

Guelph Youth Receive over \$16,000 in Community Foundation scholarships

Guelph, June 28, 2011

Annie Lepage is off to study with the members of the Stratford company this summer with the thought of tuition weighing a little less heavily on her mind. The GCVI student is the 2011 recipient of the Guelph Community Foundation's Terry Doyle Scholarship which provides youth with financial assistance towards post-secondary study in the performing arts. The fund was established by several Guelph Rotarians in memory of local performing legend, Terry Doyle, as a way to extend and honour his legacy and exceptional character. Now, Terry continues to foster young talented students who are pursuing careers as professional artists.

"Receiving the Terry Doyle Scholarship means I can look forward to learning the craft of theatre, growing as a person and an artist, and studying my passion at the esteemed theatre program at York University. I am not sure what the future holds for me, but I am sure that the collaborative skills and theatrical training I gain at York will push me towards becoming a well-rounded, intelligent and innovative theatre professional. I cannot wait to start the rest of my life, and I am deeply grateful to the friends of Mr. Doyle and the Guelph Community Foundation for opening this door to my future!" says Annie Lepage.

From the performing arts to the healing arts, scholarships administered through the Guelph Community Foundation touch many facets of our community. While some scholarships, awards and bursaries are established in memoriam, others are established to mark a special occasion. For example, in 2002, the City of Guelph, local businesses and community leaders established the City of Guelph 175th Anniversary Scholarship to support a local high school graduate who demonstrates campus and community leadership and financial need, and who is pursuing studies at either the University of Guelph or Conestoga College. This year, the award went to Brandi Powell who is pursuing her studies in nursing at Conestoga College.

Author G.K. Chesterton wrote: "Education is simply the soul of a society as it passes from one generation to another". It's this desire to educate and empower our next generation that moves local philanthropists to build a community legacy through awards, scholarships and bursaries. This year, the Guelph Community Foundation will distribute over \$16,000 from 15 scholarship funds.

"Whether funds pay for an apprentice's tools, help with tuition, or are geared towards a specific discipline like arts and culture, they help set a young person on a path that enriches our entire community", says Andrea Olson, Executive Director at the Guelph Community Foundation.

Community members are always welcome to donate to existing funds, such as the Community Fund, or can contact the Guelph Community Foundation to inquire about establishing their own personal legacy.

About The Guelph Community Foundation

The Guelph Community Foundation is an independent, volunteer-driven charitable foundation whose purpose is to provide leadership in promoting community philanthropy and enhance the quality of life for the citizens of Guelph and of Wellington County. The Foundation pools the charitable gifts of many donors into permanent, income-earning endowments. Income from the endowments supports a wide range of charitable programs and activities. The Foundation manages over \$8 Million in capital assets and has disbursed over \$1.9 Million in grants to over 500 community initiatives since its inception in 2000.

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