2021 Scholarship Recipients



Jenna Han graduated from Mahwah High School in 2021 and will be attending the United States Naval Academy in the fall. Jenna plans on studying both cyber operations and economics. While in High School, Jenna not only captained her very successful varsity golf team (they placed 2nd in the All-State) but she also traveled the country playing national competitive golf. She is currently ranked 275th nationally. Jenna also participated in numerous community services activities (Rise Against Hunger, Environmental Club, Interact Club) while also maintaining a very high GPA. In August of 2020, Jenna won the Maureen Orcutt Trophy Tournament. Jenna started playing golf at a young age and feels it is an integral part of her life and helped shaped who she is. Jenna will be playing for the United States Naval Academy in the fall.



Paula Havlin is a rising junior majoring in nursing at William Paterson University Honors College. In 2019, she graduated from Paramus Catholic High School in Paramus, New Jersey where she played on the boys golf team for four years. Since 2016, Paula has been caddying at North Jersey Country Club. Introduced to golf by her father at age 6, golf has been a strong and positive influence in Paula's life and has earned her the respect of her fellow all-male teammates and caddies.



Zara Jacob graduated from the Pingry School in Basking Ridge, New Jersey and will be attending the University of Michigan in the fall. She is interested in economics, pre-law and political science. Zara was captain of her golf team her Junior and Senior years. A First Tee participant, Zara was introduced to golf at age 8 and has participated in NJPGA, WMGA, and AJGA events. Golf has taught her if she wants to become a curious, ambitious, independent young woman making big things happen, then she has to work at it.



Eunice Kim graduated from Phillips Exeter Academy in Exeter, New Hampshire and will be attending the University of Pennsylvania in the fall. Eunice plans on majoring in economics. Eunice played varsity golf all four years of high school. Introduced to golf at age 9, Eunice is no stranger to the WMGA winning the Maureen Orcutt Trophy Tournament in 2017 and participating on the Junior Intercity Team in 2016. Through tournaments and practice she has learned the core values of golf – integrity, honesty, and patience- and while the game is challenging at times, she has met many interesting people along the way and made life-long friends.

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Ava Lozito graduated from West Essex High School in Fairfield, New Jersey and will be attending Monmouth University in the fall. Ava played golf in high school all four years and was the captain of her team in her senior year. She volunteers at her local church and catholic pre-school. A First Tee participant, Ava participates in NJPGA, WMGA AJGA and US Kids events, winning low gross honors at the 2018 Maureen Orcutt Trophy Tournament. Golf has played a huge role in Ava's life teaching her the importance of honesty, integrity, responsibility, sportsmanship and respect for herself and her competitors.



Lorren Melendez graduated from Passaic County Technical Institute and will be attending Seton Hall University in the fall majoring in accounting. Lorren was a member of the National Honor Society. She played golf on her high school golf team all four years. She originally signed up for golf because she was looking for an extracurricular activity and soon realized that golf was a very challenging game. Her best friend joined the team her sophomore year and it was an experience that bonded them together. The game of golf provides Lorren a respite from everyday stress.



Jillian Parrino graduated from Mineola High School in Mineola, New York and will be attending Cornell University College of Engineering. Jillian is studying to become a mechanical engineer. She was a member of the National Honor Society, editor of her high school yearbook, member of the Robotics Club, and was team captain of the Science Bowl. Jillian played on the boys varsity golf team starting in 8th grade and she also volunteers at the First Tee where she assists in teaching golf and life skills. No stranger to the WMGA, Jillian participated in the Foundation's Girls to the Tee golf clinics and also played in junior golf tournaments. Jillian believes that golf has not only opened the door to exciting opportunities but also has unlocked a path leading towards success.



Deborah Rhinesmith graduated from Clifton High School in Clifton, New Jersey and has completed one semester at Bergen County Community College.

Deborah's father is an avid golfer and introduced her to the game at age 11.

During the pandemic, her family installed a net in the backyard and she hits 300-500 balls a day. Deborah uses golf as an analogy for life and believes that you have to constantly learn and improve.

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Olivia Sexton graduated from Cardinal Spellman High School in Bronx, New York and will be attending the University of Buffalo specializing in Biomedical Engineering. Among other community service activities, Olivia worked as a Golf Works intern for three years. As a girl from the Bronx, she feels she is not the "typical" golfer. She works hard to dispel stereotypes about her race and gender. Her dream is to become a pediatrician.



Marissa Uva graduated from Nonnewaug High School in Woodbury, Connecticut and will be attending the University of New Hampshire in the fall majoring in animal science. Marissa was a member of the National Honor Society and Future Farmers of America. Her love of golf blossomed from the countless times she went to work with her father who is the Director of Outside Operations at Quaker Ridge Golf Club. Marissa cherishes playing golf with her Dad. To Marissa, golf is not only a hobby that teaches patience, it represents the bond between a father and a daughter; the irreplaceable laughs, life lessons and talks.



Devan Wildman graduated from Shelton High School in Shelton, Connecticut and will be attending Miami University of Ohio in the fall. Her planned major is business. In addition to being captain of the Boys Varsity Golf Team her senior year, Devan was also captain of the girls soccer and basketball teams at Sheldon High School. She was a student representative of the CIAC State Sportsmanship Committee, which promoted sportsmanship across the State. Introduced to golf at age 6, she notes that whenever she wants to have a fun day or needs an escape, golf serves as her outlet. Being the only girl on the golf team, Devan has learned that she is capable of overcoming adversity.