

2025 Senior Scholarship Awards

All scholarship awards marked with an () are awarded based on an application process.

1. Alex Zamm Film Award

The Alex Zamm Film Award, sponsored by James H. Fitzgerald the Senior Class President of the Class of '82, awarded to a graduating senior attending film school who has most excellent in film while at Onteora.

\$1500 awarded to **Lily Stoudt**

2. Alice Guy-Blaché & Oscar Micheaux Memorial Award

The Alice Guy-Blaché & Oscar Micheaux Memorial Award, named after pioneering filmmakers Alice Guy-Blaché, one of the first female directors, and Oscar Micheaux, a trailblazer in African American cinema, in honor of their overlooked contributions to early cinema, given to a graduating senior who will pursue film studies in college. This award is made possible by the generosity of many former Onteora film students, their parents, and Neil Smoller at the Village Apothecary.

\$500 awarded to **Landry Mack**

3. American Legion School Citizenship Award

*The Olive Memorial Post No. 1627 presents the American Legion School Citizenship Award to a male and female member of the senior class who have shown outstanding school citizenship by their character development and leadership in student affairs.

\$500 awarded to **Payton Kothe**

\$500 awarded to **Cole Matteson**

\$500 awarded to **Grace Young**

4. American Legion Veteran Appreciation Award

The American Legion Auxiliary Unit 950 of Phoenicia Award, given to graduating seniors who have expressed an interest in Americanism, American History, and learning about the great wars and what our veterans experienced.

\$250 awarded to **Austin Fatum**

\$250 awarded to **Ahna Fusco**

5. Aron Thomas Memorial Award

The Aron Thomas Memorial Award, sponsored by the Olive Fire Departments Ladies Auxiliary, given to a graduating senior who demonstrates outstanding appreciation for protecting our natural environment, while enjoying the outdoors for recreation, hunting and fishing. The student must also have the drive to be community minded while volunteering.

\$150 awarded to **Payton Kothe**

6. Barbara Burg Schieffelin Memorial Award

The Barbara Burg Schieffelin Memorial Award, given by Paul and Karen Wereszynski, in memory of the 1981 class leader and honor graduate who went on to become the Director of Public Relations at Bantam Dell Publishing Group and was Global Head of Communications at Reuters. This award is presented to a senior who, like Barbara, has demonstrated leadership, scholarship and service to others, while exhibiting interest in journalism, publishing, and mass media.

\$200 awarded to **David Troeger**

2025 Senior Scholarship Awards

7. Barbara O'Brien Dedication Award

The Barbara O'Brien Dedication Award, sponsored by James H. Fitzgerald the Senior Class President of the Class of '82, awarded to a graduating senior who like Barbara promotes strong ethical standards, is honest, kind, and a loyal individual. This senior must be attending a two-year college or trade school.

\$1500 awarded to **Alex Umana**

8. Bernard Lapo Memorial Award

The Bernard Lapo Memorial Award, given to the graduating senior with the highest three-year average in Social Studies 9, 10 and 11.

\$1500 awarded to **Alexia Melendez**

9. Bernie Stahl Cross Country Award

The Bernie Stahl Cross Country Award, sponsored by the Cross Country Coaches in honor of Coach Stahl, given to a graduating senior of the program who has demonstrated the same leadership, work ethic, and kindness that Coach Stahl expected from his athletes.

\$100 awarded to **Corbin Smith**

\$100 awarded to **Henry Swasey**

10. Bernie Stahl Memorial Award

The Bernie Stahl Memorial Award, given in memory of the Onteora Business Department chairperson whose tireless contributions impacted the vitality of the school and the Onteora community, is awarded to a business student that embodies the sincere, good hearted qualities that Bernie possessed.

\$100 awarded to **David Troeger**

11. Bishop Scholarship Art Award

The Donald F. and Edna G. Bishop Scholarship Award, given in honor of Claire and Joseph Friedburg, for excellence in Art.

\$2000 awarded to **Yogi Johansen**

12. Bishop Scholarship Business Award

The Donald F. and Edna G. Bishop Scholarship Award, given in memory of Freda John, for excellence in Business.

\$2000 awarded to **Elias Sheldon**

13. Bishop Scholarship English Award

The Donald F. and Edna G. Bishop Scholarship Award, given in honor of Audrey and Murray Kwit, for excellence in English.

\$2000 awarded to **Alexia Melendez**

2025 Senior Scholarship Awards

14. Bishop Scholarship Medical Professionals Award

*The Donald F. and Edna G. Bishop Scholarship Foundation Award, given to graduating seniors studying in the fields of nursing, medical technology, physical therapy, pharmacy, pre-medicine (including biology, chemistry and physics), medicine, dentistry, and other medically related fields which are acceptable in the sole judgment of the Selection Committee. Students are selected for their general ability, including scholarship, character and extracurricular activities.

\$24,000 for the first year and \$20,000 per year for three years awarded to **Sara Caloro**

\$24,000 for the first year and \$20,000 per year for three years awarded to **Lilyana DeGondea-Heaney**

\$24,000 for the first year and \$20,000 per year for three years awarded to **Ava Fox**

\$24,000 for the first year and \$20,000 per year for three years awarded to **Anna Johnson**

\$24,000 for the first year and \$20,000 per year for three years awarded to **Lila Metawee**

\$24,000 for the first year and \$20,000 per year for three years awarded to **Danielle Payne**

\$24,000 for the first year and \$20,000 per year for three years awarded to **Gavin Rice**

15. Bishop Scholarship Social Studies Award

The Donald F. and Edna G. Bishop Scholarship Award, given in memory of Freda John, for excellence in Social Studies.

\$2000 awarded to **Sara Metawee**

16. Brian Robertson Memorial Award

The Brian Robertson Memorial Award, sponsored by his daughter, in honor of her father, given to a graduating senior who personifies Brian's spirit of hard-work, dedication to his craft, and most importantly, his witty humor.

\$200 awarded to **Jacob Wood**

17. C.A.R.E. For O.C.S. Community Award

The C.A.R.E. for O.C.S. Community Award offered in loving memory of Ruth Williams, who was a real supporter and a faithful member of the group, given to graduating seniors who have exhibited the qualities of honesty, integrity and perseverance.

\$350 awarded to **Cole Matteson**

\$350 awarded to **Danielle Payne**

18. Carl D. Brown Award

The Carl D. Brown Award, sponsored by James H. Fitzgerald the Senior Class President of the Class of '82, awarded to a graduating senior who has "Done Most For Class" for the senior class.

\$2500 awarded to **Cocoro Asada**

19. Carol Okoren Memorial Award

The Carol Okoren Memorial Award, given in memory of Coach Okoren who was responsible for developing girls interscholastic athletics at Onteora. The recipients of this award should exemplify the high standards Coach Okoren instilled in her athletes: sportsmanship, dedication, respect, positive attitude, and most of all, integrity.

\$100 awarded to **Eve Battista**

\$100 awarded to **Olivia McHugh**

2025 Senior Scholarship Awards

20. Cheryl Vrendenburg Memorial Awards

The Cheryl Vrendenburg Memorial Award, given to three seniors who have made outstanding contributions to the band, chorus, or orchestra and are planning to further their education.

\$50 awarded to **Vincent Christofora**.

\$50 awarded to **Abigail Taylor**

\$50 awarded to **Milo Turba**

21. Chester and Edith Lyons Memorial Award

The Chester A. Lyons, Jr. and Edith J. Lyons Memorial Award, given to three graduating seniors who are seriously committed to pursuing further education in a health-related field, technology, or teaching.

\$500 awarded to **Veronica Flores**

\$500 awarded to **Willem Naughton**

\$500 awarded to **Maximus Reimondo**

22. Cindy Van Buren Memorial Award

The Cindy "Klip" Van Buren Memorial Award, given by her children to two athletes who demonstrate fun, team spirit, dedication, and outstanding sportsmanship while maintaining a good work ethic.

\$50 awarded to **Keegan Burkhardt**

\$50 awarded to **Alexia Melendez**

23. Community Bank N.A. Accounting Award

The Community Bank N.A. Accounting Award, given to a graduating senior who has shown the greatest improvement in Accounting.

\$150 awarded to **Henry Swasey**

24. Community Bank N.A. Business Award

The Community Bank N.A. Business Award, given to a graduating senior who has shown the greatest improvement in Business courses.

\$150 awarded to **Aneska Zindulka**

25. Community Bank N.A. Greatest Improvement Award

The Community Bank N.A. Greatest Improvement Award, given to a graduating senior who has shown the greatest improvement while in high school.

\$100 awarded to **David Cabrera-Lopez**

26. Community Bank N.A. Positivity Award

The Community Bank N.A. Positivity Award, given to a graduating senior who has been an outstanding positive presence in the Onteora High School community.

\$100 awarded to **Sunari McNabb-Perry**

27. Damein Kovacs Memorial Award

The Damein Kovacs Memorial Award, given by the O'Connor family to a graduating senior who demonstrates a love of country, the great outdoors, hunting, fishing, and is also kind, caring and loved by many.

\$100 awarded to **Jack Wood**

2025 Senior Scholarship Awards

28. DEHIC Award

The DEHIC Award sponsored by Rose and Kiernan, Inc., given to a graduating senior who will pursue a career in the field of healthcare, wellness, education, or business.

\$500 awarded to **Brenden Lomoe-Thompson**

29. Determination and Humility Award

The Determination and Humility Award, in memory of Mr. Wellington “Duke” Hunter, given to a graduating senior who has manifested to a high degree the two characteristics that Mr. Hunter admired greatly in others and possessed himself: determination and humility.

\$250 awarded to **Aidan Wiacek**

30. Elaine Ostrander Memorial Award

The Elaine Ostrander Memorial Award, in memory of an admired former secretary who proudly graduated from Onteora in 1959 and worked for the district for forty years, given to a graduating senior who shares Elaine's love of the Onteora community, has an exemplary work ethic, demonstrates personal integrity, and is committed to excellence in everything they do.

\$375 awarded to **Lucinda Jennings**

31. Elizabeth Spinelli Memorial Award

The Elizabeth Spinelli Memorial Award, given by Paul and Karen Wereszynski, to a senior who has excelled in the business field and/or has actively participated in the sport of golf. This senior has also demonstrated an interest in the well-being of school and community, thereby echoing the caring nature of Liz Spinelli.

\$150 awarded to **Vincent Christofora**

32. Emerson Hospitality Award

The Emerson Hospitality Award, given to a graduating senior who has shown outstanding achievement in the business field.

\$750 awarded to **Chloe Schropfer**

33. Erin McGurgan Memoiral Award

The Erin McGurgan Memorial Award, in memory of a beloved former Onteora High School English teacher who led her classroom with respect, humor, openness, and a safe environment for all, given to a senior who exemplifies Ms. McGurgan's traits of kindness, helpfulness, dedication to social justice, acceptance, adventurous spirit, compassion for others and all living things, as well as a wonderful, witty sense of humor.

\$1500 awarded to **Anna Johnson**

34. Esther C. Wuenstel Memorial Award

The Esther C. Wuenstel Memorial Award, given to a graduating senior who most exemplifies the characteristics of humility, responsibility, and dedication to family, school, and community.

\$100 awarded to **Grace Young**

35. Frank F. McMartin Award

The Frank F. McMartin Award, sponsored by James H. Fitzgerald the Senior Class President of the Class of '82, awarded to a graduating senior who demonstrated the “Most School Spirit” for the senior class.

\$2500 awarded to **Joseph Reese**

2025 Senior Scholarship Awards

36. Fred G. Freitag Memorial Award

The Fred G. Freitag Memorial Award to a graduating senior who has attained the highest cumulative average in three or more years of mathematics and is pursuing higher education.
\$500 awarded to **Gavin Rice**

37. Friends of Tennis Award

The Friends of Tennis Award given joyfully by a group of friendly, competitive tennis players, in honor of Sheilah Gersh, Rose Koplovitz, Mary Littleton, Marilyn Manning and Elena Zang, to students who have shown joy, passion, and dedication to tennis throughout high school. Recipients are asked to put this award towards promoting friendship, enjoyment in keen competition, and the development of lifelong friendships. This is just the beginning. Keep in touch and let us know how this award supported your love of the game. Remember, "Watch your alley!"

\$500 awarded to **Lily Pizer**

\$500 awarded to **Abigail Taylor**

38. George Haug Memorial Award

The George Haug Memorial Award, given to a graduating senior who is dedicated to improving the Onteora community with intellectual curiosity, family loyalty, and unassuming grace.
\$175 awarded to **Cole Matteson**

39. George Haug Science Award

The George Haug Science Award, sponsored by the Haug Family, given to a graduating senior who will pursue a career in the science field and who embodies George's generous spirit, kindhearted nature, love of learning, and commitment to school community.

\$125 awarded to **Brenden Lomoe-Thompson**

40. Gregory Gregor Memorial Award

The Gregory Gregor Memorial Award, given to a graduating senior in memory of the former Onteora business teacher whose sense of humor and positive energy made him a friend to the entire school community.

\$100 awarded to **Waylon Brown**

41. Harry Simon Memorial Award

The Harry Simon Memorial Award, sponsored by family, colleagues and friends in memory of the founder of the Onteora Music Department, given to a graduating senior who has made outstanding contributions to the music programs at Onteora High School.

\$500 awarded to **Cocoro Asada**

42. Henry J. Boucher Memorial Award

The Henry J. Boucher Memorial Award, is presented to a graduating senior who has excelled in science throughout high school. This senior has also demonstrated a passion for enabling the advances of science to better the quality of life in the global community. In addition, this senior exemplifies the personal characteristics of Mr. Boucher in their generosity and kindness towards the school community and the community at large.

\$1000 awarded to **Riley Fitzgerald**

2025 Senior Scholarship Awards

43. Herman Hoffman Memorial Award

The Herman Hoffman Memorial Award, given to a deserving graduate who wishes to pursue a career in the field of carpentry or further education in a related mechanical school.

\$250 awarded to **Jacob Wood**

44. Hurley Lions Club Award

*The Hurley Lions Club Award, given to graduating seniors who emulate their organizational philosophy: "We Serve...Whenever a Lions club gets together, problems get smaller. And communities get better. That's because we help where help is needed – in our own communities and around the world – with unmatched integrity and energy."

\$1000 awarded to **Keegan Burkhardt**

\$1000 awarded to **Grace Young**

45. Ida Valentini Memorial Award

The Ida Valentini Memorial Award, given by her family to a graduating senior who demonstrates determination, strength of character, and optimism in the face of adversity.

\$200 awarded to **Brenden Lomoe-Thompson**

46. James E. Girzone Memorial Award

The James E. Girzone Memorial Award, given in memory of James who believed so strongly in the potential of young people, the power of intellectual curiosity, and the benefits of working diligently to achieve your goals.

\$100 awarded to **Riley Fitzgerald**

47. Jane and Victor Allen Award

The Jane and Victor Allen Award, given to a graduating senior who has shown perseverance in achieving their academic success.

\$300 awarded to **Lily McNamara**

48. Jane Todd Sanchis Memorial Award

The Jane Todd Sanchis Memorial Award, given by the Todd and Sanchis families, to a graduating senior who is kind, caring, compassionate, and excelled in the Mathematics and Music Departments.

\$200 awarded to **Gavin Rice**

49. Jason A. Jones Memorial Award

The Jason A. Jones Memorial Award, given in memory of the former Onteora athlete and track coach to a graduating seniors who possess the same qualities that Jason did throughout his life: Empathy, Compassion, Determination, Perseverance, and Awareness.

\$500 awarded to **Keegan Burkhardt**

\$500 awarded to **Anna Johnson**

\$500 awarded to **Sara Metawee**

50. Joan Beesmer "Humble and Kind" Memorial Award

The Joan Beesmer "Humble and Kind" Memorial Award, given in memory of the beloved mother of Lisa Casey and her three siblings to a graduating senior who exemplifies Joan's generous spirit and gifted ability to always be humble and kind.

\$200 awarded to **Lucinda Jennings**

2025 Senior Scholarship Awards

51. Joseph Belleville Memorial Award

The Joseph Belleville Memorial Award, given to a graduating senior who, like Joe, has a "heart full of love, an ear ready to listen, and a hand willing to help others."

\$100 awarded to **Griffin VanDreaseon**

52. Joseph Petrella Memorial Award

The Joseph Petrella Memorial Award, sponsored by his Rosato grandchildren who are all graduates of Onteora High School, given to a graduating senior who is planning to pursue a career in either education, music, or the performing arts. Joseph was a career educator and had a strong passion for the arts.

\$150 awarded to **Lucinda Jennings**

53. Joseph Vanacore Memorial Award

The Joseph Vanacore Memorial Award, in memory of the WWII veteran, Onteora employee, and twenty-two year Board of Education Trustee, given to a male and female who demonstrate their love for America, understand the sacrifice for freedom, and are pursuing a career in the military, trade school, or community college.

\$100 awarded to **Austin Fatum**

\$100 awarded to **Jillian Tyler**

54. Josh MortonStrauss Memorial Award

The Joshua MortonStrauss Memorial Award, sponsored by the MortonStrauss Family, given to a graduating senior who has the courage to stand up for those who are unable to stand up for themselves, exhibits a true class spirit, demonstrates great school pride, and enjoys athletics and/or performing arts. Josh loved Onteora and was always proud of his alma mater! His teachers and friends, along with the education he received, set him on the path towards an amazing life.

\$475 awarded to **Anna Johnson**

55. Justine C. Winters Scholarship Award

The Justine C. Winters Award, given to a graduating senior of good character who has been friendly and helpful throughout their years of school in a quiet, consistent manner.

\$1000 awarded to **Denise Gordon**

56. Kevin J. O'Connor Memorial Award

*The Kevin J. O'Connor Memorial Award, given by the O'Connor Family in memory of their son to a graduating senior who has demonstrated outstanding characteristics in community service, responsibility, honesty, loyalty, and concern for others. This student exemplifies many attributes inherent in Kevin O'Connor by demonstrating an appreciation for protecting our natural environment while enjoying the outdoors for recreation and sports.

\$1000 awarded to **Cole Matteson**

57. Kingston Maennerchor and Damenchor Music Award

*The Kingston Maennerchor and Damenchor, Inc Music Award, given to a graduating senior whose principle purpose is the promotion of German music and culture. This student has shown excellence in choral singing and/or individual vocal performance.

\$500 awarded to **Milo Turba**

2025 Senior Scholarship Awards

58. Leadership Award

*The Leadership Award, given by the Administrators of Onteora Central School District to a graduating senior planning for higher education or the military who has consistently demonstrated positive leadership qualities in academics, extra-curricular activities, and/or community endeavors. The successful recipient has maintained a minimum of an 85% grade point average with no serious disciplinary issues throughout their high school career.

\$500 awarded to **Joseph Reese**

59. Lester Fensterheim Phoenicia Library Community Service Award

The Lester Fensterheim Phoenicia Library Community Service Award, given in memory of Lester Fensterheim who was known for having a heart of gold, giving so much of his time and energy to nonprofits in our community, including serving as a Trustee of the Phoenicia Library, to a graduating senior who commemorates his generous character and who has given back to the community as a volunteer.

\$500 awarded to **Kai Caswell**

60. Levon Helm Memorial Music Award

The Levon Helm Memorial Music Award, given in memory of Levon's humble spirit, enthusiastic love of performing, and passion for keeping music education alive in public schools, to a graduating senior who has maintained an overall average between 80 and 90, demonstrates exemplary behavior, and will continue to develop their passion for music performance.

\$10500 awarded to **Waylon Brown**

61. Linda Kocher Memorial Award

The West Hurley Fire Department's Linda Kocher Memorial Award, given to a graduating senior, preferably a current active volunteer of a local fire department, who plans to pursue a career in the medical field.

\$500 awarded to **Sarah Caloro**

62. Lisa Valentini-Dutcher and Victoria Morra Memorial Award

The Lisa Valentini-Dutcher and Victoria Morra Memorial Award, lovingly given by their families, in honor of their mothers who collectively raised ten Onteora graduates, given to graduating seniors who personify their spirits through kindness, hard work, determination, and family values.

\$325 awarded to **Keegan Burkhardt**

\$325 awarded to **Sunari McNabb-Perry**

63. Lori Fulford Memorial Award

*The Lori Fulford Memorial Award, given by her loving family in memory of the 1992 Onteora graduate who committed her life to her family, friends and her animals. Lori's desire was to rescue as many animals as she could to give them a good home. She dreamed of owning a farm full of rescued dogs. The award is given to a graduating senior who demonstrates Lori's compassion and love for all types of animals, and who will make a difference working with or volunteering with animals.

\$500 awarded to **Sunari McNabb-Perry**

2025 Senior Scholarship Awards

64. Lynne Byron Memorial Award

The Lynne Byron Memorial Award, sponsored by the Byron family in memory of their beloved mother, given to a worthy and deserving graduating senior who will further their education at SUNY Ulster.

\$200 awarded to **Nico Paynter**

65. Madison Creagan Memorial Award

The Madison Creagan Memorial Award, given to a graduating senior who exemplifies scholarship, leadership, service to the community, character, citizenship, and has participated in Varsity Field Hockey.

\$250 awarded to **Rylan Reynolds**

66. Mario Occhi Memorial Award

*The Mario Occhi Business Award, given to a graduating senior that intends to pursue a Bachelor's degree in Business and best displays the traits of Mario Occhi, a hard-working, generous entrepreneur. Like Mario, this student has ambitious goals of building their own business.

\$500 awarded to **Grace Young**

67. Marion Umhey Memorial Award

The Marion Umhey Memorial Award, presented by Paul and Karen Wereszynski, given to a senior who has shown a genuine interest in the field of journalism through their work on the school newspaper, literary magazine, and/or has actively participated in student government.

\$100 awarded to **Melanie Milla**

68. Mary Grehl Memorial Award

The Mary Grehl Memorial Award, sponsored by Mr. and Mrs. Paul Wereszynski, given to a graduating senior who has given tirelessly of their time and energy in the spirit of volunteerism.

\$150 awarded to **Olivia McHugh**

69. Mary Jearolmen Memorial Award

The Mary Jearolmen Memorial Award, sponsored by family, given to a student who faces life's challenges with humor, humility, and courage.

\$100 awarded to **Sunari McNabb-Perry**

70. Mary Vanacore Memorial Award

The Mary Vanacore Memorial Award, sponsored by Paul and Karen Wereszynski, given to a graduating senior who exemplifies Mary's energetic, persevering, and caring nature in her effort to improve the school and community which were so special to her.

\$150 awarded to **Keegan Burkhardt**

71. Maya Deren Memorial Award

The Maya Deren Experimental Film Award honors a graduating senior who demonstrates bold creative vision and a commitment to pushing the boundaries of cinematic form. Named for the pioneering avant-garde filmmaker, this scholarship supports students who view film as both an artistic medium and a means of personal exploration. This award is made possible by the generosity of many former Onteora film students, their parents, and Neil Smoller at the Village Apothecary.

\$500 awarded to **Dahlia Rosen-Boiardi**

2025 Senior Scholarship Awards

72. MJO Education Consultant Award

The MJO Education Consultant Award, given to a graduating senior who has achieved an outstanding academic four-year record in high school, successfully studied Advanced Placement United States History and Advanced Placement Government & Politics, participated in Harvard Model Congress for two years, been inducted as a member of the National Honor Society, and intends to pursue further studies in either American or International Studies. Sponsored by Mr. Matthew Ostoyich, a former teacher of History and Social Studies.

\$500 awarded to **Eleanor Wyman**

73. Most Fabulous French Club President of All Time Award

Most Fabulous French Club President of All Time Award, given to a graduating senior for outstanding service as President of French Club, dedication to fundraising for scholarships and future francophone travel, as well as endless enthusiasm and support for younger members.

\$500 awarded to **Juan Martinez**

74. Mountain Valley Little League's Excellence in Youth Sports Award

The Mountain Valley Little League's Excellence in Youth Sports award is given to a senior who exemplifies community involvement, sportsmanship, and academic achievement over the course of their high school career at Onteora. This graduate understands the important role youth sports play in a person's development and has worked to further participation in local youth sports leagues or made an effort to improve local leagues or programming.

\$250 awarded to **Cole Matteson**

75. Nancy Fitzsimmons Memorial Award

The Nancy Fitzsimmons Memorial Award, given to a student who has a passion to share their love of music with others and plans to follow their musical endeavors.

\$125 awarded to **Waylon Brown**

76. New York State Office of the Comptroller Student Achievement Award

The New York State Office of the Comptroller Student Achievement Award, given to students who have shown academic excellence and the potential for leadership through involvement in activities that improve the school or the community.

Certificate awarded to **Cocoro Asada**

77. New York State Scholarship for Academic Excellence

The New York State Scholarship for Academic Excellence, presented by The New York State Department of Education, to the seniors who rank at the top of their graduating class and plan to attend a New York State college or university.

\$1500 for rank #1 awarded to **Gavin Rice (Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute)**

\$500 for rank #2 awarded to **Alexia Melendez (SUNY Binghamton)**

\$500 for rank #3 awarded to **Maximus Reimondo (Clarkson University)**

\$500 for rank #4 awarded to **Alexis Nielson (SUNY Fashion Institute of Technology)**

2025 Senior Scholarship Awards

78. O.H.S. Physical Education Department Awards

The Physical Education Department Awards given to a male and female graduating senior who display a good attitude, sportsmanship, athletic excellence, dedication, and sets of a positive athletic example in class, sports and the community.

\$100 awarded to **Cole Matteson**

\$100 awarded to **Lila Metawee**

79. O.N.T.E.A. Deb Leshkevich Memorial Award

The Onteora Non-Teaching Employees Association Award, in memory of Deb Leshkevich, given to two graduating seniors who have a positive attitude, put forth good effort, are responsible, congenial, and maintain a sense of humor.

\$100 awarded to **Hunter Beck**

\$100 awarded to **Melanie Milla**

80. O.T.A. Academic Excellence Awards (OHS student)

The Onteora Teachers' Association Award, given to a graduating senior who has exhibited academic excellence throughout high school.

\$200 awarded to **Gavin Rice**

81. O.T.A. Education Award

The Onteora Teachers' Association Award, given to a graduating senior who has exhibited academic excellence and is choosing to major in education.

\$200 awarded to **Abigail Zeh**

82. O.T.A. Perseverance and Improvement Award

The Onteora Teachers' Association Perseverance and Improvement Award given to a graduating senior who has exhibited perseverance and continuous academic improvement high school.

\$200 awarded to **Kai Caswell**

83. OAG Civic Ambassador Award

The OAG Civic Ambassador Award, sponsored by the State of New York Office of the Attorney General, given to a graduating senior who has demonstrated a passion and knowledge for civics and government.

Certificate awarded to **Olivia McHugh**

84. Olive Fire Department No.1, Inc. Music Awards

The Olive Fire Department No 1., Inc. presents desk trophies to the senior students who have shown the greatest amount of musicianship, scholarship, and personal characteristics.

Directors Award Desk Trophy awarded to **Cole Matteson**

John Phillip Sousa Band Award Desk Trophy awarded to **Jack O'Neil**

Louis Armstrong Jazz Award Desk Trophy awarded to **Cocoro Asada**

National Chorus Award Desk Trophy awarded to **Milo Turba**

National Orchestra Award Desk Trophy Awarded to **Waylon Brown**

2025 Senior Scholarship Awards

85. Onteora Art Club Legacy Award

The Onteora Art Club Legacy Award, given to dedicated students who have demonstrated exceptional leadership and long-term commitment to the Onteora High School Art Club. These students have contributed to the Art Club's growth and success over the past few years and have inspired others. This award recognizes both initiative and sustained involvement in the Arts here at Onteora.

\$50 awarded to **Juan Martinez**

\$50 awarded to **Rayne Nguyen**

\$50 awarded to **Lily Stoudt**

86. Onteora Booster Club Award

The Onteora Booster Club Award, given to graduating seniors who have attended school events, shown a sense of pride in their school, supported the endeavors of their peers, and displayed continuous school spirit during their time at Onteora.

\$250 awarded to **Keegan Burkhardt**

\$250 awarded to **Milo Turba**

87. Onteora Business Achievement Award

The Onteora Business Achievement Award, given to a graduating senior who has demonstrated academic excellence in multiple business courses and plans to pursue a business or accounting degree at a four-year college.

\$150 awarded to **Kelsey Gray**

88. Onteora Central Administration Scholar Award

The Onteora Central Administration Scholar Award, given to graduating seniors who have a thirst for knowledge, outstanding work ethic, and demonstrated academic excellence.

\$250 awarded to **Lily Pizer**.

\$250 awarded to **Maximus Reimondo**

89. Onteora DECA Alumni Award

The Onteora DECA Alumni Award, given to a graduating senior who was a member of Onteora DECA (International Business and Marketing Club) and has excelled at regional and New York State DECA competitions.

\$50 awarded to **Jaelyn Ostling**

90. Onteora French Club Excellence Awards

Onteora French Club Excellence Awards, given to graduating seniors who continued studying French through their senior year and were active in French Club fundraising efforts.

\$200 awarded to **Eleanor Wyman**

\$100 awarded to **Cocoro Asada**

\$100 awarded to **Rhylee Berhman**

\$100 awarded to **Lily Pizer**

91. Onteora Music Teachers Award

The Onteora Music Teachers Award, given to two deserving graduating seniors who exhibit leadership, enthusiasm, and positive participation.

\$100 awarded to **Cole Matteson**

\$100 awarded to **Milo Turba**

2025 Senior Scholarship Awards

92. Onteora Science Excellence Award

The Onteora Science Excellence Award, given to a graduating senior who has displayed academic excellence and achievement in Science throughout high school.

\$200 awarded to **Riley Fitzgerald**

\$200 awarded to **Keegan Burkhardt**

93. Paul Wereszynski Entrepreneur's Award

The Paul Wereszynski Entrepreneur's Award, sponsored by James H. Fitzgerald the Senior Class President of the Class of '82, awarded to a graduating senior who demonstrated the business-minded spirit of Mr. W., plans to major in business, and shows future entrepreneurial promise.

\$2500 awarded to **Alexia Melendez**

94. Paul Wereszynski Memorial Award

The Paul A. Wereszynski Memorial Award, in memory of the former Onteora Marketing teacher and DECA advisor, is presented to a graduating senior who is an active member of Onteora DECA and who demonstrates a strong commitment to the organization through their dedication, leadership, and academic achievement in business and marketing education.

\$500 awarded to **Jaelyn Ostling**

95. Pete Giambrone Memorial Award

The Pete Giambrone Memorial Award, in memory of Pete Giambrone who gave endless hours of support to the Onteora Wrestling program, given to a college enrolled senior wrestler who has selflessly and positively impacted the team while maintaining a minimum GPA 85%.

\$5000 awarded to **Lily Brosnan**

\$5000 awarded to **Cole Matteson**

96. Peter "Pete" Ferraro Memorial Award

The Peter 'Pete' Ferraro Award, given in loving memory for his strength, unwavering love, wisdom, kindness and humor, which enriched the lives of so many. His life was rooted in family, friendship, and community connection—and everyone knew, if you needed something, he would be there.

\$100 awarded to **Keegan Burkhardt**

97. Peter Tosi Memorial Award

The Peter Tosi Memorial Award, given by family to a graduating young woman and young man from the Town of Olive who are active in the sports program at Onteora, have exhibited kindness and concern for others, and have contributed to the well-being of the school and/or community.

\$150 awarded to **Olivia McHugh**

\$150 awarded to **Griffin VanDreasen**

98. Phyllis Rosato and Wendy Cohen Mathematics Award

The Phyllis Rosato and Wendy Cohen Mathematics Award, in honor of former Onteora teachers, given to graduating seniors who demonstrate perseverance in their mathematical studies, and through determination and desire for excellence, achieve their goals.

\$100 awarded to **Jack O'Neill**

\$100 awarded to **Emma Proper**

2025 Senior Scholarship Awards

99. Ralph (Lane) Legnini Memorial Music Award

The Ralph (Lane) Legnini Memorial Music Award in honor of the New York City musician whose passion for performing live music spanned many eras from silent film and big band, to live radio and T.V. shows, to high society New York City clubs. Ralph's love of music was demonstrated in his active solo music gigs until his passing at the age of 103. This award is given by loving family to a graduating senior who, like Ralph, recognizes that music and life are one and the same.

\$200 awarded to **Milo Turba**

100. Reginald R. Bennett Memorial Phoenicia Library Award

The Reginald R. Bennett Memorial Phoenicia Library Award, given to a worthy graduating senior who wishes to pursue a higher level of education. Mr. Bennett, a lifelong resident of the Town of Shandaken, was the devotee for the preservation of local history. The illustrious former factory hamlet of Chichester, NY, location of his birth, was his primary interest. Active in many aspects of education from his early youth, including the teaching of numerous Shandakenites over an extensive period of time, Reginald R. Bennett strived to unify learning into what we now know as The Ontario Central School District.

\$500 awarded to **Bryce Bunton**

101. Retired Employees of Ontario Award

The Retired Employees of Ontario Award, sponsored by the Retired Employees' of Ontario, given to members of the graduating class who will pursue a career in education or a field benefiting today's youth.

\$1000 awarded to **Lily Brosnan**

\$1000 awarded to **Abigail Taylor**

102. Ron "Coach" Pape Memorial Award

*The Ron "Coach" Pape Memorial Award, given to scholar-athletes who have shown respect, sportsmanship, perseverance, compassion, and inspiration to their fellow teammates and the Ontario community, as well as scholastic achievement and enthusiasm in the study of science.

\$1000 awarded to **Lilyana DeGondea-Heaney**

\$1000 awarded to **Cole Matteson**

103. Rotary Club of Phoenicia Award

*The Rotary Club of Phoenicia Award, given to the graduating senior who, in the opinion of Phoenicia Rotary and the faculty and administration, has by determination and self-application, maintained a commendable scholastic record and citizenship rating for four years of high school.

\$1000 awarded to **Anna Johnson**

104. Rotary Club of Phoenicia Vocational Award

*The Rotary Club of Phoenicia Award, given to a graduating senior who is pursuing further education in a vocational school toward an occupational career.

\$500 awarded to **Kaydence Christian**

2025 Senior Scholarship Awards

105. Ruth Mueller Memorial Award

The Ruth Mueller Memorial Award, given by her three daughters in memory of their mom Ruth who worked for twenty-two years in the Guidance Department at Onteora High School. Ruth was the right hand to the counselors, dedicated to student class scheduling, joyful, humble, and always willing to help. This award is given to a graduating senior who embodies these qualities and who is pursuing a two-year advanced degree in business or accounting.

\$300 awarded to **Daxhane Guy**

106. S.A.D.D. Outstanding Role Model Award

The S.A.D.D. Outstanding Role Model Award is given to graduating seniors who are kind, caring, responsible and a good role model for younger students.

\$250 awarded to **Keegan Burkhardt**

\$250 awarded to **Lilyana DeGondea-Heaney**

107. Senior of the Year Award

The Senior of the Year Award, chosen by the officers of the yearbook and their advisor, has only one criteria - kindness. The individual receiving this award has demonstrated that they are a kind, giving, and considerate human being. Whether this person has been an Onteora student since Kindergarten or has only joined our community recently, they are widely perceived as a model of generosity, thoughtfulness, and compassion by their fellow students and our staff.

\$250 awarded to **Sunari McNabb-Perry**

108. Shawn M. Farrell Memorial Award

*The Shawn M. Farrell Memorial Award, given to a graduating senior who personifies Shawn's characteristics of honor, respect, and duty to family, country and God. SGT Shawn M Farrell was killed in action on 4/28/14 in Afghanistan while serving our country. He lived a life of service with a joyfulness and playfulness that will live in the hearts and memories of those who knew and loved him best.

\$1000 awarded to **Austin Fatum**

\$500 awarded to **Ahna Fusco**

109. South Side Rod & Gun Club Kevin J. O'Connor Memorial Award

*The South Side Rod and Gun Club Kevin J. O'Connor Memorial Award, given to a graduating senior who is pursuing a two or four year degree leading to a career in Environmental Conservation, Wildlife Management, Forestry or a related field.

\$750 awarded to **Cole Matteson**

110. Spanish Club Award

The Spanish Club Award, given to a graduating senior who has been a leader and a pivotal player in Spanish Club for the past four years.

\$200 awarded to **Denise Gordon**

\$200 awarded to **Milo Turba**

111. Spanish Global Unity Awareness Award

The Spanish Global Unity Awareness Award, given by the Spanish Language Department to an excelling senior who has demonstrated outstanding dedication and enthusiasm for the study of the Spanish language.

\$300 awarded to **Gavin Rice**

2025 Senior Scholarship Awards

112. Stephen G. Bayer Memorial Award

The Stephen G. Bayer Memorial Award, given to a graduating senior who has shown high academic achievement and who has taken an abiding enjoyment in both technology and the great outdoors.

\$1000 awarded to **Daniel Tomono**

113. Sue Wilens Memorial Poetry Award

*The Sue Wilens Memorial Poetry Award, sponsored by the Millenson-Wilens family, given to a graduating senior who has demonstrated a love and passion for poetry, creativity, and the arts.

Sue was a lifelong poet with a love of writing and performing her poetry.

\$500 awarded to **Dahlia Rosen-Boiardi**

114. Sylvia Margolis Memorial Award

The Sylvia Margolis Memorial Award, sponsored by The Historical Society of Woodstock, given to a graduating senior from the town of Woodstock who has achieved academic excellence in the study of history.

\$200 awarded to **Harrison Hughes**

115. The "Works Across The Political Aisle" Award

The "Works Across The Political Aisle Award", sponsored by James H. Fitzgerald the Senior Class President of the Class of '82, awarded to a graduating senior who most demonstrated collaboration with other students and teachers despite different and opposing views to achieve common goals and who shows future political promise.

\$1500 awarded to **Olivia McHugh**

116. The Retired Employees of Onteora Bruce Miller Award

The Retired Employees of Onteora Bruce Miller Award, given in memory of high school math teacher, Bruce Miller, to a graduating senior who excels in mathematics.

\$200 awarded to **Maximus Reimondo**

117. Thompson Family Excellence in Art Award

The Thompson Family Excellence in Art Award, given by The Woodstock School of Art Scholarship to graduating seniors who are outstanding art students.

\$172 in tuition for one month of classes awarded to **Eve Battista**.

\$172 in tuition for one month of classes awarded to **Rayne Nguyen**

\$172 in tuition for one month of classes awarded to **Lily Stoudt**

118. Town of Olive Historical Society Award

The Town of Olive Historical Society Award, given to a graduating senior who plans to continue their education in the field of history or a related field.

\$300 awarded to **Cocoro Asada**

119. Travis Nissen Memorial Fund Scholarship

*Travis A. Nissen was a 2002, Onteora graduate who had a passion for life and willingness to give back to his community, donated by The Travis A. Nissen Memorial Fund, given to graduating seniors who share two of Travis' qualities: Varsity Athlete and a love for the outdoors.

\$1500 awarded to **Keegan Burkhardt**

\$1500 awarded to **Cole Matteson**

2025 Senior Scholarship Awards

120. Triple "C" Award

The Triple "C" Award, sponsored by the State of New York Office of the Attorney General, given to graduating seniors who have shown tremendous COMMITMENT to bettering themselves, the school, and community, the strength of CHARACTER which helped them to achieve their goals and guide them to make right decisions in the future, and remarkable COURAGE which will aid them in meeting all of the challenges ahead.

Certificate awarded to **Lily Brosnan**

Certificate awarded to **Danielle Payne**

121. Ulster County Italian American Foundation Award

*The Ulster County Italian American Foundation Award, given to outstanding graduating students in the Ulster County region. This award is based on academic merit, community activities, Italian-American heritage and plans for enrollment to attend a 2-year or 4-year institution.

\$1000 awarded to **Gavin Rice**

122. Volunteers' Day - A Day of Gratitude Award

*The Volunteers' Day - Day of Gratitude Award, presented to a graduating senior who has demonstrated service to the community by volunteering, and has modeled kindness, compassion and generosity of spirit toward others in the community.

\$100 awarded to **Sunari McNabb-Perry**

\$100 awarded to **Grace Young**

123. Wadler Bros., Inc Award

The Wadler Bros., Inc. Award is given to a graduating senior who is pursuing a career in the skilled trades and has shown significant effort.

\$500 awarded to **Alex Umana**

124. Walter Ronald Bilyeu Memorial Award

The Walter Ronald Bilyeu Memorial Award, given to a graduating senior who displays a love of mathematics and a passion for being involved in school sports and activities.

\$100 awarded to **Ahna Fusco**

125. Wellington Hunter Memorial Award

The Wellington Hunter Memorial Award, given to the graduating senior with the second highest three-year average in Social Studies, 9, 10 and 11.

\$1000 awarded to **Cocoro Asada**

126. Wendy Blackman Memorial Award

The Wendy Blackman Memorial Award, given to a graduating senior who will pursue a career in the field of human services.

\$500 awarded to **Natalie Hastie**

127. Woodstock Community Closet Award

The Woodstock Community Closet Award, given to a graduating senior pursuing higher education studies in the field of medicine.

\$200 awarded to **Griffin VanDreason**

2025 Senior Scholarship Awards

128. Woodstock General and Implant Dentistry Award

The Woodstock General and Implant Dentistry Award, given to graduating seniors who have shown sincere interest and demonstrated achievement towards pursuing a career as a dentist or a medical related field.

\$1000 awarded to **Keegan Burkhardt**

\$1000 awarded to **Rylan Reynolds**

129. Woodstock Rotary Literary/Performing Arts

The Woodstock Rotary Literary/Performing Arts Award, given to a graduating senior who exemplifies true passion for Performing and Culinary Arts. Woodstock Rotary looks forward to seeing how this recipient will continue to excel.

\$500 awarded to **Joseph Reese**

130. Woodstock Rotary STEM

The Woodstock Rotary STEM Award, given to a graduating senior who exemplifies true commitment to academic growth and passion for neuroscience. Woodstock Rotary looks forward to seeing this recipient continue to excel.

\$500 awarded to **Anna Johnson**

131. Woodstock Rotary Visual Arts

The Woodstock Rotary Visual Arts Award, given to a graduating senior who exemplifies true commitment to academic growth and passion for architecture. Woodstock Rotary looks forward to seeing this recipient continue to excel.

\$500 awarded to **Yogi Johansen**

132. Wyatt Baker Memorial Award

The Wyatt Baker Memorial Award, in honor of the 2016 alumnus, given to a graduating senior who, like Wyatt, has shown a passion for working hard, loving life and family, and exhibits a positive attitude with unmeasured kindness in a non-judgmental way.

\$500 awarded to **Adam Rose**

133. You've Got Potential Award

The You've Got Potential Award, given to a graduating senior who has approached their academics with an easy-going demeanor and relaxed attitude, while showing the greatest potential to achieve their goals.

\$50 awarded to **Elias Formont**