

MEET THE 2016 LEGACY SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



Kiana Duncan

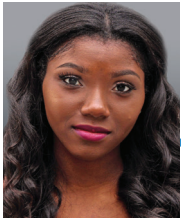
// broadcast journalism major

One of Duncan’s earliest experiences with University Libraries was during the Provost Leadership Academy. Students were introduced to Dean Bracken and invited to share ideas about how to improve access to the library.

“I’ve never heard a student’s opinion valued so highly,” recalls Duncan. “We discussed many ideas and at the end of the session, I felt stronger as a student. There’s no other place on campus where the staff cares so deeply about catering to students’ access to learning.”

Receiving the scholarship allowed Duncan to realize her dream of studying abroad at the Kent State campus in Florence, Italy.

“Being selected for the University Libraries’ Student Scholarship shows how Kent State supports its students in ways that truly matter,” says Duncan. “Studying abroad can be expensive, but instead of focusing on the financial aspects, I’m able to focus on academic goals and traveling. It allows me more opportunities to expand my world view.”



Christiana Ford

// journalism major

Ford fondly recalls frequent visits to her hometown library when she was a little girl, fueling a love for reading. Now a college student, Ford sees the library also as a place for community, learning and academic advancement.

“The library is a lifeline,” says Ford. “From the Multimedia Studio’s availability of Adobe Suite to the free computer workshops to the Writing Commons for those times when my writing needs to be polished, the library is available to help me succeed.”

Ford is grateful to be a scholarship recipient, particularly as an out-of-state student.

“The scholarship made me feel more connected to campus,” says Ford. “Knowing that Kent has things like this for students shows they really care. Being out-of-state, my tuition costs are higher. With only one parent contributing toward that, it’s incredibly challenging to come up with the money. This scholarship has helped me tremendously, because every bit truly counts.”



Leah Nelson

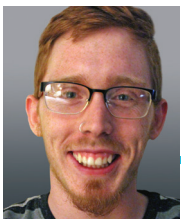
// digital media productions major

In addition to being a scholarship recipient, Nelson works at University Libraries’ Student Multimedia Studio. She sums up the library in one word: home.

“Home is not just a building you live in, it is where you’re happy, and the University Library is where I’m the happiest,” says Nelson. “I realize the library isn’t just my home, but home to everyone I see there. It’s home to the co-worker I sit next to, the older man I see using the scanners and the mom filing paperwork on the eighth floor.”

Nelson, who works two part-time jobs while attending Kent State, is greatly appreciative of the scholarship and the support it offers.

“The scholarship made a tremendous difference in my school year,” says Nelson. “It has given me more time to focus on my education, prevented me from having to withdraw from classes again, take another loan or work a third job.”



Larry Staats

// fine arts major

When Staats needed to use the library’s resources for a class research project, he realized books provide a depth of knowledge and information he couldn’t find online.

“Books contain more specific and detailed information,” says Staats. “I had a research paper for a class that required three sources. I was so excited to get information that’s nearly impossible to find on the internet. I far surpassed my three sources.”

The scholarship is already making a difference to Staats as he plans for his senior year at Kent State.

“The scholarship has made a huge difference in my school life this year and it will make a huge impact on next semester, as well,” says Staats. “With the financial help, I’ve made some purchases for my art I probably wouldn’t have been able to make. I hope to go on the Poland spring break trip and the scholarship will help a great deal.”