

MARSHALL H. AND NELLIE
ALWORTH MEMORIAL FUND

Providing Scholarships in Science and Math Since 1949



the Alworth REPORT

FALL 2018

ALWORTH MEMORIAL FUND NEWSLETTER

Celebrating a Milestone: 5,000 Scholars and \$50 Million Awarded

The Marshall H. and Nellie Alworth Memorial Fund is celebrating \$50 million in scholarships to more than 5,000 students to help them advance their collegiate interests in mathematics and the sciences.

So it was only appropriate that June Hendrickson and Clyde Jensen should meet up recently. June is an original 1949 Alworth scholarship winner from Duluth Denfeld. Clyde is a 2018 graduate of Kelliher High School and was named recipient number 5,000 for the scholarship.

**"An investment in
knowledge pays the
best interest."**

- Benjamin Franklin

Clyde is the future while Hendrickson provides a glowing legacy for a fund that has awarded more than \$50 million in scholarships to northern Minnesota students.

June retired from teaching in Hibbing schools in 1996. She is a beloved member of the community there. She was named to the Minnesota Teachers of the Year Honor Roll in the 1960s. Hibbing declared a June Hendrickson Day. She received a Distinguished Alumni Award from UMD and has been declared one of the top 100 people who influenced Hibbing. When she retired, she was encouraged to run for a Hibbing school board spot and was elected.

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► How To Apply:

Applications are accepted online from November 1 to January 15.

Recipients receive \$20,000 distributed over eight semesters providing they maintain our eligibility requirements in a STEM field of study.

www.alworthscholarship.org  

Dream it. Achieve it.

Celebrating a Milestone: 5,000 Scholars and \$50 Million Awarded

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In short, June embodies all the hopes and dreams of Marshall W. Alworth, who saw a need and addressed it in creating the Memorial Fund in honor of his parents and thanks to the opportunities in education his family had.

June jumped at the chance to meet Clyde, who is attending the University of North Dakota. The scholarship in 1949 awarded \$300 to \$800. Clyde is eligible to receive \$5,000 a year for four years at UND.

"It was very nice to meet someone that received this scholarship in modern time," June said.

"Being the 5000th recipient of this great scholarship and getting the opportunity to meet June has made this experience all the more special," Clyde said. "To talk with one of the first people that the Alworth helped to pursue her dreams, and to think of all the others the Alworth has helped, is truly inspiring. This inspiration has pushed me to do my best and follow my own dreams."

Across 69 years, the Alworth fund has brought a needed break for students worrying about paying for college.

"Receiving the Alworth scholarship was so exiting and it brought with it a feeling of relief," Clyde said. "Having this resource to help shoulder the financial burden of education has been a blessing. This scholarship has allowed me to attend the college that I want and fulfill my goals." ■



► Pictured:
June Henrickson
and Clyde Jensen

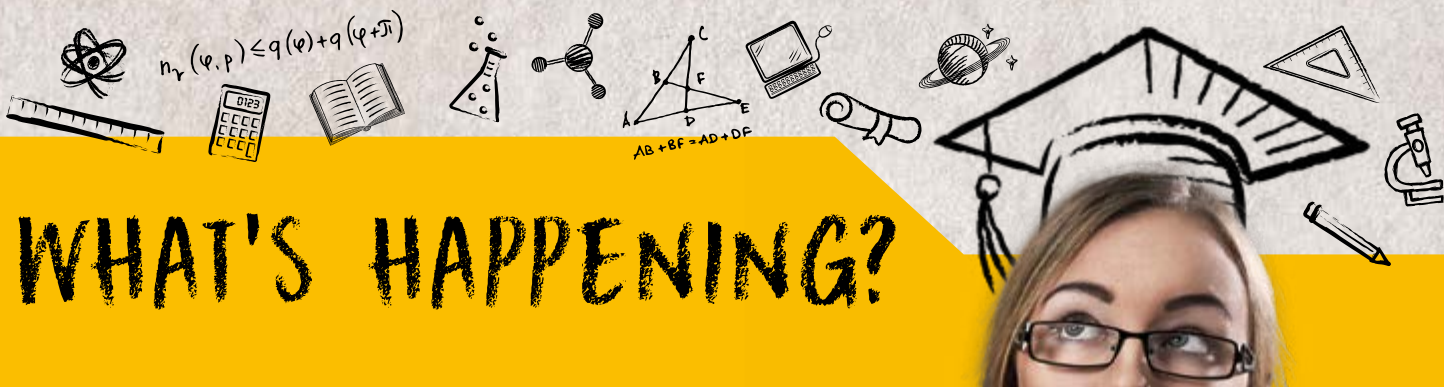
The fund annually awards 60 to 70 four-year, \$20,000 scholarships to northern Minnesota high school graduates majoring in a science, technology, engineering, or math related fields. The fund provides an annual outlay to area students of more than \$1.2 million – making it one of the most generous private foundation scholarship programs in a region known for academic giving.

**"What greater gift
can we offer the republic
than to teach and
instruct our youth?"**

– Cicero

► It starts with a recommendation

Special thanks to all high school teachers and counselors for encouraging students to apply – writing letters of recommendation and continuing your commitment to the education of future generations in our region. On behalf of everyone at the Alworth Memorial Fund, we appreciate your dedication and support. ■



WHAT'S HAPPENING?



It Takes Grit

What's the best predictor of success in a person's life, including when it comes to goals in education?

According to psychologist Dr. Angela Lee Duckworth, the answer is "grit." As an assistant professor of psychology at the University of Pennsylvania, Duckworth researches non-IQ competencies, including self-control and perseverance, which predict success both academically and professionally.

Her studies reflect what academic institutions are hearing more and more about -- the value of grit. It is a trait that the founder of our scholarship, Marshall W. Alworth, greatly admired and respected in his father, Marshall H. Alworth. Marshall H. showed great ambition and tenacity by leaving home at age 14 to eventually land in the Great Lakes region by age 21, where he worked in the land and timber industry exploring the area. He settled in Duluth at age 36 and by age 38, he had started to create his wealth in logging and mining.

It took a lot of grit and perseverance to succeed and Marshall H. worked hard for his success.

When Marshall H. passed at age 85, his two sons inherited his fortune. It was his son, Marshall W., who



never had children, who went on to leave his estate to create the fund and name it after his parents, the Marshall H. and Nellie Alworth Memorial Fund.

Both Marshall H. and Marshall W. were charitable men who valued education, especially in the areas of math and science. They were thankful for the opportunities that they were allowed because of the development of Duluth real estate and Iron Range resources.

Today, everyone at the scholarship feels it is important to carry on the spirit and vision of these two enterprising and hard-working men.

This year the following essay question was added to the application so the Board of Directors could better gauge an applicant's ability to commit to a goal and demonstrate perseverance, resiliency, and "grit" towards achieving it:

Describe a challenge or setback that you have experienced towards reaching a goal. What did you do in response? What did you learn from it or about yourself that will help you in the future?

The Alworths' commitment to our area, respect for higher education, and personal qualities of ambition, passion and grit all contributed to their success. We gratefully acknowledge that this fine legacy is one that will continue into perpetuity. ■



SCHOLAR HIGHLIGHTS



Recipients Share Their Experience

Scholar snapshot: Pure energy



Current Alworth recipient **Levi Palmer** graduated from Pequot Lakes High School in 2016 and is attending the University of Minnesota. He recently got involved with a research project at the California Institute of Technology that inspired him to change his degree from chemical engineering and chemistry to physics and chemistry.

"I want to go to grad school for physical chemistry," Levi said. "I want to solve complex problems with physics, math, and chemistry."

Levi was inspired by the research project that focused on carbon dioxide reduction reactions using solar energy to produce fuels from carbon dioxide and water. These fuels could then be used in transportation and manufacturing and would decrease the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, helping slow the effects of climate change. The process would be part of a carbon-neutral energy cycle: petroleum is burned for energy, the carbon dioxide waste is collected, and water and sunlight are added to create a high-energy solar fuel. Levi's was able to observe the reactions in real time.

After graduate school, Levi hopes to go into academia in order to continue investigating theoretical problems and finding experimental solutions. He wants to teach in materials science or chemistry teaching applications of spectroscopy involved with energy collection and storage. He recommends that Alworth applicants prepare to focus on their passions, "Share what you're excited about – if you're excited about it, others will be too."



Engage your students with **Hockey Scholar**, a web-based course that leverages hockey to teach foundational math and science concepts.

It's a free resource that covers topics such as rates-and-ratios, states of matter, force and energy, and careers in STEM.

<https://futuregoals.nhl.com>

The Alworth payoff? A high-skills job



Alworth alumni **Megan Wiens** of Grand Rapids graduated from University of North Dakota in 2017 with degrees in chemical engineering and Spanish. Today, she works as a product engineer at Emerson Automation Solutions in Shakopee, Minn. Her responsibilities fall under "pressure instrumentation," meaning she supports the growth and development of the Rosemount 3051S unit, advanced diagnostics, and wireless innovations. The Rosemount 3051S unit is a transmitter that is able to detect dangerous failures due to leakage of currents in wiring. It alerts the company immediately, helping them to avoid outages and saving them millions of dollars.

Megan works with customers across a wide range of industries to implement product solutions that improve plant safety, increase process efficiency, and enhance process insight. "An awesome part of my job at Emerson is seeing how people use our technology to improve their own jobs," she said.

And it all started for Megan with a big Alworth boost.

"I cannot thank the Alworth Foundation enough for their support over my four years of college," Megan said. "I am putting what I have learned to good use." ■