

Lower Connecticut Valley AAUW Educational Grant Recipients 2024



Taylor Roy, a Waterford resident, is a nursing student at the University of Connecticut with the goal of eventually becoming a Nurse Practitioner. Her volunteer work includes founding the Warrior Princesses Project, an effort to provide tiaras to women and children receiving medical treatment, as well as work at Windham and Backus Hospitals where she used her skills in Spanish to assist patients.



Uliana Makarenko is a student in the cybersecurity program at Western Connecticut State University. She was a high school exchange student in Kansas when her Ukrainian homeland was invaded by Russia, stranding her in the United States. She was accepted as a student at WCSU and met the computer board advisor and Old Saybrook resident Keith Schlosser who sponsored her to stay in the U.S. Uliana is also employed as a cybersecurity consultant at AXIS Capital.



Ariana Seldon, an Oakdale resident, is a sociology major in the B.A./J.D. program at Howard University in Washington, D.C. She works as a college resident assistant and manages a fitness center. She is a volunteer in the District of Columbia corrections system and at a Montville School community center for young people.



Abbey Butler is a senior in the Social Work program at Charter Oak State College with the goal of working with adolescents with learning disabilities. A resident of Essex, she has worked in an independent social work practice and as a lifeguard supervisor.



Hailey Tompkins is a student in the Avery Point/ University of Connecticut Accelerated Nursing Program. She has served in the Army National Guard where she worked in the Horn of Africa as well as locally as an Emergency Medical Technician. She is a resident of New London.



Ashley Doak is pursuing a B.A. in English from Charter Oak State College. She is also the Head of Circulation Services at East Lyme Public Library where she has worked since 2014. She hopes to eventually pursue a Master in Library Sciences and is a resident of Niantic.