grades I need for UCAS applications, especially to Russell group Universities. A good university is very important to me because I want the best education I can get, and the best postgraduate opportunities. A2 year will likely be busy as well, with open days to visit and university interviews to attend.

## **Richard Frankel Memorial Scholarship for Excellence in Medicine**

Sponsored by Mrs Merula Frankel

### **ANDREW MORRISH**

It is a great privilege and honour to receive The Richard Frankel Memorial Scholarship for Excellence in Medicine 2017. I thoroughly enjoyed the presentation evening and properly meeting my sponsor, Merula. I am enjoying my time here at the College, and my studies are progressing well.

The Scholarship has already given me plenty of opportunities that I may otherwise have missed:

I was invited to the National Student Association of Medical Research (NSAMR) conference as one of the twenty-five winners of a national competition to compose an essay or artefact on 'Medical Research in the Future'. In my spare time, I wrote an essay on the possible harnessing of predatory bacteria to replace anti-biotics and cure auto-immune diseases and never expected to get through to the last 25 finalists! The day comprised of listening to guest speakers addressing medical students. My favourite talk was given by Professor Geoff Pilkington on his work on astrocytoma and glioblastoma research and how global brain tumour research is chronically underfunded. The day also included many interactive group workshops on medical practice and current research. My Scholarship helped pay for travel up to Manchester University and an overnight stay for the conference.

I have also invested in a 16-25 Railcard with my scholarship money to help reduce the costs of two trips to London I completed in March. On the 16th I attended a workshop at the Hunterian Museum, "Your body, your consent", which included discussions over real ethical dilemmas faced by pathologists. Splitting into small groups, and led by a practising doctor, we were invited to discuss cases of medical consent and ethical dilemmas. This included a very challenging case of a family with an autosomal dominant genetic disease. The son, and his wife, were expecting a baby but could undergo embryonic genetic testing as the rest of the son's family did not wish to know the results. The scenarios challenged me greatly and I enjoyed discussing these issues with fellow prospective medical students.

Finally, I attended a 'Medic Portal' event at the Birbeck University, which gave me valuable insight into the process of applying to medical school, and some useful hints and tips in being successful in my application.

In the future, I plan to use the rest of my Scholarship in visiting universities as well as funding travel to volunteer work at the Phylis Tuckwell Memorial Hospice in Farnham and Royal Surrey County Hospital in Guildford.

## **Scholarship for Excellence in Geography**

Sponsored by Mr Peter Gaffney

### **HOLLY MACDONALD**

It is an honour to have received the Peter Gaffney Scholarship for Excellence in Geography, after attending such a wonderful presentation evening and meeting my sponsor, Peter Gaffney. I was delighted to hear from the scholarship funders and previous scholars' motivational stories of success.

This scholarship has made so many opportunities that I have been offered achievable, whilst enjoying my A-levels at the College.

I have been invited to, and will be attending Girls into Geoscience 2017 at Plymouth University exploring a diverse range of industry talks from Engineering Geophysics (Terradat) and Exploration Geoscience (Shell), to research in groundwater (British Geological Survey), and have the chance to attend a field excursion to see some of the unique geology Devon has to offer. This exciting trip allows me to find out more about geoscience having the opportunity to listen to women working as geoscientists and how they got there; take part in hands on geology workshops; and have the opportunity to get a flavour of studying Earth Sciences at university with tours of the campus and facilities, and networking with current female students studying Earth Sciences. My scholarship has allowed me to pay to travel to Plymouth, and allow me to stay overnight in the halls of residence. I will also be attending a workshop with Dr Sarah J Bolton, in which a geographic information system (GIS) will be used to investigate digital elevation models (DEMs) of active faults to visualise the tectonic geomorphology of the areas and make measurements of displacement along the fault zone.

In addition, I have also used a proportion of the scholarship money, to attend a fieldtrip to Blencathra, which I will spend exploring the complex water cycle and geological structures within the UK.

In my spare time I have also been researching various universities such as Exeter, and East Anglia looking at BSc Geography with study abroad, including advanced Earth Surface Dynamics and also the potential to have a year of professional placement. I intend to use this scholarship money to enable me to attend the open days.

## **Scholarship for Excellence in Music**

Sponsored by Mr George Heller

### **HONOR RAMSDALE**

Since applying for the scholarship, I have deeply investigated my aspirations for the future -I have great interest in the Joint Honour's BA Music and Drama degree at either the University of Manchester or Royal Holloway University of London that provide this course. After visiting Guildhall School for Music and Drama, the theatre department and BA Acting course captivated me to consider applying for drama school as well as universities, which I am enticed to audition for in the next year.

I have also progressed in my A Level studies –finishing compositions and analysing Haydn's symphonies in music, and analysing poetry and novels by Oscar Wilde and Toni Morrison in English Literature. I am working towards a grade of A-A\*, and I have recently achieved this in all of my subjects. I have just finished 40% of my drama A Level with a devised group performance and am currently working on the subsequent written evaluation. In enrichment, I am involved in a production of 'Pride & Prejudice' to be publicly performed in Alton Public Gardens in celebration of Jane Austen's 200th birthday in May.

I am currently involved in starting a small 'big band' with fellow students (some who are not enrolled in A Level music) as the number of big band brass players is very low in our year group, and right now there is no fully running band in the music department. I feel that enrichment is incredibly important in music, not only for developing skills as an ensemble,

but also the fun and release of stress it brings in that hour of practice. I have been spending free time producing arrangements for this and hope to get rehearsing after half term to be ready for a concert in the near future.

When applying for the scholarship, I intended on spending the monetary reward on clarinet lessons, as I have not been able to fund them for some time. However, as my drama skills are also progressing in line with my music, and I think it would be more useful to spend my scholarship money on singing lessons. This will benefit me for my musical ear but also give me important skills in drama, which could be very valuable, especially as I have recently auditioned for the National Youth Theatre that presents musicals as well as plays. I intend to look for lessons to start over the summer or in September at Farnham Music & Drama or another available teacher. I have never had any singing lessons, rarely even sang a solo, so I am assured that this will increase my musical, theatrical and overall confidence, as well as fulfilling my desire to be able to sing.

## **Scholarship for Excellence in Music**

Sponsored by Mr George Heller

### **MARTHA SAGE**

It was lovely to meet my sponsors Mr and Mrs Heller at the scholarship evening last term. I thought I would update you on what's been going on since I last spoke to you involving the use of the scholarship funds and the recent trips to open days for the future.

I recently went up to the Royal College of Music to an open day to see what it was like (1<sup>st</sup> March). The college was wonderful and the people there, the faculties and the students were very welcoming which made the visit much more enjoyable. I will be thinking about applying to the RCM later in the year when applications take place, and have begun working on the set audition pieces. As this was such a positive experience, I then signed up to open days at the Royal Northern College of Music (2<sup>nd</sup> May), Birmingham conservatoire (14<sup>th</sup> June) and possibly Trinity Laban (10<sup>th</sup> May).

The RCM recommended that I have a consultation meeting with one of their professors so that they could give me advice on the preparations for the audition. I therefore spent an afternoon with Susan Milan, part of the woodwind faculty teaching flute up at the RCM, during the Easter break. She was very helpful with how to work on the pieces for later in the year and has given me some advice on working on my technique, breaking down parts of the piece so that I take my time and make the fast runs more accurate and steady. She has also made me really think about the future. Although I would still like to apply to a conservatoire, I have also been looking into studying music at a university. Susan told me about the different options available at university, explaining the differences between conservatoire (BMus) and university (BA).

I am currently working on the pieces required for my diploma which I plan to take before I go to university/conservatoire. These pieces include the Faure fantasia for flute, and the Poulenc sonata for flute.

I look forward to updating you further next year once I have completed all the conservatoire visits.

## **Scholarship for Excellence in Mathematics**

Sponsored by the Rotary Club of Alton

### **ROMAN SHKUNOV**

My studies have been going from strength to strength since I received the mathematics scholarship along with the generous funds offered by the Rotary Club of Alton: I am on track to achieve A's in all my subjects at AS level and I am aiming to apply for Mathematics with Computer Science courses at the universities of Oxford and Bristol, among several others. However, the grade requirements for both universities stand at A\*AA, meaning I will have to work extremely hard to be accepted!

One way in which I have furthered my study of mathematics in part to prepare myself for university is through using the scholarship fund to purchase two books – one exploring the foundations of calculus as well as its uses beyond simple integration and differentiation, and another on the history of Fermat's last theorem, a problem that remained unsolved for 358 years. I am currently in the process of reading these books and they are giving me a deeper insight into not only the basis of vastly important areas of mathematics such as calculus and number theory, but also the challenges that mathematicians face every day in their attempts to progress humanity's knowledge of this subject.

In addition to conducting supplementary research into mathematics, I am also undertaking an Extended Project Qualification EPQ on a topic where mathematics is key – machine learning. This is where computers adjust the method by which they calculate the solution to a problem over many thousands of executions as to obtain a better outcome, and differentiation plays a pivotal role in how a computer adjusts the method.

Moreover, I plan to use my scholarship funds to cover transport costs when travelling to open days for universities, to buy academic supplies and also to purchase website hosting for an online educational service that I plan on finalising in the summer.

## **Alastair Graham Scholarship for Excellence in Modern Foreign Languages**

Sponsored by Sir James Scott

### **ANNA VINES**

Not long after the Scholarship presentation I received my results for my HSK 5 Chinese exam - I had passed and my result was in the 90th percentile rank. Understandably I was very happy with this! I had been very nervous while taking the test - the level is high and the other test-takers were significantly older than me. I also attended another Asian Studies taster day at Cambridge and will definitely apply there to study Chinese next year with the hope of being able to combine with Japanese. Additionally, I still make sure to read the Chinese news daily and watch Chinese programmes whenever possible. In my Chinese lessons, we have focused on pronunciation and the flow of sentences when spoken (difficult in Chinese due to tones and lack of spaces) and will next focus on HSK 6 preparation. I have also been reading books about the development of Chinese literature and traditional Chinese jade carving.

My other college studies are progressing well, particularly my French and Spanish. I am enjoying both subjects immensely and am achieving my target grades in the two. I make

sure to read and listen to both languages in my own time – including the novel "Balzac et la petite tailleuse chinoise" by Dai Sijie, which is written by a Chinese author in French and describes the life of two teenagers during the Cultural Revolution.

So far, I have spent £19 of my scholarship money. I have bought parallel readers in French and Spanish and the book on jade carving. The most important thing that the money will cover is the costs of my HSK 6 exam: £70 for the exam fees, £90 for the hotel room and £35 for train tickets, giving a total of £200. Additionally, I will purchase my travel insurance for going to Japan, which will be around £80. One of my friends that I have met at the College is half Japanese and is very kindly letting me stay with her for 18 days. I am extremely excited to go, and look forward to working on my Japanese. Based on these calculations, I have £106 left of scholarship money, and I will spend this on any books I need to buy in the interim to help my language studies (which most likely will include a HSK 6 preparation book costing £30) and travel costs/entry fees into cultural sights once I am in Japan.

I am extremely grateful to have received the scholarship and my language studies have definitely benefitted from it already. Thank you very much for your generosity, and I will do my best to use it in the most beneficial way possible.

## SECOND YEAR SCHOLARS

### **Scholarship for Excellence in Business**

Sponsored by Alton Chamber of Commerce and Industry

#### **GRACE HONNOR**

Since the presentation my studies are continuing well, I am currently still on track to achieve eighteen distinctions from the core units and then intend on completing two additional units allowing me to get twenty distinctions from twenty units.

I have also recently completed work experience at British Airways head office; while I was there I was working closely with the Community Investment team, my role was assisting in helping run and organise the events which were taking part that week for Red Nose Day. During this week I was able to go to the BA World Cargo building, the employee area of Heathrow Terminal 5 and the Crew Reporting Centre.

This was very interesting to see these different areas of the business which are not normally seen by the public, in particular seeing how different areas operate was very interesting and allowed for me to see how a large international business works from the inside and how they come together to deliver what the public does see flights taking off to all corners off the earth.

Working on the Red Nose Day events allowed me to develop my interest in project management as I was able to see how the businesses plans multiple events within such a short period of time.

I currently have a confirmed apprenticeship in Health and Safety Administration, five university placement offers and I am also waiting to hear back from British Airways after I attended two interviews for a Head Office Apprenticeship and a Customer Service Apprenticeship. I am planning to spend my scholarship money on purchasing a new laptop, this is going to help me complete my course work that I will have from any future apprenticeship.

### **Scholarship for Excellence in Sport**

Sponsored by Alton Lions

#### **DANIELLE GREGORY**

I am extremely honoured to have received the Sport Scholarship, and be given the opportunity to have financial assistance to put towards my studies and future higher education plans. My studies are currently progressing very well, and I am working very hard to give myself the best chance of achieving high grades in my summer exams. In terms of spending the scholarship money I have received, I have spent some of it on cricket equipment, as well as revision guides to aid my studying. The rest of the money I have put into savings and this will go towards my university fund and further study material for my Degree.

I am still playing cricket for Surrey, and am practising hard with the Surrey Women's squad, as well as playing for the Rowledge U18 boys' team and Ashford Ladies Team. Alongside this, I am putting my Level 2 qualification to good use, by continuing my coaching on the Surrey Pride of Lions courses, coaching the Surrey U13 County Age Group Girl's squad, and the Rowledge U11 girls. Additionally, I am volunteering at my previous secondary school, Weydon School, where I am coaching the girl's cricket team, alongside my old PE teachers.

I am looking to further my education at University, with the aspiration of attending Loughborough University, to study Sport and Exercise Science. Similarly, I will be continuing with my cricket at University, as well as looking to progress my coaching ability. In the future, I hope to do the Level 3 Cricket Coaching Qualification.

Overall, I am delighted I took the opportunity to apply for the Sports Scholarship at Alton College, and I am truly humbled to have received it. Therefore, I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to those who awarded it to me.

## **Scholarship for Excellence in Art**

Sponsored by the Dischma Trust

### **IMOGEN ANDREWS**

Over the past year in terms of my current work during my BTEC course I feel I've progressed a lot from when I applied for the scholarship last year, I've become more experimental, ambitious and honed my skills and ideas to what I really personally like to create, and hopefully this will all come together for my Final Major Project (FMP) that I am currently working on at the moment to create something amazing for the FMP exhibition held in college. In regards to the £200 that I received through the scholarship, I initially stated that I was going to use the money to build a website for myself, as in paying someone to professionally make it and paying to keep it online (it was going to be a site where people can request commissions and purchase on the website). This began as a good idea and the wheels were starting to set in motion with logo designs etc. but eventually I lost contact with the person making this website, I started to have too much college work to do and the whole thing just halted. Because of this I ended up using the money mainly for art supplies and help contribute to an art trip that I went on in February this year to Iceland and New York.

Building a website is something I still want to pursue in the future but will be something more for after I finish college, during my gap year or during when I start university in 2018 and onwards. In terms of other future plans and achievements, I want to keep creating as many commissions as I can to be eventually recognized as an artist, although this work is not the same as the work I do in college and what I plan to create in university, I want to keep trying and aiming to eventually become known. I've already given a few of my pieces that I've created in college to a bar in Petersfield which will hopefully be brought in the near future, and this is what I want to keep doing especially during my gap year, creating and selling. This and university will be a means for me to understand who I am within the art world and will hopefully push me further to my goals.

## Scholarship for Excellence in Art

Sponsored by the Dischma Trust

### SARA ARMSTRONG

My second year of having the scholarship from Dischma Trust has been the most helpful for me, the reason for this is because I am in my last year at College completing my Level 3 BTEC art course, and am now into the final project which is beginning my FMP (Final Major Project). With this scholarship I am able to purchase larger sized materials such as canvases and hard board to produce some of my final pieces which will allow me to experiment with size and how to apply my paint. My project so far I have began mark making by not using paintbrushes, but simply using my hands and fingers to create my images with acrylic paint on canvas. I did this as I felt I had a more of a personal connection with the paint and my image being made.

Having these resources available means my final work for my exhibition will hopefully be a huge success! In addition to this I have also had the pleasure of heading to London during my Easter holidays to attend exhibitions and art galleries such as the Tate Modern and the self portrait gallery, as for my current project we are required to visit other galleries for inspiration and to explore other artists work similar to our chosen subject matter. My subject matter is called a thinking disease and I am focusing on how overthinking can effect us mentally and emotionally drain us, I am basing it on self portraits of myself and looking at the build up leading towards tears and crying. With one of these finger painting portraits I have entered into The Ruth Borchard competition and look forward to viewing other artists works here!

Once again thank you so much for the support it has been an amazing help over these past two years allowing me some great opportunities.

## Scholarship for Excellence in English

Sponsored by the Dischma Trust

### ANNIE COLOE

English has always been one of my favourite subjects and this year has been no exception. After being introduced to numerous new authors and styles of writing this year, my interest in English literature has only increased. The teachers at the College have been invaluable in terms of motivation and enthusiasm, inspiring me greatly over this past year.

After now receiving the full sum of my scholarship, the opportunities available to me are nearly endless. I am still considering attending a writing retreat and I am currently researching where I would benefit most from as my writing style varies greatly! I have had the opportunity this year to write several articles for the college magazine on subjects related to politics and social issues allowing me to explore new writing styles and points of view, an opportunity I have not previously had. I also used a small sum of my money to attend several author talks at the Guildford book festival allowing me to speak personally to one of my favourite authors, an opportunity I had because of this scholarship.

I was fortunate enough to be awarded an unconditional offer to study at the University of Birmingham and will continue my studies there next September, beginning a new chapter in my life I am looking forward to greatly. Thank you to the Dischma trust for their support and encouragement over these past two years, along with the staff at the College for creating such a positive environment for me to have been in over these two years.

## Scholarship for Excellence in Music

Sponsored by the Dischma Trust

### JOE BEARD

Last year, receiving the music scholarship helped me massively in being able to invest in a new keyboard that was a lot easier for me to take to various different gigs, especially for when I have to travel to London on tubes. Having this keyboard meant I had a very successful year playing with vast amounts of amazingly talented musicians, and as I've improved as a player I also have managed to secure myself a place at Goldsmiths College in London where I will be studying popular music, starting in September of this year. This is an amazing step into developing my music career, and Alton has given me a lot of help and support to getting this place. I am now looking to develop as an artist, and part of the skills I need to have to be successful is to be able to produce my own music well, and I am going to use this year's payment to buy a pair of industry-standard studio monitors, which I'm sure will help me for many years to come.

I know that I will leave college with some amazing memories, and I will always be grateful for the support and encouragement that I have had from Alton College all the way through these two years. I feel I have developed as a musician a lot and this scholarship has given me amazing opportunities to be able to invest in equipment that I wouldn't usually have been able to afford, and for that I am incredibly thankful and feel very privileged.

## Scholarship for Excellence in Performing Arts

Sponsored by the Dischma Trust

### MEGAN COATES

I am currently studying A Level Dance, Psychology and English Literature.

I am fast approaching my A Level exams in May/June and am studying hard. My subject's commitment scores and working at grades are all on track and I am happy with the progress I am making in all subject areas.

I have recently completed 50% of my A Level Dance practical section and will have to wait to see what I achieved in this area come results day, unlike last year.

Since my last report I have completed external dance exams as follows:

- ISTD Advanced 1 Tap – Distinction
- RAD Grade 8 Ballet- Distinction
- RAD Advanced 1 Ballet- Pending

I am currently working towards ISTD Advanced 2 Tap and Modern and my dance schools biannual show. In the show I will be dancing in the genres classical ballet, contemporary ballet, contemporary, tap, modern, musical theatre jazz, street, and a lyrical solo .

Recently I watched a performance of "Wonderland" at the Mayflower, Southampton. This was particularly interesting to me as the musical theatre jazz style of dance is a particular strength of mine. I have also seen Matthew Bourne's "The Red Shoes", Akram Khan's "Until the Lions", and Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre "Revelations" to widen my knowledge of current works and styles within the industry. I still hope to be able to book tickets to see Aladdin the new Disney musical.

I have been auditioning for BA (Hons) Professional Dance and Musical Theatre and BA (Hons) Theatre Dance Degrees. I have successfully obtained a place at Millennium Performing Arts and I am still waiting to hear from London Studio Centre regarding my recall result. I was offered the choice of three recalls in the styles jazz, ballet and contemporary, which is very rare to be offered more than one, I chose to attend the jazz recall. I also have achieved reserve placement for Bird College and will not have any further information on this place until the college have finished auditions in June.

I have used my scholarship funds to help finance my audition fees (approx. £50 per university/performing arts college) and purchase the required uniform. Auditioning has been a very expensive process with fees, travel and uniform and I have very much appreciated the assistance towards this that the scholarship has given me.

## **Craven Brothers Scholarships for Excellence in Engineering**

Sponsored by the Ellis Campbell Charitable Foundation

### **DANIEL CHUNG**

So far my studies are going well and I am enjoying the subjects I am taking, with physics being especially interesting this year. The scholarship money has gone into a drone powered by a raspberry pi. The raspberry pi provides significantly higher performance than the average processors used in drones today, making it more capable and able to perform more complicated tasks. This includes digital live stream video (meaning you can get a first person view in HD) as well as being able to use mobile networks to control as well as transmit video the drone. There is an open source project on creating a HD video link for android linux/android based operating systems. Initially I tried running the HD video link along side the APM flight stack (open source flight control software), but there was massive latency in the video. The raspberry PI was running Raspbian, a fully fledged OS – this is not ideal for low latency applications as it is not optimised to run programs like these, and I think running both programs at once caused interference with one another. Recently however, an image of Raspbian was created which was optimised specifically for HD video, and made both programs run at once flawlessly.

I had quite a hard time choosing what I wanted to study at university, and as a result applied to two different courses – Aeronautical engineering and material science. I think I have finally decided I want to study material science, which will be at either Birmingham or Loughborough. I chose material science because it is the basis of designing things, and in order to create something successfully, you need to understand materials on a fundamental level.

## **Craven Brothers Scholarships for Excellence in Engineering**

Sponsored by the Ellis Campbell Charitable Foundation

### **PAUL CUMNER**

I am currently working hard revising for my, quickly approaching, A level exams. In January I received an offer to study engineering at Pembroke College Cambridge and I have confirmed this as my firm choice; It was a very high offer of A\*A\*A\*A, but I feel that I should be able to achieve it with continued effort. However, if I do fall short I have a strong backup of Bath university.

Outside of my studies I competed in and won a worldwide Computer Aided Design competition to design and 3D model a futuristic racing car. For winning the competition I will receive a 3D printer and a mentoring session with an industry expert.

This year I have found success in the Senior Maths Challenge where I scored the highest in the college, I was also one of the 3 people who won the right to compete in the British Maths Olympiad.

At the end of March I went to Silverstone for the F1 in Schools UK National Finals where I was part of a panel of judges for the engineering interviews. Earlier in the year I also judged at the London and South East Regional Finals. These were both great experiences and I intend to go back next year to judge, also in the near future I would love to go at the World Finals and help out.

The scholarship has been very useful when going to the events because it has been able to cover all of the travel expenses. I have also saved some of the scholarship money for university so that I can use it to cover the costs of the extra materials required for the course.

## **Craven Brothers Scholarships for Excellence in Engineering**

Sponsored by the Ellis Campbell Charitable Foundation

### **CHRIS McLENNAN**

When I think back over the past two years at Alton college, it is clear to me how valuable the scholarship has been not only to my learning and understanding for my subjects, but also for developing my passion in the field of aeronautical engineering. The scholarship funded my 3D printer last year and has continually helped with the running costs for repairs and materials. This printer has enabled me to develop my 3D CAD skills and taught me all about the world of in house product fabrication. I have also passed the skills onto my brother who is taking graphic design which means he can now design and manufacture his prototypes at home to assist with his coursework.

I am currently revising for my A level exams in Maths, Further Maths and Physics. My work is going well and I was fortunate enough to receive offers from all of the 5 universities that I applied to. My application benefited from a personal statement that was full of experiences that the scholarship helped to make possible. It enabled transport to multiple conferences for F1 in schools including judging at the regional final and national final. It also helped me to carry out work experience with a local aeronautical manufacturer; Middlesex Group. This work experience exposed me to the real world of aeronautical design manufacture and scrutineering which motivated me even more to get into this industry.

I plan to go to University to study Aerospace engineering and after completing my degree I would love to work in Formula one, or the aerodynamics section of an aeronautical company.

## **Scholarship for Excellence in Medicine**

Sponsored by Mrs Merula Frankel

### **GABRIELLE KELLY**

For the last 12 months most of my time has been spent filling in UCAS forms, preparing for medical admissions tests, drafting a personal statement, attending interviews and generally keeping everything crossed. I am very happy to say that amongst other things, gaining the scholarship has helped me to get where I have wanted to be since I was 15. I have now attended 4 medical school interviews and have had offers from all 4 institutes. I plan to go to Cardiff in September 2017.

This year I have used the majority of my scholarship to assist with my extended project qualification which I submitted this April. My project aimed to look at the benefits and risks of antipsychotic use in the treatment of Alzheimer's and whether any alternatives are more suitable. The funds helped me acquire multiple resources such as books and journals but also helped fund my travel to university libraries where I had access to the latest articles and publications. I was also able to secure an interview with Beverly Wanton, an expert in dementia care to get a unique perspective on my project.

I attended many University open days this year all over the UK which whilst exciting proved very expensive. However, these open days have proved invaluable and I am now confident in the choices I have made for the forthcoming year.

Finally, after completing my gold Duke of Edinburgh expedition last year, I now plan to use the remaining funds to complete the final part of my award. I have applied for a week long residential placement to work with disabled children providing respite for their families this summer.

I am now in my final few months of revision and ready to tackle the dreaded months ahead. I am so grateful to the scholarship committee and my sponsor, Merry, who have been wonderful supporters of my time at the College and hope future scholars find their experience just as beneficial as I have.

## **Scholarship for Excellence in Science**

Sponsored by Mr Peter Gaffney

### **TOM RODD**

Being awarded the Alton College scholarship in the sciences last year was a huge personal achievement for me. Not only has it enabled me to extend my learning and enjoyment of my college courses but it has been a great tool in my application to study veterinary medicine; a goal I have been working towards for the past six years.

I am currently studying Biology, Chemistry and Maths A-levels. While these courses have been challenging and an awful lot of work I have thoroughly enjoyed them. I am on track to get the grades I need for my university offers and feel confident of achieving my goal of getting a place on the veterinary medicine course.

The money given to me through the scholarship has been very useful this year. I have been able to subscribe to the 'New Scientist' magazine, allowing me to read extra-curricular biology content which is an important part of my biology exams this year. It was also beneficial for my interviews when discussing certain veterinary and biology current affairs. I

have also undertaken over 13 weeks of veterinary work experience over the last two years and this was only possible due to my scholarship money which paid for the travel costs to and from these placements.

My time at Alton College has gone extremely quickly and I have loved every second of it. My scholarship has had a large influence on my learning opportunities and I believe it has been a major factor in achieving my place at university.

## **Scholarship for Excellence in Mathematics**

Sponsored by the Rotary Club of Alton

### **STEVEN ROBERTSON**

This year at Alton College my studies are progressing well, and I am continuing to achieve high grades. As I expected, I am finding college even more enjoyable in my second year thanks in no small part to my subjects; especially mathematics. My interest in the subject has only grown as time has gone on, and it continues to do so as I explore further. Similar to last year, I am again taking an extra module. This is purely out of interest, as it does not give me a qualification by itself. In addition to this, I have recently found success in the UK Senior Maths Challenge, coming in the top 5 in my college and very nearly getting into the British Maths Olympiad.

A very large amount of time this year has been spent on my EPQ (Extended Project Qualification) which I had only just started this time last year. My project evolved a lot over time, and in the end I decided to write a book all about how infinity is used in mathematics. I have had this book professionally printed, and it is something I am extremely proud of. This would not have been possible without my scholarship. Although the printing of the book cost money, a lot more of my grant was spent on high quality and professional sources that are crucial to writing a well-informed and accurate book. I could not have afforded these without the Rotary Club's support.

Furthermore, the grant allows me to continue being a member of the Institute of Mathematics and its Applications (IMA), which enriches my subject knowledge with regular magazines and scheduled talks. The money has also helped me pay for equipment and textbooks, which although not very exciting, are fairly crucial in continuing my education.

In regards to the future, I wish to study mathematics at university, with Durham being my first choice of location. I have no doubt that any remaining money from the grant will come in handy when buying all the textbooks and equipment I shall need for my studies there.

In summary, the grant has been invaluable and I cannot thank you enough for the opportunities it has given me.

## Scholarship for Excellence in Modern Foreign Languages

Sponsored by Sir James Scott

### KLARA ANGELES

I am very pleased with how I have spent my time at Alton College. After successfully completing the Extended Project Qualification, titled 'Society's Last Great Taboo: How Can Domestic Violence Be More Effectively Tackled?' I am looking forward to finishing my A2s in a few months time.

During my time at Alton, I have enjoyed representing the Student Union as the Charities Officer. Together, we raised funds for Cancer Research, The Salvation Army and Muscular Dystrophy UK along with other charitable causes. The opportunity to be involved with this has given me a taste of civic engagement which I hope to continue with in the future.

I am very fortunate to have been given an offer to study Law at the University of Cambridge (Sidney Sussex) in 2018. I firmly believe the Alastair Graham Scholarship provided me with the confidence and academic material to apply to Cambridge, particularly as in the interview I was able to talk about a legal concept which I had read about in a book I had purchased with the scholarship money.

I plan to take a gap year, where I hope to build my linguistic skills through travel. In particular, my Russian Enrichment has been going from strength to strength, as well as continuing my courses in German and Arabic. I will use the rest of my scholarship money on a summer foreign language course, where I can further build my confidence in conversational German. Ultimately, I aim to use my language skills to build a strong career in international law.

I was also accepted to Hobart and William Smith Colleges in upstate New York, where I was awarded the Centennial Center for Leadership Scholarship, totalling \$100,000 over 4 years. Although I have ultimately decided to accept my place at Cambridge, I am very proud of my achievements here and am considering applying to American Universities again in the future to complete a Master's.

I am very grateful for this incredible opportunity to widen my academic achievement. The broad study of languages, driven by this scholarship, has opened up the world to me with regards to my future and professional career– thank you!

## **The Alton College Foundation**

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