



## Rochester Area Foundation

**For Immediate Release**

August 6, 2015  
Contact: Max Evans  
Telephone: (507) 282-0203  
Email: max@rochesterarea.org

### **ROCHESTER AREA FOUNDATION DISTRIBUTES OVER \$50,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS**

Celebrating its 70<sup>th</sup> year as the Rochester area's community foundation, the Rochester Area Foundation (RAF) would like to announce the awarding of 50 scholarships for the 2015 fall semester. The 50 scholarships were awarded to 40 area students, with some students applying for and receiving two scholarships. The total scholarship pool amounted to \$51,700 and is made possible before each semester by the funds placed into an endowment at RAF. Some of those funds include:

- **Stewartville School District**
- **Chatfield School District**
- **Rochester School District**
- **Byron School District**
- **Natalie Webb Thornton Memorial Scholarship**
- **Sheila Howe Memorial Dance Scholarship**
- **Lee Blenkush, Paul Dilley and Henry Tvdet Memorial Scholarship**
- **Francis A. Tyce & O. Russell Olson PORT Scholarship**

“A lot of people are unaware that their local community foundation, such as RAF, can be a partner when establishing a scholarship fund, whether it is as a memorial or recognition of an accomplishment,” said JoAnn Stormer, President of the Rochester Area Foundation. “These funds placed here at the Rochester Area Foundation are designed to last in perpetuity and benefit students for generations. We are proud to be home to these funds and the opportunities they open up for these students,” she said.

“If anyone has ever considered creating a scholarship fund, we encourage them to give us a call because we can assist them in the process,” said Ann Fahy-Gust, Grants Impact Officer at the Rochester Area Foundation. “These funds are a great tool for spreading financial opportunity to those that need it while also recognizing the person or organization it has been named after,” she said.

Students from Chatfield, Rochester, Stewartville, Racine, Grand Meadow, Dodge Center, Kasson and Willmar received scholarships that will assist them in tuition toward these institutions:

- **Univ. MN – Twin Cities, Duluth, Rochester**
- **MSU – Mankato, Marshall, Morehead, Winona**
- **UW – LaCrosse, EauClaire, River Falls, Stout**
- **Iowa State**

- **Kansas State**
- **South Dakota State**
- **Northwestern**
- **Gustavus Adolphus**
- **Le Cordon Bleu**
- **Mayville State**
- **RCTC**
- **National American University**
- **Milwaukee School of Engineering**
- **Motorcycle Mechanic Institute**
- **St. Mary's University**
- **Kent State**
- **Boston Ballet**
- **Dance Olympus**
- **Pittsburg Ballet Theatre**



Meghan Schmitz of the Stewartville Class of 2015 was awarded a Helen Tews Hagen Memorial Scholarship and said, "This is greatly appreciated and will help me immensely next year at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. Thank you so much for this generosity."

**About the Rochester Area Foundation.** For over 70 years, the Rochester Area Foundation has partnered with donors to improve the quality of life, promote greater equality of opportunities, and develop effective methods to assist those in need in the greater Rochester area. To find out how the Foundation can connect you with the causes you care about most; call (507) 282-0203 or visit online at [www.rochesterarea.org](http://www.rochesterarea.org)

###