# Best time of the year!







Smiling and happy, Class of 2021 recipients receive award packets from Scholarship Foundation Board members and staff the day after the Awards Ceremony. Clockwise from top left: Ryan Giulianotti with his Mom Elaine Ryan, Samantha Byrnes and Megan Raams, Sara Pedraza Cupido and Danny Richmond with Executive Director Camilla Wainright, Sam Block and Naeimi Thimmer, Nicole and Alex Charest with their mom Katherine, Jake Toomsoo and Gaye Ludwig, Mary Johnson and Jasmyn Foisey, Devon White and Carol Fischman.









# **THANK YOU!**

YOUR DONATIONS once again turned frowns into smiles for local high school students and their families who faced doubt about how they would be able to manage the staggering cost of college. You unlocked opportunities once only dreamed of. SFIRC and the students of Indian River County thank you. Our community is better because of you. In the students own words...

"Without your support, none of these life enriching opportunities would be possible.

"I will never forget your help and hope in the future I can help a student go to college as well."

"I'm so happy that I was able to be the first to attend college in my family. Thanks to you I've now paved the way for my siblings.

Scholarships change lives. We encourage you to support the college dreams of the hardworking, deserving students we serve. They need you! Our goal is to help recipients graduate with little or no debt. Be it through annual giving or an endowed award, you can make a difference. Our Executive Director Camilla Wainright would love to tell you more about what we do and how you can help. Please call her at 772-569-9869.

With tremendous gratitude, the students of Indian River County **THANK YOU!** 



# CLASS OF 2021 EARNS \$531.850!



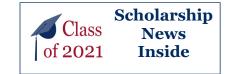
Thanks to the continued generosity and support of the Indian River County community, Scholarship Foundation awarded \$531,850 in financial aid awards on May 18, 2021 at its 56th Annual Awards Ceremony held via webinar. Thirty-one local students, including six recipients already in college and four high school seniors who will receive their AA degrees from IRSC, will receive 76 scholarships to study at 17 colleges and universities in six states. The awards, which are based on financial need and potential to succeed in college, range from \$1,000 up to \$7,500 per year and are renewable for up to three years-providing support to students through the time needed to earn a bachelor's degree. The new recipients join 132 past recipients who are renewing scholarships received in prior years. Scholarship Foundation awards open pathways otherwise unavailable to our students. They allow a student to attend a four-year university in lieu of a community college, to work less so as to be able to pursue an additional major or get involved in a wider range of activities, and to dramatically reduce or eliminate student loan debt they would need to incur.

own, and the Richardson Scholarship bridged the gap that made attending Clemson financially viable." Being a Clemson student meant getting involved in all aspects of campus life that helped her grow and learn about herself. "Without the help of the Scholarship Foundation, I truly don't think I would have had the opportunities I've had so far. I am truly grateful, and I hope my story shows how much of an impact this can have on the life of a student."

Jennifer Asselin was a Richardson Scholar in Scholarship Foundation's Class of 2016. The valedictorian of her Indian River Charter High School class, she went on to Clemson University, where she graduated Magna Cum Laude in just three years with a BS in Electrical Engineering. She now works as a submarine engineer with the U.S. Navy in Washington, D.C. As Jennifer searched for colleges during her senior year, she knew it would be challenging financially. "I knew I wanted to be a great engineer one day," she says, "and then I had to find an engineering school that fit my needs. After thorough research and many tours, my heart was set on Clemson University in South Carolina. Clemson was never something that I could afford to attend on my



P.O. Box 1820, Vero Beach, FL 32961 · (772) 569-9869 Visit us on the web: www.SFIndianRiver.org



It is the mission of Scholarship Foundation of Indian River County to offer hope, encouragement and scholarship opportunities to Indian River County students with financial need who demonstrate the desire and academic ability to succeed in pursuing a post-secondary education.

Since 1965, Scholarship Foundation has awarded more than \$13.4MM in need-based college scholarships to 3,025 Indian River County students. All of our support results from the generosity of local individuals, businesses and foundations.

Local support for local students since 1965

Summer 2021

THANK YOU to the many Donors and Supporters who made this possible!

# Scholarships Change Lives



Jennifer Asselin

# **2021 Scholarship Awards**

The Legacy, Memorial, Honorary, and Community-Sponsored scholarships awarded this year are made possible by the remarkable, enduring generosity of Indian River County individuals, organizations and businesses over the past 56 years.

### Memorial Scholarships

John Avril Memorial Scholarship: Daniel Richmond

Sofia Blanchard Memorial: Jaharee Miree Indian River Blood Bank Scholarship in Memory of Marian L. Block: Samantha Byrnes, Jasmyn Foisey

Thomas W. Chornoby Memorial Scholarship: Devon White

Darrell Fennell Memorial Scholarship: Jake Toomsoo

Morris A. "Darby" Gibbons Memorial: Yaziel Borrero

Will and Doris Jorgensen Memorial for Students of the Arts: Caila Grigsby

William L. Marine Memorial Scholarship: Jake Toomsoo

Tyrone McGriff Memorial Scholarship: Shamika Lazarre

Margaret McReynolds Memorial Scholarship: Catherine Averhoff

**Richard C. Moore Memorial Scholarship** Chloe Secunda **Robert and Shirley Nugent Memorial:** 

Katherine Waterstripe

Danforth Kidd and Marjorie Hopwood **Richardson Memorial Scholarship**: Jasmyn Foisev

Scholarship Foundation Legacy Endowment Fund Awards: Catherine Averhoff, Yaziel Borrero, Alexander Charest, Ashton Noe, Daniel Richmond, Chloe Secunda, Jake Toomsoo, Sophia Tripodi, Alejandro Wang, Katherine Waterstripe, Devon White

Marjory S. Seinsoth Memorial: Jack Kincus, Joshua Navarro, Joseph Twomey Andrzej Humberto Stever Memorial Scholarship: Chloe Secunda

Dr. (Hon.) Stanley Steyer and Diana Mary Stever Award: Ethan Nguyen Karen VanDeVoorde Memorial

Scholarship: Naeimi Thimmer Archie S. Wingfield, Jr. Scholarship: Allie Mitchell

William S. Youngman Scholarship Award: Alexander Charest, Sophia Tripodi, Alejandro Wang

# Honorary and Community-Sponsored Scholarships

Indian River Blood Bank Scholarship in Honor of Samuel A. Block: Shamika Lazarre

Garden Club of Indian River County Award: Ryan Guilianotti

**Gullquist Mullin Family Foundation** Scholarship Award: Trinity Blais The Herget Foundation Scholarship:

Nicole Charest, Naeimi Thimmer Honeywell Cobb Family Scholarship:

Sara Pedraza Cupido Johns Island Community Service League Outreach Scholarship: Ethan Nguyen Litty Family Scholarship Award: Sara Pedraza Cupido

John R. and Ann H. MacLean Family Scholarship: Katherine Waterstripe Northern Trust Scholarship: Ashton Noe

Roger Larson Oak Harbor Scholarship: Samantha Byrnes, Emily Olsson

Orchid Island Opportunity Scholarship: Jaharee Miree, Devon White Orchid Island Outreach Scholarship:

Conner Clark Jake Owen Foundation Scholarship

Award: Emily Olsson

Quail Valley Charities Scholarship: Nicolas Garabics, Austyn Reuter

**Realtors Association of Indian River** County Scholarship: Jaharee Miree, Sara Pedraza Cupido

Rotary Club of IRC Founders' Scholarship: Daniel Richmond

Richardson Scholar Award: Jack Kincus, Joshua Navarro, Joseph Twomey

Scholarship Foundation Community-Sponsored Awards: Trinity Blais, Jasmyn Foisey, Nicolas Garabics, Ryan Giulianotti, Shamika Lazarre, Ethan Nguyen. Austyn Reuter

David M. Schuble Family Scholarship: Ashton Noe

James and Jane Schwiering Family Scholarship: Caila Grigsby

Sengupta Family Scholarship: Nicolas Garabics

Helen Sarah Stever Award: Catherine Averhoff

Thomas M. Steyer and Helen S. Steyer Award: Ryan Giulianotti

Thomas and Simonetta Stever Award: Samantha Byrnes

VanDeVoorde Family Scholarship: Megan Raams

Wabasso Women's Club Scholarship: Megan Raams

Wells Fargo Opportunity Scholarship: Yaziel Borrero

Ellery, Jacqueline, and Frank Winters Scholarship: Megan Raams

# **Past Recipients Give Back**

This year's awards include two scholarships that result from the generosity of former recipients who are "giving back."

### The Sophia Blanchard Memorial

**Scholarship** is a new scholarship this year, established by the family with contributions in memory of Sophia Blanchard who passed away on July 14, 2020 just shy of her 91st birthday. Sophia came to America in 1958 from her birthplace of



Sophia Blanchard

Athens, Greece. Two of her grandchildren, Valerie and Michael Burke, received SFIRC scholarships in

2017, and the family wanted to honor her memory by establishing this award.

This year's recipient is Jaharee Miree. Jaharee is an IRSC student who is getting her AA this year and will be continuing on to the University of Florida where she will major in theatre.

The Sengupta Family Scholarship was first

established by Paul and Monty Sengupta in 2017 along with their children Neil, a 2000 Saint Edward's graduate and Sreya, a 2006 Vero

Beach High School graduate, both former SFIRC scholarship recipients. It is funded this year by Neil and Sreya who have successful careers and wanted to give back. Neil, a Richardson Scholarship winner, is a graduate of MIT and UF Medical School. He is currently an Asst. Professor of Medicine at the U. of Chicago Medical Center, specializing in gastroenterology. Sreya, who earned a Quirin Scholarship from SFIRC, is a graduate of MIT and now works as a Business Development Director at Apple in San Francisco.

This year's Sengupta recipient is Nicolas Garabics, who is graduating from IRCHS as well as receiving his AA from IRSC this year. He will be going to Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University with a major in aerospace engineering. He aspires to get a job at SpaceX working on the Starship to get humans to Mars.



Dr. Neil Sengunt:



Sreva Sengupta



Nicolas Garabic

# **Richardson Scholar Awards Honor Brightest and Best**

The presentation of the Richardson Scholar Awards is a highlight of each Awards Ceremony. These awards are SFIRC's most prestigious and competitive scholarships, and applicants must demonstrate the highest levels of achievement in academics, service and leadership. Ten talented applicants competed for this year's awards. Nancy Richardson Luther and her daughter Kristin Luther Lockwood presented the awards to 2021 winners: St. Edward's Jack Kincus, IRCH's Joshua Navarro and SRHS's Joseph Twomey.

Diverse in their interests, these scholars share a passion for making the world a better place. The Richardson Awards were established more than 35 years ago by Nancy's family. Her father Dan Richardson was a founder of SFIRC in 1965. The family began offering the Richardson awards in 1985 to "seek out and nurture potential decision makers who will have a future impact on our country and the world." Since then, more than 100 graduating Indian River County students have been honored as Richardson Scholars.



Saint Edward's Jack Kincus will attend Middlebury College in Middlebury, Vermont where he will study political science.



"Second Chance" Awards for College Students Austyn Reuter. Austyn is a 2019 graduate of Vero Beach HS who will be continuing as a junior at Florida Institute of Technology The majority of each year's new awards go to newly graduating Indian where he is majoring in civil engineering. River high school students. But each year, our new recipients include Jake Toomsoo. Jake is 2020 graduate of Vero Beach HS who is a handful of students already in college who either did not qualify attending the University of North Florida with a major in marketing. when they were graduating from high school or were unaware of the opportunity. When we interview applicants, we encourage those who do not meet our requirements for financial need or academic performance to reapply in a future year if and when their circumstances change. Students with financial need who are achieving a 3.0 GPA in college are welcome to apply, regardless of their high school academic performance. If a family's financial circumstances change, a student may have an unmet financial need he or she did not have as a high school senior. Or, a student who missed an application deadline or was unaware of the opportunity ---may also apply as a college student. We are happy to provide these Catherine Averhoff Nicole Charest Shamika Lazarro students a "second chance" at a Scholarship Foundation award.

This year six college students are earning new awards. They are:

Catherine Averhoff. Catherine was the valedictorian of her 2020 Sebastian River HS class. She has just finished her freshman year at the University of Florida where she is exploring majors in science and engineering.

Nicole Charest. Nicole graduated from Vero Beach HS in 2019 and has just finished her sophomore year at the University of Florida where she is majoring in applied physiology and kinesiology.

Shamika Lazarre. Shamika, a 2020 graduate of Sebastian River HS, is attending Florida Atlantic University with a major in criminal justice.

Jaharee Miree. Jaharee is receiving her AA from IRSC after graduating from Vero Beach HS in 2019. She earned her AA locally and will now continue into her junior year at the University of Florida where she will major in theatre.





**IRCHS's** Joshua Navarro will attend the Florida Institute of Technology where he will study ocean engineering.



SRHS's Joseph **Twomey** will attend Bentley University in Waltham, MA where he will study finance.





Jaharee Miree





Austyn Reuter





Jake Toomsoo

# A few words about our 2021 fall events...

Thank you for your past support for our annual Golf and Football events. We are still in the planning stages for fall events for 2021. Stay tuned...we hope to see you!