Women's Metropolitan Golf Association Foundation, Inc.

Issue 7

Mission:
"The mission of the WMGA Foundation is to provide scholarships to deserving young women attending an institution of higher learning who have an interest in golf or golf activities; to foster girls' junior level involvement in golf and competition; and to promote the game of golf to all women."

Total Dollars Committed to Scholarships by Year:
2024 = $112,000
2023 = $56,000
2022 = $52,000
2021 = $98,000
2020 = $78,800
2019 = $83,000

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2024 in Review

In 2024, through your generosity, we granted eight young women scholarships and increased our scholarship grants by 40% per scholar. We granted our second STEM Scholarship endowed by a former WMGA Board Member and the third Connie Brown Scholarship and Susan E. Fisher Scholarship Awards. If you would like to contribute to one of these funds, please add a note in your online donation or with your check.

This year's class are attending Georgetown University, Quinnipiac University, Sacred Heart University, University of Pennsylvania, New Jersey Institute of Technology, SUNY – Cortland, SUNY – Maritime, and University of Vermont.

Congratulations to Claire Lu, 2024 Scholarship Recipient, who shot a 74 to win the Lann Trophy awarded to the lowest gross score in a Class A tournament. Claire was medalist in the 121st Match Play Championship but lost to her sister, Grace, the 2024 Champion, in the quarterfinals.

Marie Birdie helped support the WMGA Junior Tournaments, including the Junior Intercity Team. Marie Birdie also sponsored the ***Girls to the Tee*** clinics hosted by our partners Baltusrol Golf Club and Westchester Country Club. It is great to see some of the same girls and parents year after year. We thank our local LPGA and PGA professionals for their dedication and creativity to make the day a great learning environment for the participants.

Our Olympic themed Non-Event and your generous support will allow us to continue our mission into 2025. If you didn't participate in the Non-Event, you still can. All you need is a sense of humor and the desire to support young women reach their dreams.

Have a wonderful winter and please remember the Foundation in your annual giving. We hope you will once again be "Swinging for Scholarships" in 2025.

100% of your donations go to our programs; more funds raised equals more support to young women pursuing their dreams. Together, we have helped so many but, we can do more!

Sincerely,
The WMGA Foundation Board of Trustees

WOMEN'S METROPOLITAN GOLF ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION, INC.
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Get To Know The 2024 Scholarship Recipients

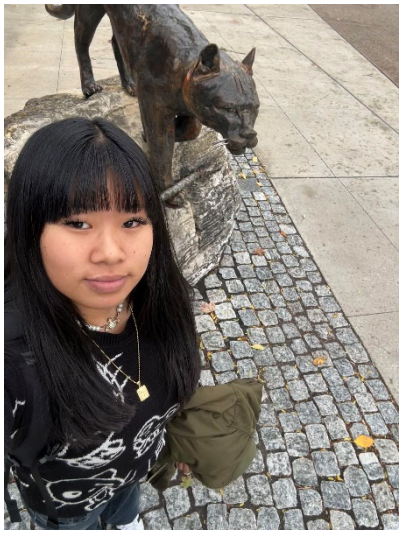
CLAIRE LU, the recipient of the 2024 Susan Fisher Scholarship, is attending the University of Pennsylvania and her planned major is Biology. She is currently a member of Penn's varsity college golf team. Claire won the WMGA Lann Trophy this summer and won the Quinnipiac Classic in October, the day before the WMGA "Hats Off" celebration.

WMGA F: Favorite Golf Course?
Claire: Streamsong Golf Resort-Black
WMGA F: What do you love about golf?
Claire: I love meeting people from all over the world and being able to befriend them. While we all play golf, everyone has their own unique background and story on how they came to compete in this sport.
WMGA F: How did you get introduced to golf?
Claire: My dad bought me a putter when I was seven and later enrolled my sister and I in First Tee lessons.
WMGA F: Who is in your dream foursome?
Claire: My big sister, Myself, My little brother, and My dad
WMGA F: What is your favorite activity outside of golf?
Claire: Anything arts and crafts related. I love the aspect of bringing something from your imagination to reality.
WMGA F: What is your favorite book?
Claire: *The Percy Jackson Series*
WMGA F: What is your favorite show to binge watch?
Claire: *Avatar the Last Airbender*

AMELIA TEJADA is attending SUNY Maritime College and her planned Major is a B.S. Marine Environmental Science. She is signed up to participate in her school's golf club.

WMGA F: Favorite Golf Course?
Amelia: Mosholu Golf Course; Mosholu has become a second home to me because of the sense of community that it harbors. Mosholu Golf Course is the very first golf course I played, and as I grew up attending classes at Mosholu it has grown to hold a special value to me.
WMGA F: What do you love about golf?
Amelia: I love the sense of community and the meaningful connections that golf fosters. Golf has served
as a catalyst for the formation of numerous cherished memories and valuable opportunities in my life. I am forever thankful for the friendships formed, and the relationships built with coaches
through this sport.
WMGA F: How did you get introduced to golf?
Amelia: My parents initially introduced me to golf at the age of 10, when they learned that a family friend had started the First Tee program.
WMGA F: Who is in your dream foursome?
Amelia: My dream foursome would be with my sister, Maria, and two of my close friends, Emily, and Ava.
WMGA F: What is your favorite activity outside of golf?
Amelia: My favorite activity outside of golf is visiting museums, especially the American Museum of Natural History, and taking walks in nature. I love these activities because they allow me to stay curious about the world and delve deeply into my interests.
WMGA F: What is your favorite book?
Amelia: My favorite book is Out of My Mind by Sharon M. Draper. Although this was a read from middle school, this book has had a lasting impact on me by deepening my understanding of empathy and inspiring me to appreciate the unique voices of others.
WMGA F: What is your favorite show to binge watch?
Amelia: My favorite show to binge-watch is You on Netflix. What I love about this show are its thrilling mystery elements, and I'm eagerly awaiting the fifth season!

Get To Know The 2024 Scholarship Recipients



THEA WESTHELLE is attending the University of Vermont. She has not declared a major yet, but is interested in the sciences and language. She is planning on playing on the UVM Club Golf team and participate in a tournament this year.

WMGA F: Favorite Golf Course?

Thea: I would say my favorite golf course is Preakness Valley Golf Course in Wayne, New Jersey. This was my home course when I played in high school and was also where I shot my lowest score for 9 holes.

WMGA F: What do you love about golf?

Thea: I love that golf challenges me to constantly improve myself, both mentally and physically. Through my team in high school, golf has taught me the value of leadership, discipline, and sportsmanship. I also love the community that golf brings together and that it can be a lifelong sport.

WMGA F: How did you get introduced to golf?

Thea: I was introduced to golf by my father and grandfather. When I was 12, my grandfather signed me and my sister up for a golf clinic. At the driving range, I hit a solid shot and watched the ball soar through the air. I was so proud of myself and started going to the driving range with my father from then on.

WMGA F: Who is in your dream foursome?

Thea: My dream foursome would definitely be with Tiger Woods, Nelly Korda, and Minjee Lee.

WMGA F: What is your favorite activity outside of golf?

Thea: My favorite activity outside of golf is photography or baking. I enjoy seeing the results of my hard work and being able to share it with others.

WMGA F: What is your favorite book?

Thea: My favorite book is Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury. I really love the meaning behind the book and the dystopian plot that the author uses to convey it.

WMGA F: What is your favorite show to binge watch?

Thea: My favorite show to binge watch is The Office since it never fails to make me laugh.

Volunteer Opportunities

At the WMGA Foundation, in addition to the Board of Trustees, we have volunteer opportunities on our Scholarship, Communication, ***Girls to the Tee*** and Fundraising Committees. If you are interested in volunteering, please reach out to the WMGA office.

SARAH BRANNIGAN is attending Georgetown University. Sarah is the Foundation's second STEM Scholarship Recipient. At Georgetown, students do not pick a major until second semester of junior year, but after completing a pre-orientation program and learning more about her options of study, she is interested in Finance and Analytics. She also hopes to pursue a minor in Computer Science.

She tried out for the Georgetown Club Golf Team this fall and got involved with the DC chapter of the First Tee organization as a volunteer. This semester, Sarah is a Georgetown social media intern, creating content for their various social media accounts.

GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

- Annual donation
- Sponsor a Scholar: Multi-year pledge to support one or more scholars throughout their four years of higher education.
- Wills and Trusts: Name the WMGA Foundation in your Will or Trust.
- Tax Free IRA Gift: Make an annual tax-free gift directly from your IRA.
- Stocks/Securities: Donating securities held for over one year is a tax efficient way to support and grow our endowment.
- To donate online go to: https://www.wmga.com/wmga-foundation/

Catching Up With Our Scholars

ANALISA SANTHOUSE, a 2022 Scholarship Recipient, is now in her third year at the University of Delaware. This semester courses have become more specific towards her major and include Immunology, Biochemistry, Ethical Aspects to Healthcare and a class on Body fluids. This past summer she was a Medical Assistant for an Osteopathic DO, where she was able to begin her healthcare career. Being a Medical Assistant taught her a lot about what her future will look like as a Physician's Assistant. In addition to her classes, Analisa participates in volunteer events for her sorority, Phi Sigma Sigma, including raising money for Childhood Cancer and donating to their philanthropy College and Student readiness.

MARISSA UVA, a 2021 Scholarship Recipient, is now in her senior year at the University of New Hampshire. In March, she traveled to Namibia, Africa, visiting Etosha National Park, the Cheetah Conservation Fund, and Mount Etjo Safari Lodge. She stated, "I had an amazing time with close encounters to animals like giraffes, lions, rhinos, cheetahs and elephants." This past summer she continued her job as a Golf Shop Assistant at Quaker Ridge, and is looking forward to senior year at UNH.

DEMICHE MCKENZIE, a 2022 Scholarship Recipient, is a junior at Montclair State University. She plans to attend medical school and go into the infectious disease field. Demiche works at a Podiatry and Wound Care office which has introduced her to different areas as patient care requires coordination between several other providers including vascular, cardio, neurological, and infectious disease. Beginning this fall, she accepted a position at her university as a Peer Tutor for American Sign Language (ASL) and will be participating in weekly tutoring sessions with students. She is very excited as ASL 1 and 2 were subjects she enjoyed the most and feels that she can greatly inspire other struggling students to have that same passion for the course.

Scenes from Girls to the Tee

The Women's Metropolitan Golf Association Foundation, Inc., is a qualified non-profit organization under IRS code 501 (c) 3. All gifts are fully tax deductible to the extent permitted by law. WMGA Foundation Tax ID is 22-3844130.