

FEATURE ARTICLE SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

2009 HFA SCHOLARSHIP AND GRANT WINNERS!



Dale Michael Brisson Artistic Encouragement Grant

Dale Michael Brisson is the third of five boys, the only one with hemophilia, but this didn't stop him from leading an interesting life. Dale has worked as a live show announcer, radio personality, night club emcee, air show narrator, voiceover artist, television talk show host and published writer. His award-winning short stories, articles and poems have been published worldwide. But, ask Dale what his greatest accomplishment is? "That's easy," he beams. "My children, Michael, Spencer and Michelle."



Ellen Klein Educational Scholarship

Throughout her life, Ellen has followed Ghandi's maxim to "be the change you wish to see in the world." To better fulfill this mission, Ellen co-founded, and is now president of, the non-profit organization, the Semi-Professional Scientists. The Semi-Professional Scientists is a group of kids exciting and informing kids about science through science demonstrations, hands-on science experiences, and science columns in the newspaper the *Snowmass Sun*. Even as Ellen excited and informed others about science, she continued her own education. In high school, she took advanced chemistry, biology, and physics courses. In 2008, Ellen graduated from the University of Minnesota Talented Youth Mathematics Program, completing Honors College Level Calculus III before she graduated from high school.



Eric Shepard Educational Scholarship

I am a twenty-year-old junior at Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio. I am in the process of receiving a degree in Biology while meeting the Pre-Med requirements and pursuing medical school. I love to travel and have done service work in Russia, Ghana, and Burkina Faso. Currently I am preparing for a trip to the Amazon Rainforest to study plants and animals that will take place over my winter break. In my free time I enjoy playing golf, spending time with my friends and family, and helping out with my local hemophilia chapter, the Southwest Ohio Hemophilia Foundation.



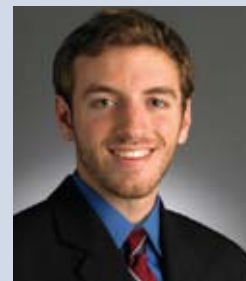
Shawna Garrett Artistic Encouragement Grant

Shawna Garrett is the winner of the Artistic Encouragement Grant. She is a young woman with Von Willebrands disease. She intends to use the grant to assist her in her research regarding chronic pelvic pain conditions and overlapping bleeding disorders. Her ultimate goal is to write a book. She hopes to empower women with this information so that they can be active in their own healthcare and obtain accurate diagnoses as early as possible in their lives.



Juanita Fish Parent Continuing Education

I am thirty-three years old. I have a nine-year-old son who has moderate Hemophilia A named Johnathan. I hope to become a registered nurse very soon. I love reading, writing, and singing.



Nathan Strauss Educational Scholarship

I'm 21 years old, and about to start my senior year at Harvard, where I will graduate with a Bachelor's degree in Applied Mathematics and a minor in Statistics. I was diagnosed with severe Hemophilia A immediately after birth, and I've learned to treat my condition as an opportunity to become more self-sufficient as opposed to letting it hinder me. When I'm not in class or working on problem sets, I'm most often at The Harvard Crimson, the college's daily student paper, where I serve as a News Executive. I also run the semester-long program to train new writers who want to join the news staff. I interned this summer with the Federal Housing Finance Agency in Washington, DC, and am currently planning to go on to law school.



Nicolas Hilgeman Educational Scholarship

Nicholas Hilgeman is currently a senior at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio, where he is majoring in political science and international studies. He is especially interested in Middle Eastern politics and history and has studied abroad in Morocco. After graduation, he plans to pursue further training in the Arabic language and to obtain a graduate degree in Middle East studies. When not in school, Nicholas enjoys watching movies and playing drums for a local band. He lives in Whitehouse, Ohio.



Nicolas Popp Educational Scholarship

Nicholas Popp graduated from Freeburg Community High School, in Freeburg, Illinois, as the class Valedictorian. While in high school, he participated in a number of extracurricular activities including Literary Club and Science Club. He also competed in academic tournaments for the Math Team, Worldwide Youth in Science and Engineering (WYSE), and the Scholar Bowl team, where he was the Varsity Captain. This fall, he will be attending the University of Chicago with a proposed major of Biochemistry, hoping to focus his work on the study and future treatment of genetic disorders. In addition to his many school activities, Nicholas has been a volunteer at Camp Barnabas, in Missouri, during the summer, and has aided the St. Louis hemophilia community with its outreach into public schools. He also works part-time at a local pizzeria, and while not working or studying, he enjoys spending his free time with friends and family or browsing the local music and bookstores for up-and-coming authors and musicians.



Perseus Patel Educational Scholarship

I am currently an 18-year-old student with severe Hemophilia A attending the University of California-Los Angeles (UCLA). I have recently completed my first year of college and look forward to the second year of my pre-medical studies. My passion for helping others, as well as my drive to pursue a career in medicine, was cultivated not only by Camp Hemotion (the Northern California camp for children with bleeding disorders) but also by my doctors and nurses. It is my dream to alter a child's life and perspective the way my doctors have changed mine.