

## 2013 FIRST TEE OF CONNECTICUT SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

### DONALD E. VACHERON SCHOLARSHIP

Don Vacheron was an early member of the Connecticut Golf Foundation's (CGF) Board of Directors. In May of 2004, the CGF and The First Tee of Hartford formally merged operations to become The First Tee of Connecticut. Don's leadership during this time of change helped The First Tee of Connecticut become a strong, efficient and financially stable organization. Don was The First Tee of Connecticut's first Chairman of the Board and held this position until his passing in 2005.

Furthering its mission to impact the lives of young people throughout the state, The First Tee of Connecticut has created the Donald E. Vacheron Memorial Scholarship. This scholarship is awarded annually to The First Tee of Connecticut participant or participants who have demonstrated exceptional achievement in the following areas: academics, leadership skills, character development, and Chapter and community involvement. Each winner will be known as a Vacheron Scholar.

**Shane Bansrulan**, 18, lives in Meriden and has been involved with The First Tee of Connecticut for 9 years. Shane just completed his freshman year at Central Connecticut State University where he is studying Computer Science. Shane is being honored as a Vacheron Scholar and will receive a \$1,000 scholarship.

**Ron Foshay**, 19, lives in Thomaston and has been involved with The First Tee of Connecticut for 9 years. Ron just completed his sophomore year at Western New England University in Springfield, MA where he is studying Mechanical Engineering. Ron is being honored as a Vacheron Scholar and will receive a \$1,000 scholarship.



Shane Bansrulan



Ron Foshay

### THE ANDREW K. DWYER FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

The Andrew K. Dwyer Foundation was established in 2003 following Andrew's untimely death in a car accident during his sophomore year at Yale University. Andrew possessed a tireless enthusiasm for life, and was a young man of extraordinary kindness and concern for others. Andrew's family, friends, and admirers created the Foundation to honor his memory by aiding less fortunate children and young adults with scholarships as well as through athletic and extracurricular activities.

The Andrew K. Dwyer Foundation Scholarships are awarded to First Tee of Connecticut participants who demonstrate academic excellence, are actively involved in their communities, and plan to continue their education at the college/university level. The Foundation annually grants two scholarships of \$2,500 each or three in the amount of \$2,000 which are paid directly to the recipients' college or university.

**Sadie Martinez**, 18, lives in Hartford and has been a member of The First Tee of Connecticut for 11 years. Sadie just graduated from Northwest Catholic High School in West Hartford and will attend the University of the Cumberlands in Kentucky and play on their golf team this fall.



Sadie Martinez



Nick Shemkovitz

**Nick Shemkovitz**, 18, lives in Meriden and has been a member of The First Tee of Connecticut for 10 years. Nick just graduated from St. Paul's High School in Bristol and will attend Western New England University in Springfield, MA and play on their golf team beginning this fall.

**Kyle Edwards**, 17, lives in Waterbury and has been a member of The First Tee of Connecticut for 10 years. Kyle just graduated from W.F. Kaynor Tech High School in Waterbury and will attend Central Connecticut State University in New Britain this fall.

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## WILLIAM P. LYONS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Introduced in 2009, The William P. Lyons Memorial Scholarship is awarded annually to First Tee of Connecticut participants who have demonstrated exceptional achievement in the following areas: academics, leadership skills, character development, and Chapter and community involvement.

Mr. William P. Lyons (1909-1969) served for many years as the principal of Boardman Trade School in New Haven. In 1957, a new vocational school was founded in Hamden to replace Boardman Trade. Mr. Lyons was in charge of building the new school and was the initial director of Eli Whitney Technical School from 1957 to 1963. He retired in 1963. The William P. Lyons Scholarship Fund was created by his son, William P. Lyons, Jr. (1941-2008) to recognize his father's dedication to making a positive difference in the lives of young people.

**Sadie Martinez and Nick Shemkovitz** Bios for Sadie and Nick were previously provided on the reverse side as recipients of The Andrew K. Dwyer Foundation Scholarship. Both are being honored as well with the William P. Lyons Scholarship in the amount of \$500 per year for four years.

## H. GRANT THOMAS SCHOLARSHIP

Grant Thomas was a longtime member of the business community in the Hartford area. As an executive with Aetna, he used his charisma and zest for life to advance his career and endear himself to those around him. Mr. Thomas had a passion for sports and children and through the scholarship set up on his behalf, The First Tee of Connecticut is proud to extend that legacy to our participants. This award is based on more than just academic success; it is intended for those participants who are well-rounded and outgoing young people.

**Justin Morehead**, 13, lives in New Haven and has been a member of The First Tee of Connecticut for one year. Justin just completed 8th grade at Worthington Hooker in New Haven and will attend Notre Dame Academy in West Haven beginning this fall. Justin is being honored with the H. Grant Thomas Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.



Justin Morehead

## WALKING FOR KIDS FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP PRESENTED BY DJ GREGORY

In late 2009, D.J. Gregory formed the Walking For Kids Foundation which gives PGA TOUR Professionals and sports fans the opportunity to support several children's charities. Some might remember the great journey that D.J. started on TOUR back in 2008. By the end of his journey in late 2008, D.J. had walked well over 988 miles and followed 3,256 holes on TOUR and has continued this tradition each year, raising more than \$400,000 for children's charities since his first foray. Players, fans, and people from around the world took notice of D.J. and his accomplishments.

D.J. Gregory fell in love with golf at the age of twelve, when he first began watching the game on television and attending local tournaments with his dad. But unlike other golf fans, D.J. never dreamed of playing professionally, becoming a ranked amateur, or even a caddie. When D.J. was an infant, doctors told his parents that he would probably spend his life in a wheelchair because of cerebral palsy. But that didn't keep D.J. from trying to beat the odds; he endured five surgeries and learned to walk with a cane.

The Walking For Kids Foundation Scholarship is awarded to the participant who has shown perseverance in their life, in much the same way that DJ has in his.

**Jason Liu**, 14, lives in Windsor and has been a member of The First Tee of Connecticut for 7 years. Jason just completed 7th grade at St. Gabriel Catholic School in Windsor and will attend Loomis Chaffee in Windsor beginning this fall. Jason is being honored with the Walking For Kids Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.



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