

# Community Connection

*Looking  
Forward,  
Giving Back*

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## Madelyn Shelton Named 2019 Lilly Scholar



One Scott County student has been named recipient of a full-tuition, four-year scholarship as our 2019 Lilly Endowment Community Scholar.

Madelyn Shelton of Scottsburg High School will receive full tuition to an accredited public or private nonprofit college or university in Indiana of her choice, and a \$900 yearly stipend for required books and equipment. She joins 37 other Lilly Scholar recipients from Scott County since 1998.

Madelyn is the daughter of James and Michelle Shelton of Austin. She serves as manager of the Scottsburg Warrior football team, is a member of the National Honor Society, is active in the EMPOWER Youth Coalition, Scott County Partnership, Tobacco Youth Coalition and Scott County GOP, among many other activities.

Madelyn plans to attend Hanover College to major in history with a minor in political science.

“Receiving the Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship is nothing short of life changing,” said Madelyn. “Possibilities that were unimaginable a few short weeks ago are now within reach. Because of the stabil-

ity that the Lilly Scholarship has provided I am able to consider areas of study from a prospective of passion, not merely financial practicality.”

“I am very excited about the next chapter of my journey and the experiences that the scholarship will afford me,” said Madelyn. “This opportunity means more to me and my family than what could ever be known. I am humbled and grateful to have been selected.”

“We had many great candidates for the 2019 Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship!” shared Community Foundation Scholarship Committee Chairperson Josh Stigdon. “The youth of Scott County continue to impress the Foundation and its Scholarship Committee with amazing academic achievements and exemplary community involvement.”

“It is with great pleasure that we announce Madelyn Shelton as the recipient of the 2019 Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship,” said Stigdon. “We are positive she will continue to make Scott County proud in her future achievements.”

Students were judged based on community involvement, extra-curricular activities, work activities, academics, financial considerations, honors and awards, letters of recommendation and two essays. Eight students advanced to the interview portion as finalists. After the scholarship committee narrowed the field to one nominee and two alternates, the finalists’ names were submitted to Independent Colleges of Indiana Inc. (ICI) for the selection of the Scott County recipient. ICI is a nonprofit corporation that represents 30 regionally accredited degree granting, nonprofit, private colleges and universities in the state.

There were 143 scholarships awarded statewide, and there have been 4,483 students who were awarded scholarships since the inception of the Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship Program. Lilly Endowment has invested over \$392 million into this initiative.

# Lilly Announces GIFT VII Opportunity

We are excited to announce that we have received a grant of \$216,161 as part of Lilly Endowment Inc.'s seventh phase of its Giving Indiana Funds for Tomorrow (GIFT) initiative! With GIFT VII, the Endowment is making up to \$125 million available to help Indiana community foundations strengthen the towns, cities and counties they serve.

We can use this matching fund grant to build our financial assets and support our charitable activities. At least two-thirds of the matching fund grant must be designated to support the growth of our unrestricted endowments, which over time will provide flexibility to help us to meet community needs. Lilly Endowment will provide \$2 for every \$1 contributed to our unrestricted endowments during the matching period, October 1, 2018, through December 31, 2020.

We may choose to designate up to one-third of the matching fund grant to support our own operating needs or specific community or charitable projects. Lilly Endowment will provide 50 cents for every \$1 that we raise during the matching period for these purposes.

"We are so grateful for the opportunity to build our financial assets through GIFT VII," said SCCF Board Chairman Christa West. "With the generosity that runs so deep in Scott County, we are confident we will be able to take full advantage of this initiative and increase our ability to fund worthwhile community projects through grant-making and scholarships. There has never been a better time to look forward and give back!"

Scott County Community Foundation was incorporated in December 1996 and currently manages assets of over \$8 million. Over a quarter million dollars is awarded each year in grants and scholarships to the community. We have partnered with United Way of Scott County to increase early childhood literacy through the Dolly Parton Imagination Library and

other early childhood initiatives. We have also collaborated with the community foundations of Clark, Floyd, Harrison and Washington counties for regional initiatives to increase the quality of life of our regional residents.

The GIFT initiative is part of Lilly Endowment's grantmaking to strengthen Indiana communities and has been a priority of the Endowment since the first phase of GIFT in 1990. The initiative's primary aim is to help Indiana community foundations develop the philanthropic capacity to identify, prioritize and address local opportunities and challenges.

To encourage the engagement of SCCF's board of directors, the Endowment also will award an additional \$100,000 unrestricted grant if we achieve 100 percent financial support from our board members during the period January 1, 2019, through June 30, 2020.

Starting in 2019, we will have the opportunity to apply for more funds through GIFT VII's community leadership grants. This component includes both planning and implementation grants, which are available to help us deepen our understanding of the challenges and opportunities facing our community; convene key local stakeholders and explore how we can effectively play a leadership role in implementing initiatives and strategies that enhance the quality of life in Scott County.

Lilly Endowment Inc. is an Indianapolis-based private philanthropic foundation created in 1937 by three members of the Lilly family – J.K. Lilly Sr. and sons J.K. Jr. and Eli – through gifts of stock in their pharmaceutical business, Eli Lilly & Company. The Endowment exists to support causes of community development, education and religion. Lilly Endowment's community development grantmaking is designed to support efforts that enhance the quality of life in Indianapolis and Indiana.

## Jesse Mays Named as New College & Career Intern

The Scott County Community Foundation has recently welcomed Jesse Mays as the new Career and College Counselor intern. This opportunity has been funded by the Lilly Endowment through the Community Foundation Internships Program (CFI). This program intends to build strong community foundations, as well as provide significant internship opportunities for college students who are eager to advance their educational and personal development.

As the Career and College Counselor intern, Jesse will be counseling students at Austin and Scottsburg high schools. Jesse will be discussing career and college choices with students, as well as scholarship and financial aid opportunities. Additionally, Jesse will be coordinating college visits as well as job shadowing and internship opportunities.

"We are excited to partner with the Scott County Community Foundation to host a college level intern at Scottsburg High," said Shannon Mount, K-12 Career and College Counselor at Scott County School District 2. "Jesse Mays was an outstanding student here for us, and I am sure she will be an outstanding college intern. The college intern is instrumental in assisting our 21st Century Scholars stay eligible for the scholarship."

Jesse Mays is the oldest daughter of Joshua and Dawn Mays of Scottsburg. She graduated from Scottsburg High School in 2018, and she is currently attending Indiana University Southeast. Jesse is majoring in English and Philosophy with pre-law intention. Following graduate school, Jesse plans to practice children's advocacy law in

Indiana.

"I am passionate about my community, and I am thrilled that I've been given the opportunity to work with the future of Scott County. As

the Career and College Counselor intern, I am particularly excited to aid students in the pursuit of their individual goals," said Jesse.

"We are so excited about having Jesse Mays intern at Austin High School through the Community Foundation grant. She will be working with our counseling department in helping 21st Century students prepare for college and complete needed activities in order to remain eligible for 21st Century. She will also assist in SAT and ACT registration and administering fee waivers. We are so thankful for the opportunity that this program provides," stated Cindy Watts, guidance counselor at Scott County School District 1.

"We are so appreciative to Lilly Endowment Inc. for providing this opportunity for our community," said Scott County Community Foundation Executive Director Jaime Toppe. "Jesse is the 19th student to benefit from the internship program during the last several years. As one of the Community Foundation's current scholarship recipients, we know she will continue to serve our community well in this capacity."



## Save the Date: Hawaiian Luau Theme of Casino Night Fundraiser

Grab your grass skirts and flowered shirts for our 3rd annual Casino Night fundraiser! This year's theme is Hawaiian Luau and promises to be another fun night!

The big night will be held Friday, March 15 at Mid-America Science Park. Doors will open at 6 p.m. for drinks and appetizers, with dinner starting at 6:45 p.m. We are excited to bring authentic hula dancers from Hawaiian Hula and Ori Tahiti of Louisville! We will have a silent auction, bingo, blackjack and poker. You can get a taste of Hawaii close to home with dinner provided by

Country Classics Catering! Tickets are \$25 per person, with RSVP's due March 8.

We have obtained a state charity gaming license for this event (#149139), so winners may take away cash!

We are seeking sponsors and items for our auction. We are thankful to our first Big Kahuna sponsor, Duke Energy! For the sponsorship levels and incentives, please contact Jaime Toppe at 812.752.2057 or email info@scottcountycountryfoundation.org.





## Scott County Community Foundation

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## YGC Opens Grants Cycle for Youth Projects

The Scott County Youth Grantmaking Council (“YGC”) is accepting grant applications to fund youth-related projects in the community. The YGC has at least \$5,197 from the Scott County Youth Grantmaking Council Fund and the Terry Fewell Memorial Youth Fund that it may award to projects that benefit youth in Scott County. The YGC has increased the maximum amount per request from \$800 to \$1,000, and grants must be for nonprofit organizations or other charitable causes. Applications are due Thursday, Feb. 28, at 3 p.m. The application must be completed online, and is available at the our website, [www.scottcountyfoundation.org](http://www.scottcountyfoundation.org). Go to the Youth Council pull-down menu and select “About the YGC” to find the link.

The YGC just finished their busy season for community service projects, having helped with 8 community service projects in just November and December! They hosted another successful alumni game fundraiser, earning \$3,700 to support their work in the community.



Voting members have enjoyed visiting different locations throughout the community for their monthly business meeting, and plans are underway for their next big project. They will be working with City of Scottsburg officials on a “Save the Ducks” campaign for Lake Iola. Years of feeding bread to the ducks has led to further issues concerning the environment, health and landscape of the park, and the YGC will be working to help solve those issues.