



SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

2015

\$3,000 President's Scholarship Award Recipient

(Thanks to a contribution from SkyOne Federal Credit Union, the President's Scholarship Award amount has been increased.)

Audrey LeBovidge

Andrew LeBovidge (ZHU)

Changing Lives

He would often disappear for a length at a time. A single vibration from his cellphone and there he went. Occasionally he would slowly pace the side of the pool, the soft leather of his loafers making an imagined thud as I watched him from my place behind the window. I was rarely awarded such an opportunity to observe his conversations, for they were almost always conducted out of sight, where he withdrew to I wouldn't discover for years to come. I so desperately wanted to know what the calls were for; they were mysterious, yes, and all I knew was that they were important, private, and certainly none of my business.

As I grew up, my father explained what a labor union was. My mother taught me that he was president of NATCA ZHU, that all those phone calls, all those extra hours he spent traveling, he spent traveling to the national offices in D.C. And that he devoted his time to improving the lives of his colleagues. I had always respected my father, but at that moment I didn't think I could be any prouder. And then I got to experience his work first-hand.

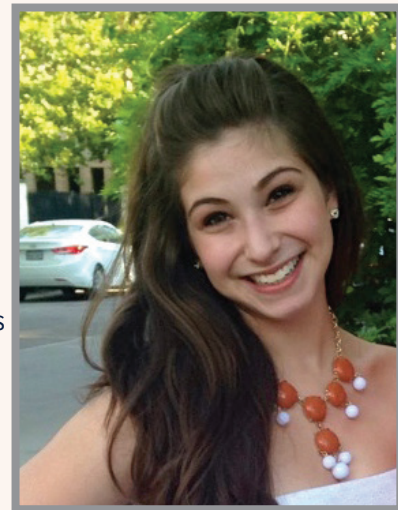
At 17, I moved to Washington, D.C., to pursue a career in ballet. With my father frequenting the city, I was often invited to dinner with his team. One evening there was a man who pulled me aside. He went on to tell me how much the work of my father

had impacted his life and that he had henceforth been inspired to be a union representative himself. Anecdotes like these were prolific and remarkably humbling.

Then, last spring, I fell very ill. I spent almost two weeks in the hospital following emergency open heart surgery. NATCA members from across the country came to support me. Most of them I had never known.

Some supplied my family with food for the entirety of my stay; others just came to wish me good health. However, their motives all stemmed from the same place: they belonged to an organization that was dedicated to their prosperity. Sometimes that is enough, knowing that the resource is there if needed. But it was apparent then, that my father's efforts, and the efforts of all the union representatives were successful and respected.

Unions change lives. They affect workplace conditions, of course, but more importantly they affect the lives of their members and their families. Something as small as a wardrobe change can be instrumental in helping employees execute their work more efficiently, safely, and pleasantly. I have seen this personally. In fact, I am studying to eventually practice labor and employment law because I truly believe that unions are successful in their efforts and will only continue to revolutionize what it means to "go to work."



\$1,000 Scholarship Award Recipients

Madelyn Arnold

Jason Arnold (ZME)

Caroline Bayse

Betty Bayse (I90)

Kayleigh Crocker

Sherri Hebert (A90)

Luke Franks

Cynthia Wills (ESO)

Casey Gaffney

Jeffrey Gaffney (Retired, RIC)

Mareena Gentry

Bill Gentry (ZOB)

Jordan Howard

Michael Howard (SCT)

Matthew Kaufman

Steven Kaufman (ZAU)

Jana Kretsinger

Steven Kretsinger (EUG)

Keaton Krueger

Paul Krueger (FS4)

Conner McKenzie

Steven McKenzie (ZID)

Lindsey Nelson

Robert Nelson (SMF)

Alexandra Norris

Richard Norris (ZOB)

Madison Odryna

Michael Odryna (ZBW)

Kevin Stafford

Donald Stafford (ROA)

Sierra Stewart

Kristen Stewart (IAD)

Abigail Sullivan

Craig Sullivan (ZAU)

Morgan Tyus

Robert Tyus (A80)

Matthew Wollert

Michael Wollert (NCT)

Ashleigh Young

Travis Young (D10)