

July 31, 2023

David Gray  
Belvedere Club  
PO Box 218  
Charlevoix, MI 49720

Dear David,

This year, the Charlevoix County Community Foundation received and reviewed over 270 applications during our scholarship cycle. I'm pleased to share with you the following Belvedere Scholarship recipients from the Class of 2023:

**Samuel Pletcher** graduated from Charlevoix High School and plans to attend Western Michigan University to study Aviation Flight Science. When accepting this award, Sam shared the following: "With my chosen major being Aviation Flight Science, I will have to pay very costly flight fees while at Western. Receiving the Belvedere Scholarship will be incredibly beneficial towards paying for those additional fees. I'm so grateful that I was selected because the scholarship helped take away some of the stress of paying off such a large amount."

**Claire Scholten**, also a graduate from Charlevoix High School, plans to attend the University of Michigan to study Biology Health and Society. In addition to her thank you note provided, Claire also shared her gratitude for the generosity of the Club and what an honor it is to be awarded this scholarship to fund her educational career.

**Alexander Rodgers** graduated from East Jordan High School and plans to attend Northwestern Michigan College. Alexander also plans to study Aviation Flight Science. When accepting this award, Alexander shared: "I would like to thank the Belvedere Club for this scholarship. I am grateful for their support in my education goals. My dream is to become an airline pilot, and these dreams will be much easier to obtain with the strong support of the Belvedere Club."

**Alexa Guindon** plans to attend Northern Michigan University in Marquette to study Clinical Laboratory Studies. When accepting this award, Alexa shared: "Receiving this scholarship support offers an opportunity for me to pursue my passion for science and delve into the fascinating world of microbiology. This scholarship alleviates the financial burden associated with higher education and allows me to focus on my studies. This added support also allows me to work in a lab and build a relevant resume rather than focus on a higher paying job. Eventually, this added support will propel me to a career where I can contribute to the ever-expanding body of knowledge we call science."

The Belvedere Scholarship supported approximately twenty additional students with renewable support. We wanted to share updates and progress of some recipients and what they are most looking forward to next year or what this support has meant to them. A few excerpts are included:






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**Giving Back. Moving Forward**

*Jake Conway (2020) – University of Michigan, Public Health* – “This scholarship support has been crucial in allowing me to continue to pursue my education while maintaining the ability to focus primarily on my studies. This scholarship support means the world to me and my family, it continues to bring me closer to achieving my dreams.”

*Grant Forbrig (2020) – University of New Mexico, Biology* – “It means the world to me as it gives me the opportunity to study in a different state and experience a whole different culture than I’m used to. By giving me scholarship support I can graduate early and start to pursue my career in wildlife biology.”

*Abigail Hilligan (2020) – Grand Valley State University, Teaching* – “Receiving scholarship support is very important to me. It is very nice to have some weight of school cost lifted off my shoulders. Also, it is very important to me that this Belvedere Scholarship is funded by people who I spent many summers working for and know very well, and it is great to know that they are willing to contribute to my future and invest in my college career and my future as a teacher.”

*Megan Bush (2021) – Indiana University, History* – “Currently I am in the thick of study abroad preparation, so I am really excited to take my education outside of the United States. I am looking forward to seeing how this chapter of my life will prepare me for my future endeavors with my chosen career path.”

*Alison Sape (2021) – Saginaw Valley State University, Business Manage and Finance* – “I would like to express my appreciation because this funding has allowed me to double major. Eventually, I would like to earn a master's degree and take courses that will be most valuable towards my long-term goal of opening a wedding venue.”

*John Sauer (2022) – University of Michigan, Computer Science* – “I am most excited about pursuing a career in something that I am very passionate about. Before entering college, and even during my first semester, I didn't really feel like I had a solid direction. I took an intro level coding class, and it was the perfect fit, which brings me to where I am now. I am extremely excited to have a concrete path forward with a meaningful and enjoyable degree. My future now seems much less ambiguous.”

*Camryn Turkleson (2022) – Michigan State University, Business* – “I'm most excited to go back into the MSU community with my friends and continuing my growth as a student. I can't wait to learn even more about who I am as a person and my career.”

Thank you so much for your ongoing support of our communities' students. By focusing on renewable scholarship awards, you ensure a bright future for future generations to come. Pursuing education is an exciting opportunity for our young people and we thank Belvedere Club members for making this award possible.

Sincerely,

Megan Havrilla DeHoog  
Youth Advancement

What an impact!  
Thank you for all  
the support.