

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND ALLIED PROFESSIONS

2021 HONORS AND AWARDS CEREMONY

VIRTUALLY PRESENTED

CEREMONY PROGRAM

- Opening Remarks- Dr. Kim Winter, Dean
➤ Peak Performers
➤ Awards and Scholarships by Departments
➤ Closing Remarks by Dr. Patricia Bricker, Associate Dean

PEAK PERFORMERS

Graduates of the College of Education and Allied Professions may be selected for induction into the Honor Roll of Peak Performers because of their professional achievements and because the professors associated with their disciplines believe that they are an inspirational role model to our students who are currently pursuing a degree in the College.

School of Teaching and Learning Karen McPherson
Psychology.....Dr. Sheneen Garland Daniels
Psychology.....Dr. Salli Lewis
Human Services Trishia Chapman

SCHOOL OF TEACHING AND LEARNING

PEAK PERFORMER

KAREN MCPHERSON

Education

- B.A., Secondary Math Education, UNC Chapel Hill, 1998
• M.A.Ed., Secondary Math Education, Western Carolina University, 2003
• Master of School Administration add on certification, Western Carolina University, 2010

Professional Accomplishments

- North Carolina Council of Teachers of Mathematics member, and regional past president
• North Carolina Core Advocates Leadership Team, member
• Featured speaker, North Carolina Council of Teachers of Mathematics State Conference
• Speaker, National Council of Teachers of Mathematics Annual Conference
• Speaker, National Council of Supervisors of Mathematics Annual Conference

Karen McPherson is a high school math coach for Buncombe County Schools. She provides professional development embedded in the classroom that focuses on improving teaching and learning. Her work includes researching and developing curriculum resources, identifying appropriate instructional strategies and interventions to improve student achievement for all students, and collaborating with teachers regarding a range of effective and innovative math practices. Mrs. McPherson was a classroom teacher for 13 years prior to becoming an instructional coach. She also works nationally with UnboundEd serving as a facilitator for Standards Institutes focused on instructional equity. She is a National Board-Certified teacher with a bachelor’s degree in Secondary Math Education from UNC-Chapel Hill and MA Ed and Administrative Degrees from Western Carolina University.

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

PEAK PERFORMER

DR. SHENEEN GARLAND DANIELS & DR. SALLI LEWIS

Degrees

Dr. Sheneen Garland Daniels

- B.S., Psychology, University of Alabama, 1994
- M.A. Clinical Psychology, Western Carolina University, 1997
- Ph.D., University of Alabama, 2002

Dr. Salli Lewis

- B.A. Psychology, Loyola University, 1991
- M.A. Clinical Psychology, Western Carolina University, 1997
- Ph.D, West Virginia University, 2002

Drs. Sheneen Daniels and Salli Lewis graduated from WCU's Clinical Psychology Program in 1997. In 2005, they founded the Center for Research, Assessment, and Treatment Efficacy, known as CReATE, located in Asheville, NC. CReATE is a psychological practice, committed to the provision of data-driven assessment and empirically-supported mental health treatment. It is unique practice, having both a Clinical Division and a Research Division.

Dr. Sheneen Daniels is the Director of the Clinical Division for CReATE, managing all clinical and programmatic responsibilities for a team of doctoral-level psychologists, other clinicians, and graduate students. She is a licensed psychologist with over 20 years' experience in the assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of mental health and neurodevelopmental disorders and conditions, having conducted and supervised thousands of comprehensive psychological and neuropsychological evaluations. Dr. Daniels currently holds a position as Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychiatry at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and provides specialized services through the UNC TEACCH Autism Program.

Dr. Salli Lewis directs CReATE's Research Division. The Research Division supports the Clinical Division with a comprehensive system dedicated to scientific literature review, education, and training. Dr. Lewis is responsible for the design and implementation of a number of applied clinical research trials. She is a licensed clinical psychologist, with expertise in the development, transport, and dissemination of evidence-based treatments. She has published extensively in peer-reviewed journals, serves on the editorial board for a number of clinical and research-oriented publications, and has a research appointment at the University of Arkansas. Dr. Lewis provides training, consultation, and professional presentations within scientific, treatment, and educational communities.

Both Divisions of CReATE provide experience, training, and supervision for students currently enrolled in WCU's graduate programs in Psychology. We are honored to receive this award and to be able to continue our close relationships with the faculty and staff at WCU.

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

PEAK PERFORMER

TRISHIA CHAPMAN

Degrees

- B.S. Birth-Kindergarten, Western Carolina University, 2005
- M.A. Birth-Kindergarten, Western Carolina University, 2008

Mrs. Trishia Chapman provided Early Intervention Services to the 0-3 population in WNC prior to teaching preschool in the region for over a decade. In addition to being the Bright Adventures Pre-K Teacher of the year for several years, Mrs. Trishia Chapman was recognized as the Swain County Teacher of the Year for the 2012-2013 school year, competing regionally. For the past three years she has been directing the Swain County Preschool Program. She has provided leadership to new and seasoned teachers in the field, as well as, pre-service teachers. Under Trishia's leadership at Swain County Preschool Program, a Multi-Tiered System of Support has been initiated to provide targeted interventions and enrichment to students who need them. Trishia oversees the School Improvement Plan via NC Star and guides the educational leaders of Bright Adventures in fine tuning the Preschool Program. She began a science program which incorporated ready-to-use STEM activities into the pacing guide of the program. Trishia leads a Parent and Family Engagement Panel each year to incorporate parents' viewpoints in the decision-making process for the Preschool Program. Within the field, Trishia has been a presenter at the Collaborative Regional Education Workshop (CREW) for 2 years presenting on programming devices for Preschoolers and Early Mathematics experiences. She will be a panelist at an upcoming Early Literacy Summit Event for the Western Region. Trishia has served on the Teacher Advisory Council for Swain County Schools for three rotations over her 13 years there and served on the Birth-Kindergarten Advisory Board since 2018. Trishia has brought her experience working with young children and teachers to the classroom at WCU as an adjunct professor in the Birth-Kindergarten Program. Trishia has developed courses for the program in early intervention, authentic assessment, and early childhood history and cultures. Trishia and the Swain Preschool Program have been a wonderful partner of the WCU Birth-Kindergarten Program.

PHIPPS, THOLKES, SINGLETON SCHOLARSHIP

Endowed through the efforts of Parks and Recreation Management faculty Maurice Phipps, Ben Tholkes, and Debby Singleton, this scholarship provides support for students who are majoring in parks and recreation management.

Recipient: Jordan Blow

Parks & Recreation Management

MARY DECK BREAK BY THE LAKE SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship honors Dr. Mary Deck's instrumental role in rejuvenating a regional conference for student services personnel dedicated to providing education, renewal, and opportunities for collegiality in North Carolina. This scholarship is made possible through Break by the Lake conference registration fees and private donations and is awarded to a graduate student in the counseling program who has demonstrated commitment to professional development, service, and an involvement in community and civic activities.

Recipient: Tiffany Owens

MAEd, School Counseling

CAROLE HEARN CURTIS SCHOLARSHIP

The Carole Hearn Curtis Scholarship was established in memory of the late Ms. Carole Hearn Curtis. Carole's son, Dr. Russ Curtis, is an associate professor in the clinical counseling program at WCU, where he has served since 2000. The Carole Hearn Curtis Scholarship provides financial support to graduate students enrolled in the WCU counseling program.

Recipient: Tyler Oreskovic

MS, Clinical Mental Health Counseling

DON CHALKER AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP

The Don Chalker Award for Excellence in Educational Leadership is given to an outstanding student in the Master's of School Administration Program who excels in scholarship and demonstrates promise in the field of school administration.

Recipient: Rebekah Dodd

Master of School Administration

DANIEL L. SADDLER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

The family of Daniel L. Saddler offers this scholarship in honor of his life and the extraordinary contributions he made to students in WCU's Counseling Program from 1972 until his death in 1989. Dan taught his students to trust themselves, accept others, listen and keep an open mind. This scholarship represents a celebration of his life and the positive influence he brought to his students, colleagues, and the counseling profession.

Recipient: Britta Jones

MS, Clinical Mental Health Counseling

GUY & JO EDITH BURCHFIEL SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship was established in memory of Dr. Guy Burchfiel ('49, '53), a life-long educator and supporter of WCU, by his wife Mrs. Jo Edith Burchfiel ('51, '53). Dr. Burchfield was a life-long educator and supporter of Western Carolina University.

Recipient: Cassandra Martin

EDd, Educational Leadership

HOYT AND LORA PONDER SCHOLARSHIP

Endowed through the generosity of Hoyt and Lora Ponder, this scholarship encourages well-qualified students to enter the field of early childhood education. Hoyt, who worked with and for people of all ages with developmental disabilities, served as director of the Developmental Evaluation Center at WCU for 25 years prior to his retirement. Lora worked for more than 30 years with and for young children, including those with disabilities in preschools and public-school kindergartens. She worked in Jackson County schools for 24 years before her retirement.

Recipient: Donna Kostiuk

Birth - Kindergarten Education

DIXIE L. & MILES S. MCGINTY SCHOLARSHIP

Richard and Ouida Dowis endowed this scholarship in memory of Dixie L. & Miles S. McGinty to provide support in alternating years for doctoral students in educational leadership and undergraduate foreign language students who are participating in study abroad. Dixie L. McGinty, PhD., was an Associate Professor of Research in Educational Leadership and Foundations. Miles S. McGinty, Ed.D., was an instructor in German in the Modern Foreign Languages Department. In their over ten years at WCU, they had a positive and lasting influence on students, colleagues, and the community.

Recipient: Cece Adams

Spanish

DR. KIRK SMITH SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship was established in memory of Dr. Kirk Smith for his contribution and love of teaching and WCU. Dr. Kirk Smith was a graduate of the Georgia Institute of Technology graduating with an Industrial Engineering degree in 1974. He worked in many different roles before ending his career at WCU as a faculty member of human resources development. Kirk was excited about his work, diligently seeking to do his absolute best in enriching the lives of others be it through training or teaching. He will be remembered for his kindness, and gentle, positive outlook on life.

Recipient: Amanda Allen

MS, Human Resources

Erin Waddell

MS, Experiential and Outdoor Education

OUTSTANDING GRADUATE STUDENT IN HIGHER EDUCATION STUDENT AFFAIRS AWARD

This award is presented to a HESA student who is graduating during the academic year and who has demonstrated outstanding contributions to the program, service to WCU, and the field of higher education student affairs in general. This award recognizes the nominee's sustained excellent academic record and academic success as exemplified by extraordinary publications, research, creative work, merit awards, or competitive selection for presentations at state, regional, and national conferences.

Recipient: Jessica Davis

MAEd, Higher Education Student Affairs

PROMISING PRACTITIONER AWARD IN HIGHER EDUCATION STUDENT AFFAIRS

The CEAP Award for Promising Practitioner in Higher Education Student Affairs will be given to a HESA student who is graduating during the academic year and who has demonstrated extraordinary effort as an emerging practitioner in the field. This award will recognize the nominee's passionate commitment to student success and wellness exemplified through their desire to impact lives and foster holistic student development. The recipient will be selected in consultation and agreement of the HESA faculty from the aforementioned criteria.

Recipient: Johanna Mercado

MAEd, Higher Education Student Affairs

R. M. AINSLEY SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship was established to continually recognize the contributions of Dr. R.M. Ainsley to Western Carolina University and to provide assistance to a graduate student enrolled in Educational Administration.

Recipient: Jaime Hooper

EDd, Educational Leadership

SCHOOL OF TEACHING AND LEARNING

DWIGHT E. & JESSIE D. RYLAND SCHOLARSHIP

Established by Dwight E. and Jessie D. Ryland, this scholarship supports deserving students pursuing degrees in either math or science education. Mrs. Jessie Duncan Ryland ('59, '61), spent most of her working career as a high school counselor. Her husband, Dwight, earned his bachelor's degree in secondary education and taught social studies.

Recipient: Morgan Brown

Secondary Science Education

FANNY GREEN YOST SCHOLARSHIP

Established by Judith Harrell in honor of her mother, this scholarship provides support for students who graduated from a Jackson County, NC high school and majoring in elementary education.

Recipient: Rachel Colton

Elementary Education

GENEVIEVE & E.J. WHITMIRE SCHOLARSHIP

The family of Genevieve and E.J. Whitmire established this scholarship to carry forward the philosophy and contributions of Genevieve and E. J. Whitmire and to foster and advance other life-long learners who plan to touch the lives of young people through teaching. The scholarship supports deserving students attending WCU who are either math education or science education majors.

Recipient: Leya Brown

Secondary Math Education

JOHN & ANNA MCFADDEN SCHOLARSHIP

Drs. John McFadden, WCU professor Emeritus of Education, and Anna McFadden, former WCU director of academic engagement and IT governance, established this scholarship to provide support for a rising junior or senior who is pursuing a major in secondary education with the intention to teach science at the high-school level. The McFaddens worked in prekindergarten through higher education. Their strong dedication and commitment in preparing quality educators is evident throughout their service and establishment of this scholarship.

Recipient: Anna Gurley

Secondary Science Education

LENA MAYBERRY ENGSTROM SCHOLARSHIP

Established through the generosity of Dr. Joan Davis Humphries (M.A.'70, Ed.D. '81) and Mr. Carroll D. Humphries (M.Ed.'69), this scholarship honors Dr. Lena Mayberry Engstrom, a devoted North Carolina public school teacher who graduated from Western Carolina Teachers College (B.A '52, M.A. '55). Dr. Engstrom taught 45 years in various North Carolina public schools, colleges and universities before retiring in 1997 as a professor of English at Chattanooga State Community Technical College.

Recipient: Sarah Parton

Secondary English Education

LEE C. PHOENIX MEMORIAL HONORS COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

Endowed through the generosity of Margaret Agee, her husband, David, and their children, this scholarship honors Margaret's father, who was a lifelong educator. Lee Phoenix graduated from Western in 1940 with his bachelor of science degree. During his time as a student, he began the Future Teachers of America Chapter, rang the Joyner bell, and worked in the Student Union to help pay for his education. He served as principal and superintendent in various North Carolina communities until his retirement. Throughout his professional career and into retirement, he remained a proud Catamount.

Recipient: Sarah Sealey

Inclusive Education

BETH TYSON LOFQUIST SCHOLARSHIP

Dr. Elizabeth "Beth" Tyson Lofquist created this fund to reflect gratitude for scholarship support she received as a student and to support her passion for middle grades education. Dr. Lofquist graduated with her undergraduate ('78), Masters ('79), and Education Specialist ('88) degrees in education from WCU, and served as a tenured faculty member, Department Chair, Associate Provost, and Interim Provost before retiring from WCU in 2012.

Recipient: Amy Wilt

Middle Grades Science Education

OUTSTANDING STUDENT TEACHER IN ENGLISH EDUCATION AWARD

The award for the Outstanding Student Teacher in English Education honors the person who has demonstrated exemplary teaching ability in English. This person brings creativity and innovation to the classroom, as well as evidence of superior teaching and excellence in the broad field of English education.

Recipient: Jordan Mills

English Education

OUTSTANDING GRADUATE STUDENT IN ELEMENTARY OR MIDDLE GRADES EDUCATION

This award is given to recognize a graduate student in Elementary or Middle Grades who demonstrates the dispositions of a master teacher and exemplifies the characteristics of a teacher-researcher.

Recipient: Krystal Keener

MA, Elementary Education

OUTSTANDING SCHOLAR IN MATHEMATICS EDUCATION AWARD

The College of Arts and Science Dean's Outstanding Scholar award program recognizes the top student in each program represented in their College. The two criteria are; advanced standing in the program and clear demonstration of scholarly achievement.

Recipient: Michelle Hewson

Mathematics Education

WILLIAM A. & PATRICIA L. LEDFORD SCHOLARSHIP

Endowed by William A. Ledford Jr. and Christine B. Ledford, this scholarship is awarded to an outstanding student majoring in education. This scholarship honors William A. and Patricia L. Ledford, parents of William A. Ledford Jr., who both were teachers and school principals in the North Carolina public school system for 40 years.

Recipient: Holland Anderson

Middle Grades Language Arts Education

OUTSTANDING SENIOR IN MIDDLE GRADES EDUCATION AWARD

The faculty in the Department of Elementary and Middle Grades Education selects one recipient for the Outstanding Senior Award each year. The award is based on scholarship, collegiality, and commitment to the profession and quality of work in public schools at the middle grades level.

Recipient: William Frye

Middle Grades Social Studies Education

Bailey Tavel

Middle Grades Social Studies Education

LEONE HYDE RAY ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP

The family of Leone Hyde Ray established this endowed fund to provide scholarship support for education students attending Western Carolina University. This scholarship is awarded each year to a graduating high school senior from Graham County, NC. Ray was the first female in her family to attend college and paid her own way through Western Carolina Teachers College (now Western Carolina University) and graduated in 1941. She taught elementary school for 40 years, first in North Carolina and then Tennessee.

Recipient: Julia Gerrer

Secondary English Education

JESSIE LINDSAY SCHOLARSHIP

This fund was established by Jessie Lindsay Hales in memory of her husband, John Donivan Hales. Awards are made to students who have a declared major in education. Preference is given to residents of Swain County.

Recipient: Reah Dingle

Elementary Education

CAROLYN MAY WEST SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship has been established by Norman West in honor of his wife Carolyn West. Carolyn's dedication as a public teacher has touched the lives of so many and with this scholarship her legacy will continue.

Recipient: Amy Wilt

Middle Grades Science Education

LINDA REEP LANKFORD SCHOLARSHIP

Established by Jesse Lankford, Jr., this scholarship was endowed to honor the memory of his wife Linda Reep Lankford, a teacher and alumna of Western Carolina University. This fund provides support for students who are majoring in elementary or middle grades education who show potential as a professional teacher.

Recipient: Allyson Smith

Middle Grades Language Arts Education

TEACH FOR TOMORROW SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship was established by David and Brenda Warlick, who are both WCU graduates. This scholarship is awarded to a student pursuing a degree in middle grades education and celebrates the lifelong commitment of the Warlick family to the advancement of learning. David Warlick was recognized as a 2011 Peak Performer of the College of Education and Allied Professions.

Recipient: Emma Kaye Thomas

Middle Grades Social Studies Education

BARBARA H. CAPPS OUTSTANDING JUNIOR IN MIDDLE GRADES EDUCATION AWARD

The Barbara H. Capps Outstanding Junior in Middle Grades Education Award is presented annually to the student recognized by the Elementary and Middle Grades faculty as the most outstanding junior in middle grades education. The award is based on the teacher candidate's potential to have an influence in middle grades education and is selected based on academic performance, collegiality, and commitment to the profession.

Recipient: Elizabeth Carver

Middle Grades Social Studies Education

MALVERY BOTNER OUTSTANDING JUNIOR IN ELEMENTARY EDUCATION AWARD

The Malvery Botner Outstanding Junior in Elementary Education is presented annually to the student recognized by the Elementary and Middle Grades faculty as the most outstanding junior in elementary and reading education. The award is based on the teacher candidate's potential to have an influence in elementary education and is selected based on academic performance, collegiality, and commitment to the profession.

Recipient: Gabriela Rodriguez

Elementary Education

JANE LAUGHRIDGE TEASLEY SCHOLARSHIP

Endowed through the generosity of alumni Ken and Jane Teasley, this scholarship provides support to students who are majoring in elementary education. Jane earned both her undergraduate and graduate degrees in education at Western Carolina University and worked for the Haywood County School System in both teaching and administrative roles throughout her career. Ken established this scholarship to honor her dedication and excellence in the teaching profession.

Recipient: Denise Richmond

Elementary Education

OUTSTANDING SENIOR IN ELEMENTARY EDUCATION AWARD

The faculty in the Department of Elementary and Middle Grades Education selects one recipient for the Outstanding Senior Award each year. The award is based on scholarship, collegiality, and commitment to the profession and quality of work in public schools at the elementary level.

Recipient: Hannah Gonzalez

Elementary Education

RACHEL R. WILLIAMS SWEET SCHOLARSHIP

Established in 1986 by Rev. Worth Sweet to honor his wife's love of the mountains and respect for WCU, this scholarship provides support for students who are majoring in elementary education. Rachel Williams Sweet graduated from WCU in 1935 and served as student body president. Following graduation, she taught elementary school for 31 years in western North Carolina.

Recipient: Anna Ensley

Elementary Education

REGION 1A NORTH CAROLINA RETIRED SCHOOL PERSONNEL SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship is designed for outstanding seniors in any field of education and is awarded annually to a rising senior in the College of Education and Allied Professions who is a resident of one of the thirteen western North Carolina counties.

Recipient: Shannon Smith

Inclusive Education

PAMELA M. SEKULOW SCHOLARSHIP

The Pamela M. Sekulow Scholarship is presented annually to an academically deserving junior or senior pursuing a degree in elementary education in the College of Education and Allied Professions. The purpose of this scholarship is to provide support for a student who shows potential and promise in the field of elementary education.

Recipient: Riley Wolf

Elementary Education

MYRTLE OLIVIA WHITMIRE SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship was endowed in honor and memory of Myrtle Whitmire by her friends, teaching colleagues, former students, and family members. Ms. Whitmire served as an elementary school teacher in Macon and Transylvania Counties and was one of the mountain region's most beloved school is schoolteachers.

Recipient: Kaitlynn Schroeder

Elementary Education

Natalie McCabe

Elementary Education

STEPHANIE ANN STOW SCHOLARSHIP

Endowed by family and friends in memory of Stephanie Stow, this scholarship provides support to students who are completing their student teaching. Stephanie had returned to school to pursue her teaching certification following her undergraduate coursework in marketing. She was completing her student teaching at Asheville High School at the time of her death.

Recipient: Olivia Lavezzo

Elementary Education

Karley Miller

Elementary Education

BETTY JO AND MARK A. KNOTT SCHOLARSHIP

Endowed through the generosity of Mark and Betty Jo Knott, this scholarship provides support for students who are majoring in inclusive education. Mark is a two-time graduate of Western Carolina University. Betty Jo authored "Wake Up Rhonda" and encourages recipients of the scholarship to read the book to gain some insight into who their family is and why their future work with special needs children is so important.

Recipient: Hayley Navarro

Inclusive Education

KATHERINE BROWN WELLS ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP

Endowed by Katherine Brown Wells, this scholarship honors the impact WCU has made on her life. Katherine was born in Cullowhee and started college at WCU (then called the Western Carolina Teacher's College) at the age of sixteen, graduating in 1941. She and her husband Harold had four children, three of whom also attended WCU. She established this scholarship at the age of 97 to honor her original hometown of Cullowhee and to help future educators be successful and impact the lives of generations to come.

Recipient: Paige Lindley

Inclusive Education

WOMEN IN PHYSICAL EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP

Established in honor of the commitment and dedication of Alice Benton, Helen Hartshorn, June Benson, Sue Persons, Chris Friesner, Betty Westmoreland Suhre and Betty Peele, these women represent more than 238 years of service to WCU. Through their work on campus and throughout North Carolina, they have touched the lives of thousands of students and physical education professionals. This scholarship provides on-going support to students in the Health and Physical Education program who will follow in the footsteps of these leaders.

Recipient: Georjah Allen

Health and Physical Education

CLAXTON FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship has been generously endowed in memory of Henry Brannan and Dorothy Claxton who believed strongly in the importance of public education and the positive impact of physically active lifestyles. Drs. David and Mae Claxton established this scholarship to provide support to students majoring in health and physical education. David Claxton served as Department Chair for Health and Human Performance and Mae is a member of the English Department faculty.

Recipient: Rance Creech

Health and Physical Education

ALICE BENTON AWARD OUTSTANDING PHYSICAL EDUCATION MAJOR

The Alice Benton Award for Outstanding Physical Education Major is awarded annually to a student who has demonstrated outstanding academic performance and involvement in activities related to the major both on and off campus.

Recipient: Megan Dalton

Health and Physical Education

OTTO H. SPILKER SCHOLARSHIP

Established by friends and colleagues of Otto Spilker, this scholarship is awarded each year to a student in the Health and Physical Education Program in the School of Teaching and Learning. Dr. Spilker was a member of the WCU faculty for over 40 years and retired as Professor Emeritus of Health and Human Performance.

Recipient: Gillian Gregory

Health and Physical Education

RANDALL AND SYBIL DUCKETT SCHOLARSHIP

Siblings Tom Duckett and Laura Duckett established this scholarship in honor of their parents, Randall ('37, '53) and Sybil ('53) who made lifelong careers out of teaching others. Sybil taught math and science for many years in WNC, was a demonstration teacher at WCU's lab school, and later taught math extension courses for WCU. Randall held both teaching and administrative roles in Buncombe County, NC. as well as serving in the U.S. Army Air Corps. Randall and Sybil instilled the value of education in their children and their legacy of education now live on with their grandchildren.

Recipient: Rachel Blankenship

Elementary Education

Emily Melrose

MA, Special Education

DR. JOHN FRANKLYN JACOBS GRADUATE STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP

Dr. Jacqueline Jacobs, retired WCU professor, has endowed this scholarship in memory of her husband and in honor of his work in the field of special education. He was passionate about children and believed that every child can learn. John and Jacqueline traveled the world educating students in K-12 and higher education. This scholarship honors John's legacy through its support of students in the field of education.

Recipient: Angela Hair

MA, Special Education

REAGAN LEE HARTLEY SCHOLARSHIP

In 2014 the friends and family of Regan Lee Hartley endowed this scholarship in her memory. Reagan passed away after a tragic automobile accident on the final day of her student teaching. Recipients of this merit-based scholarship must be an Elementary Education major, in their student teaching semester.

Recipient: Gabriela Rodriguez

Elementary Education

SHARON DOLE, PHD SCHOLARSHIP

Endowed through the generosity of Dr. Sharon Dole, this scholarship provides support for graduate students in the Special Education Program with a gifted, creative, and innovative education track. Dr. Dole is a retired faculty member of the College of Education and Allied Professions.

Recipient: Abigail Fox

MA, Special Education

ROSEMARY CAMERON SCHOLARSHIP

Endowed through the generosity of John and Joanne Reid who are both alumni of Western Carolina University, this scholarship provides support to students who have a career interest in teaching special education. The scholarship is in memory and honor of Joanne's sister Rosemary who was a dedicated special education teacher.

Recipient: Zoe Zimmerman

Inclusive Education

STEVEN C. JONES SCHOLARSHIP

Established through the generosity of Eva and Jacob Jones, this scholarship reflects the memory of Steven C. Jones, a well-known Jackson County educator and associate superintendent. Steven, a two-time graduate of WCU, had a lifelong interest in helping children with disabilities. The Steven C. Jones Scholarship is awarded to an academically worthy sophomore from western North Carolina who demonstrates financial need and has provided a distinguished level of service to the inclusive education community.

Recipient: Hailey McGee

Inclusive Education

FRANCES FARLINGER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship was established by Thomas Gibson and other members of Malvern Hills Presbyterian Church in memory of Frances Farlinger. Frances earned her master's degree in special education at WCU in 1958. She taught students with special needs at the Aycock School in Asheville and was active in her church.

Recipient: Madison Sisk

Inclusive Education

KEVIN J. BRADSHAW SCHOLARSHIP

Endowed through the generosity of Brad ('76) and Eileen Bradshaw, this scholarship provides support to students majoring in inclusive education. Brad is a WCU alumnus and has served as Chair of the Western Carolina University Foundation.

Recipient: Grace Vercauteren

Inclusive Education

Allison Snyder

Inclusive Education

LITTLE E.J. SCHOLARSHIP

The Little E.J. Scholarship was created by Blanton J. and E.J. Whitmire, longtime friends and benefactors of Western Carolina University, in honor of their son “Little E.J.”. This scholarship provides support to students who have proven themselves to be deserving and who have career potential in the field of special education.

*Recipient: Nicole Borges
Shannon Smith
Hailey McGee
Allison Snyder*

*Inclusive Education
Inclusive Education
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Inclusive Education*

JOSEPH R. RAMSEY SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship was established through the generosity of David Ramsey in honor of his father Joseph R. Ramsey (Joe). Joe, a native of Madison County was the first in his family to attend college, attending WCU after completing service in the U.S. Army. He served in various roles in the Asheville area including principal and Director of Special Education for the Asheville City School System. Joe passed in 1974 but left a legacy in the Asheville area of helping those in need. David has endowed this scholarship in hopes that it will allow a deserving student from Madison County to obtain an education degree from WCU.

Recipient: Allison Snyder

Inclusive Education

KATHARINE R. REICH & EMMA H. RUSS SCHOLARSHIP

Endowed by Henry and Rebecca Russ, the Katharine R. Reich and Emma H. Russ Scholarship provides support for students majoring in education and is open to both in-state and out-of-state students.

Recipient: Jessica Harasti

Elementary Education

PSYCHOLOGY

HEDY AND VANESSA WHITE SCHOLARSHIP

The Hedy and Vanessa White Scholarship Fund has been established by Ms. Carol Taylor in honor and in memory of Dr. Hedy White, and her daughter Vanessa. Dr. White was an outstanding professor in the Department of Psychology at Western Carolina University for more than two decades. This scholarship provides support for undergraduate or graduate students studying psychology.

Recipient: Lindsay Conway

Psychology

JOHN H. WAKELEY SCHOLARSHIP

In honor of her husband John “Jack” Wakeley, Mrs. Sue Wakeley established this scholarship to support psychology students. Wakeley served as WCU’s Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs from 1987 to 1996; he then returned to teaching as a professor of psychology until his retirement in 1999. He shall be remembered as a gentleman, a brilliant scholar, and a significant part of WCU’s history.

Recipient: Sarah Heath

Psychology

CECIL W. MANN AWARD

This award is presented to an outstanding senior psychology major. Recipients of this award have demonstrated: excellence in classroom scholarship, scholarly activities outside the classroom such as involvement in research, conference participation, or other creative endeavors and other psychology-related activities such as internship or volunteer work.

Recipient: Hannah Durand

Psychology

LINDA ELAINE GLENN SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship is in memory of Linda Elaine Glenn who was a psychology major at WCU at the time of her death. Established by her family, this scholarship serves as a living memorial of how lifelong learning and educational opportunities enrich our lives.

Recipient: Katelyn Hallman

Psychology

MILNER/PSI CHI RESEARCH AWARD

This award is presented to a psychology major who has shown excellence in the area of research. The following criteria is used in selecting a recipient: active involvement in research projects with one or more faculty members over at least a year’s period, and recognition of the student’s research activities through publication or presentation of research findings at professional meetings.

Recipient: Camron Williams

Psychology

TAYLOR HUSKINS SERVICE AWARD

This award is given for unusual service to the Department of Psychology by a student who has a major, minor, concentration, or disciplinary focus area in psychology. The criteria for the award include: (a) involvement: active service in professional affairs such as the Psychology Club, Psi Chi, other honor societies at the university, tutoring, community work, advisement, etc. (b) volunteerism: volunteer work in the organization of the department, including maintenance of labs, classrooms, bulletin boards, the Cecil Mann library, production of newsletters, and contact with prospective students at the department, school, or university levels.

Recipient: Hayley Herndon

Psychology

CHRISTINE BILES LEDFORD SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship was established in memory of Christine Biles Ledford by her husband Al Ledford. Christine attended the University of Kentucky, graduating with both a Bachelor of Sciences and a Master’s Degree in Social Work. During her career, she was a champion of the public health system and worked tirelessly to ensure women and their children received timely and effective access to physical and mental health services. This scholarship provides support for students in the Doctor of Psychology in Health Services Psychology Program (PsyD.).

Recipient: Ashley Addonisio

Doctor of Psychology

Haley Goller

Doctor of Psychology

Dani Moody

Doctor of Psychology

GENERAL SCHOLARSHIPS / AWARDS

MICHAEL DOUGHERTY FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP

Endowed by friends and colleagues in honor of retired Dean of Education, Michael A. Dougherty, for 30 years of service, this scholarship provides support for students in the College of Education and Allied Professions.

Recipient: Sarah Baird

Psychology

JACKSON COUNTY TEACHER EDUCATION ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP

Ron Mau endowed this annual scholarship to honor his wife Rochelle, who is a retired Jackson County, NC teacher. This annual scholarship provides scholarship supports students pursuing a degree in education in hopes to ensure finances are not a road block in helping students pursue a career in education.

Recipient: Rachel Colton

Elementary Education

MYRTLE OLIVIA WHITMIRE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP IN EDUCATION

Endowed through the generosity of Blanton and Margaret Whitmire, this scholarship provides support for students wishing to teach in early childhood education. Myrtle Whitmire was a beloved public-school teacher in both Macon and Transylvania counties. This scholarship is in honor of her devotion to the teaching profession during her long and illustrious career.

Recipient: Donna Kostiuk

Birth-Kindergarten Education

MYRTLE OLIVIA WHITMIRE MEMORIAL SENIOR INTERN SCHOLARSHIP IN EDUCATION

Endowed through the generosity of Blanton and Margaret Whitmire, this scholarship provides support for students wishing to teach in early childhood education. Myrtle Whitmire was a beloved public-school teacher in both Macon and Transylvania counties. This scholarship is in honor of her devotion to the teaching profession during her long and illustrious career.

Recipient: Taylor Fulgham

Elementary Education

Riley Wolf

Elementary Education

Alyson Poole

Birth-Kindergarten Education

Maya Ellis

Elementary Education

ROBERT LEE & ELLA RICHARDS MADISON SCHOLARSHIP

Endowed through the generosity of the Madison family, this scholarship was endowed in honor of Robert Lee and Ella Richards Madison, the university's founder and his wife. The scholarship provides financial support for students who are majoring in education

Recipient: Dustan Jackson

Middle Grades Science Education

DUANE & WANDA REID SCHOLARSHIP

Endowed through the generosity of Duane and Wanda Reid, this scholarship provides support to education and business majors. Preference is given to students who are the first in their family to go to college and who are involved in community activities.

Recipient: Riley Terry

Elementary Education

ED & BERTHA HENSON REED SCHOLARSHIP

Lucile Reed Edwards endowed this scholarship in memory of her parents, Ed and Bertha Reed. Ed was a Jackson County businessman, and Bertha Henson Reed, a 1908 graduate of Cullowhee State Normal and Industrial School (now WCU) and public-school teacher. The purpose of the scholarship is to provide support for WCU students from Jackson County who are majoring in education or business.

Recipient: Rachel Colton

Elementary Education

Denise Richmond

Elementary Education

Quaid Wilt

Secondary English Education

DR. EUGENE EARLY McDOWELL, III ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP

Established through the generosity of Suzanne McDowell, this scholarship primarily provides support for students in the College of Education and Allied Professions. Dr. McDowell was a member of the WCU faculty for more than 20 years.

Recipient: Cheyenne Brinegar

Parks and Recreation Management

MARY ALICE GAMBILL SHUFORD AND DR. DAVID F. SHUFORD ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP

Established in 2013, the Mary Alice Gambill Shuford and Dr. David F. Shuford Endowed Scholarship is awarded to a deserving student majoring in education.

Recipient: Deyanira Garces

Birth-Kindergarten Education

BETA LAMBDA SORORITY TEACHING SCHOLARSHIP

In 2014 members of the Beta Lambda Sorority established this scholarship to provide support for education majors. Preference is given to undergraduate students from Jackson County and to the student of a parent who is/was a teacher.

Recipient: Sanna Haigler

Birth-Kindergarten Education

DR. JANICE H. HOLT SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship was established by Janice's family. Janice H. Holt ('76,'77,' 87,'12) was a WCU faculty member and National Board-Certified teacher who taught in Jackson County for more than 20 years. She was instrumental in developing the university's program to support pre-service, beginning, and career teachers throughout their journey; she established the Teacher Recruitment Advising and Career Support (TRACS) office and led the development of the WHEE Teach Living Learning Community. This scholarship continues Dr. Janice H. Holt's legacy as a "champion for all teachers" and is awarded to a rising senior in the WHEE Teach Program.

Recipient: Jordan Rains

Elementary Education

DR. JANICE H. HOLT FRESHMAN WHEE TEACH LEADER OF THE YEAR AWARD

This award recognizes the freshman Whee Teach Living and Learning Community student who exemplifies the qualities that Dr. Janice Holt embodied as a consummate leader and champion for pre-service and professional educators across the western region of North Carolina. These qualities include dedication to the field of education, a creative vision, demonstration of positive leadership and team building skills, a tireless work ethic, and the desire to make a significant difference in the lives of others.

Recipient: Knox Hambleton

Elementary Education

WHEE TEACH OUTSTANDING MENTOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

The WHEE Teach Mentor of the Year is presented to the student mentor who best demonstrates the distinguishing traits of a successful, loyal mentor: trustworthiness, empathy, willingness to devote time to others, a positive attitude, dependability, availability, honesty, and effective communication skills.

Recipient: Gabriela Rodriguez

Elementary Education

SOARING HIGH AWARD

Established by Dr. Jacqueline Jacobs, this award celebrates the College of Education and Allied Professions recognition as the recipient of the 2007 Christa McAuliffe Award and also celebrates the grandchildren of Dr. Jacobs and her late husband, Dr. John Franklyn Jacobs. The Soaring High Award recognizes current students, faculty or staff in the College of Education and Allied Professions who exemplify the personal characteristics for which Christa McAuliffe was known: proficiency, commitment, creativity, and enthusiasm.

Recipient: Riley Jelenick

MAEd, Higher Education Student Affairs

UNIVERSITY SELECTED SCHOLARSHIPS

HENRY GALLOWAY SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship fund was established by family and friends of Henry Galloway who retired after 42 years of service to North Carolina public schools. He was also a graduate of Western Carolina Teachers College (now Western Carolina University). Potential recipients will be undergraduate education majors who graduated from high school in western North Carolina.

Recipient: Shannon Smith

Inclusive Education

FACULTY / STAFF AWARDS

ELIZABETH THOMPSON SCHOLARSHIP

Established by Mrs. Elizabeth Thompson, this scholarship is designated to assist education majors in attending Western Carolina University. Potential recipients will have earned at least a 3.0 GPA.

Recipient: *Sofi Kiser*

Music Education

LINDA JONES HUDSON GILBERT SCHOLARSHIP

Endowed through the generosity of Dan and Linda Gilbert, this scholarship assists students from Western North Carolina in obtaining a degree in education. Preference will be given to first generation college students, specifically those who have been active in campus or community religious organizations.

Recipient: *Leona Eastwood*

Elementary Education

Makayla McClure

Inclusive Education

Kayelea Erwin

Inclusive Education

WILLIAM WILSON "POP" AND NANCY GOODSON SCHOLARSHIP

Established to honor "Pop" and Nancy Goodson, this scholarship provides support to students majoring in education.

Recipient: *Kirsten Lugar*

Art Education

L. MILTON HAUSER SCHOLARSHIP

Established by the family of L. Milton Hauser, this scholarship provides support for students who are majoring in elementary or middle grades education.

Recipient: *Allyson Smith*

Middle Grades Language Arts Education

BRUCE BLANKENSHIP SCHOLARSHIP

Endowed through the generosity of Carol Blankenship in memory of her husband, Bruce, this scholarship provides financial support for students pursuing a college education while working fulltime.

Recipient: *Erin O'Connor*

Psychology

GAITHER KEENER FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP

Endowed through the generosity of Gaither Keener, this scholarship fund provides support to students in the Western Carolina University Honors College. Preference will be given to students who are majoring in one of the disciplines in the College of Education and Allied Professions.

Recipient: *Rae Hanes*

Elementary Education

WILLIAM AND INEZ SMITH SCHOLARSHIP

Endowed through the generosity of Ron Smith and Ty Smith, this scholarship provides support for students who are majoring in education or who are residents of Jackson County.

Recipient: *Rachel Colton*

Elementary Education

TAFT B. BOTNER AWARD FOR SUPERIOR TEACHING.....*Melissa Faetz*

LEGISLATIVE AWARD FOR SUPERIOR TEACHING.....*Debby Singleton*
David Solomon

DEAN'S RESEARCH AWARD*Brandi Hinnant-Crawford*

EXEMPLARY SERVICE AWARD*Patty Harley*
Callie Schultz

GOOD NEWS AWARD.....*Carrie Rogers*

Tom Ford
Kathleen Armstrong
Kofi Lomotey
Ellie Blair
Marie-Line Germain
Roya Scales
Jenny Stewart
Eleanor Petrone
Cathy Grist
Derek Becker
Kelly Kelley
Karena Cooper-Duffy
Amanda Clapp

THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO TODAY'S CEREMONY:

Morgan Brown
Riley Jelenick
Jordan Rains
Dom Pinkney

STUDENT NEWS RELEASES

WCU's Office of Public Relations and Communications routinely sends news releases about student activities and honors to the hometown/local newspapers of the students involved. Students being recognized at the College of Education & Allied Professions awards ceremony who wish to take advantage of that service should visit the website

<http://studentawards.wcu.edu>