



# WOMEN DIVERS HALL OF FAME™

## Congratulations to the 2018 Scholarship/Training Grant Winners

The Women Divers Hall of Fame™ (WDHOF) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to honoring and raising awareness of the contributions of outstanding women divers. WDHOF provides educational, financial, career and mentorship opportunities to the diving community throughout the world. Each year, WDHOF awards scholarships and training grants that provide financial and educational support to individuals of all ages, particularly those who are preparing for professional careers that involve diving.

The Women Divers Hall of Fame scholarships and training grants are awarded yearly in the spring at Beneath the Sea in Secaucus, New Jersey. The program began in 2002 with three scholarships being awarded to four individuals. This year we had a record number of applications and we will be awarding more than \$62,000 to 44 individuals who are passionate about our water planet and looking to grow in their knowledge and skills.

A special thank you goes out to Shirley Pomponi, our Scholarship Chair, and her committee members for all of their hard work and many, many hours spent on our program.

### Graduate Scholarships in Marine Conservation (6 - \$2000 each)

*Sponsored by Aggressor Fleet (Anne Hasson)*

#### **Alexis Sturm**



Alexis became passionate about snorkeling and diving on coral reefs since she learned how to swim. She applied her passion for the ocean to her academics, graduating from the University of Miami with dual degrees in Marine Science and Biology and minors in Marine Policy and Chemistry. Currently, she is a Ph.D. student at Florida Atlantic University-Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute where she is characterizing the genetic structure and population connectivity of

mesophotic and shallow coral communities in Cuba. She plans to finish her technical diving training and aspires to have a career in a government organization conducting applied coral reef research.

*Sponsored by Sea of Change Foundation (Anne Hasson)*

#### **Colleen Bove**



Colleen is a Ph.D. candidate at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, North Carolina. The focus of her dissertation is quantifying the physiological, transcriptomic, and geochemical responses of Caribbean reef-building corals to climate-induced ocean acidification and warming. Her research aims to address how these important corals may respond under such projected climate scenarios in order to build a better understanding of the future status of

Caribbean coral reefs. In the future, she aims to work as a professor at the university level, continuing her research and teaching.

*Sponsored by Meg Donat*

#### **Breck McCollum**



Breck is a Ph.D. student in Environmental Biology at the University of Massachusetts Boston. She researches how rapidly warming waters in the Gulf of Maine affect the diversity, functioning, and structure of marine invertebrate communities on subtidal rock walls. Her research follows up on 40 years of observational studies and hopes to shed light on the ability of this spectacular marine ecosystem to persist despite a changing climate. With this scholarship, she will examine the thermal tolerance of the primary

consumers in this system, to determine if increasing ocean temperatures affect their metabolism, and thus the predation pressure they exert on rock wall communities.

*Sponsored by Rachel Morrison Memorial Fund (John Morrison)*

#### **Taylor Hersh**



Taylor is a Ph.D. candidate at Dalhousie University (Halifax, Nova Scotia). Her passion for the ocean has been a steadfast force throughout her life and ultimately led her to the field of marine bioacoustics. Her research aims to better understand how different groups of sperm whales evolve and maintain distinct dialects. Since sperm whale populations are more clearly structured by dialect than geography or genetics, dialect evolution may signify changes in population structure, which could help inform management decisions. To learn more about her research, visit <https://taylorhersh.weebly.com/>.

*Sponsored by WDHOF (2 scholarships)*

#### **Catherine Alves**



Catherine is a Ph.D. student in Ecology at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; she is also a PADI Divemaster. Prior to beginning her Ph.D. in 2015, she spent several years working in marine conservation and education after receiving her B.A. in Biology from Connecticut College in 2013. Her career goals lie at the interface between effective science, policy, and community-based conservation. Catherine seeks to combine her passion for the oceans with skills in ecology, social science, and scuba diving to inspire increased ocean stewardship among local communities in tropical regions.

#### **Kelly Speare**



Kelly is a Ph.D. student and an NSF Graduate Research Fellow in the department of Ecology, Evolution, and Marine Biology at the University of California, Santa Barbara. She is also a PADI Divemaster and AAUS Scientific Diver with over 1,000 research dives. Kelly earned her B.S. from University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill where she pursued her passion for ecology through extensive fieldwork in American Samoa and Bermuda. Through her dissertation research in the Florida Keys and Moorea, French Polynesia, Kelly investigates the community ecology of coral settlement, and her work aims to understand how trophic interactions shape coral larval habitat selection. Kelly's goal is to promote reef conservation by studying the processes that drive reef resilience and recovery. Kelly also values field-based learning and strives to foster exploration and hands-on experiences for the next generation of scientists by volunteering for the Sea Education Association.

### Undergraduate Marine Research Internship in Marine Biology

Sponsored by Drs. Sue Morra & Kathleen Dudzinski (\$1000)

#### Rachel Borisko



Ever since Rachel first heard the word “marine biologist” and figured out what it meant, she has been pursuing the field of marine biology, captivated by the many wonders that lie beneath the sea. Now, as a student at Maine Maritime Academy, she is in the Marine Biology and Small Vessel Operations program, which has taught her how to be a diligent and safe scientist and vessel operator. Upon graduating, she will test for a 200-ton mate’s license which will further her ability to conduct science at sea.

### Cecelia Connelly Memorial Undergraduate Scholarship in Underwater Archaeology

Sponsored by the Connelly Family (\$750)

#### Tori Galloway



Tori is an undergraduate student obtaining degrees in Underwater Archaeology, Anthropology, and Biology at Indiana University. She is a research assistant in IU’s Center for Underwater Science Research Lab, and has participated in field projects with the University. Tori is interested in cultural and biological resource management and public outreach within the realm of Underwater Archaeology. She is currently working toward Scientific Diver status in preparation for summer research.

### Undergraduate Scholarship in Marine Conservation

Sponsored by Sherry Reed (\$1000)

#### Brooke Fitzwater



Brooke is a senior Biology major with a minor in Psychology, completing her B.S. degree at Middle Tennessee State University. She is interested in animal behavior in a marine setting with a focus on fishes. Brooke has performed research at Estación Costera de Investigaciones Marinas (ECIM) in Las Cruces, Chile, and will be continuing her research on fish behavior at ECIM. She is also a photographer, filmmaker, and artist, and strives to combine these skills with her love

of the sea to create media that inspires ocean conservation. She plans to continue her education through a Ph.D. program.

### Ella Jean Morgan Memorial Dive Training Grant

Sponsored by Erin O’Neill and Frank Boulanger (\$1000)

#### Cheyenne Jarman



Cheyenne is a double major in Marine Biology and Computer Science at the University of California, Santa Cruz. She intends to use her dive education alongside her academic coursework to better understand temperate kelp forest ecosystems. Upon completion of her Bachelor’s degree she will pursue a Ph.D. with the ultimate goal of becoming a university professor of marine biology with a research lab that aims to understand the community dynamics of marine ecosystems.

### Cecelia Connelly Memorial Graduate Scholarship in Underwater Archaeology

Sponsored by the Connelly Family (\$2000)

#### Marijo Gauthier-Bérubé



Marijo is currently conducting her Ph.D. research at Texas A&M University in the Nautical Archaeology Program. She holds a MA degree in Anthropology from the Université de Montréal and has participated in various underwater projects since 2011. Her research focuses on France’s forestry management behind the shipbuilding industry in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. She is also involved in public outreach through her work at Fort Saint-Jean Museum and as a co-founding member

of the Canadian non-profit Institut de Recherche en Histoire Maritime et Archéologie Subaquatique.

### Kids Sea Camp Basic Dive Training Grant (3 - \$500 each)

Sponsored by Kids Sea Camp (Margo Peyton)

#### Monisha Parameshwar Bharate



As a zoology student, Monisha has been curious about the diversity of animals and their surroundings. When she was working on her my Masters degree, she had attended a lecture that motivated her to work in this field. She has become interested in sea slugs and especially *Haminoea* on which taxonomic work till now has not been conducted in India. This has further motivated her to conduct research in this field. She is working on

her Ph.D. at Bombay Natural History Society.

## WOMEN DIVERS HALL OF FAME MISSION

The Women Divers Hall of Fame’s two-part mission includes:

- Recognizing women divers who have made outstanding contributions to the exploration, understanding, safety and enjoyment of our underwater world and
- Supporting the underwater world and its associated careers by promoting opportunities for women and men in diving through scholarships, internships and mentorship opportunities and a worldwide network of industry contacts.

To learn more about the Women Divers Hall of Fame, visit [www.wdhof.org](http://www.wdhof.org)

### Ana Carolina Gonzalez Tellez



Ana Carolina is a young mother, wife and a psychology student. She believes that the underwater environment can be soothing and can change the way we interact with others in a very positive way. This grant offers a huge step for Ana Carolina--a way of getting back in touch with herself. The training will mean personal growth, autonomy and the start of an amazing career full of possibilities complimentary to everything that she is passionate about.

### Nicole Weiss



A recent graduate of Florida Southern College, Nicole has spent the last four years achieving her childhood dreams by obtaining her B.S. in Marine Biology while volunteering and interning with sea turtle rehabilitation, nesting, and conservation programs, and studying sharks in Bimini. She hopes to continue her education, focusing on sea turtle rehabilitation, conservation, and research. She currently works as a zoo teacher. Diving will open up a whole new world

of sights and opportunities, and Nicole is thrilled to have an incredible opportunity to become scuba certified.

### Ocean Pals Junior Dive Training Grant

*Sponsored by Ocean Pals (JoAnn Zigahn) (\$1000)*

#### Sophia Riesen



Sophia is a home-schooled, 13-year-old who enjoys educating youths and adults – hoping she can motivate them to make a positive difference in the health of the ocean, and ultimately in the health of our planet. She takes classes and volunteers at Mote Marine Laboratory and Aquarium, learning everything she can about an ecosystem we know so little about. She is a part of Scubonauts – a scientific, teen-diving group that works in the Florida Keys. She has discovered a new addiction to scuba diving and ocean exploration.

### Advanced Dive Training Grant – Recreational (3 - \$1000 each)

*Sponsored by Bonnie Toth*

#### Krista Laforest



Krista's passion for the ocean was fostered at a young age growing up on the water and becoming scuba certified at 16. She is currently working on her undergraduate degree at the University of North Carolina Wilmington (UNCW) in Marine Biology and Psychology, minoring in neuroscience, and she hopes to attend graduate school to focus on behaviors of marine organisms. She has been an active member of UNCW's Scuba Club for three years, serving as the equipment manager, treasurer, and secretary. She

was named the 2017 Boston Sea Rover Intern, which encouraged her to integrate diving into her future career. Krista plans to use this training grant to obtain her dive master certification and hopes to become an instructor and encourage more young women to dive.

*Sponsored by WDHOF*

#### Julia Donath



Born and raised in San Luis Obispo, California, Julia has spent her life immersed in the ocean. An ocean lifeguard for California State Parks since the age of 16, surfer, diver, and junior lifeguards instructor, Julia spends much of her time working and playing in the ocean. Her deep respect and appreciation for the marine environment ultimately led her to the University of California, Santa Barbara, where she is currently pursuing a degree in Environmental

Studies, with a concentration in Environmental Writing & Media. She leaves this spring for the University of Brisbane, where she will study and mitigate the effects of climate change in the Solomon Islands. Julia plans to spread her intense passion and joy for our world's oceans through written communication, journalism, and spreading relentless enthusiasm.

*Sponsored by WDHOF*

#### Lauren Ritch



Lauren is a 16-year-old honor student with an unfathomable love for the ocean. She intends to pursue a degree in marine biology upon graduation from high school. Her passion for the ocean has been an essential part of her childhood, and has only grown since she conducted a series of scientific dives with SeaTrek BVI in 2015. Lauren will be revisiting SeaTrek in the upcoming summer where she will apply her grant towards Nitrox, Advanced, and Rescue Diver certifications while also continuing her work on coral studies and aiding in turtle conservation acts.

### Advanced Dive Training Grant – Professional (3 - \$1000 each)

*Sponsored by WDHOF*

#### Stephanie Gardner



Steph spends her time personally and professionally surrounded by the ocean and considers herself lucky to do what she loves. She earned her Ph.D. at the University of Technology Sydney in Australia in 2017 and moved to Barcelona, Spain, after successfully obtaining an Australian Government Endeavour Postdoctoral Fellowship. As a coral physiologist and biochemist, Steph's research focuses on the traits corals can use to protect themselves from coral bleaching which is driven by human-induced climate change.

As a PADI Divemaster and ocean advocate, Steph combines her knowledge and passion for the marine environment and hopes to contribute to raising awareness of the changing climate and how we can work towards a sustainable future.

#### Erin O'Shaughnessey



Erin is a Master's student at Loyola University Chicago, studying aquatic invasive species. She has conducted dive surveys in Lake Michigan monitoring the invasive crayfish and mollusk populations. She has used her dive experience and passion for aquatic species to do research and conservation work on the Great Barrier Reef and with White sharks in South Africa. Erin plans to use this grant to obtain her advanced dive training certificate to continue her research. Her next goal is to complete her Ph.D. in aquatic ecology.

### Advanced Dive Training Grant – Professional (cont.)

#### Bess Ruff



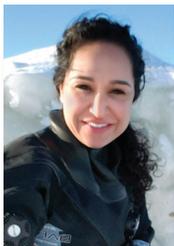
Bess is a Ph.D. student in geography at Florida State University where her research focuses on the ecological and socioeconomic dynamics of coastal and marine management. Bess integrates geographic approaches with her training in economics, conservation planning, and marine resources management to holistically assess the spatio-temporal dynamics of marine spatial planning. She has conducted surveys for a variety of marine spatial planning projects in the Caribbean. With

the Advanced Dive Training grant, Bess will pursue her AAUS Scientific Diving certification in order to better assess the ecological outcomes of varying marine spatial planning scenarios.

### Advanced Dive Training Grant – Technical (2)

*Sponsored by WDHOE (\$1000)*

#### Payal Razdan



Payal is a doctoral student in kinesiology at Université Laval, exploring the impact of extreme environments on physiological adaptation and human performance. Her academic training began with a focus in physiology, and she continued to earn a Master of Public Health in health management and education. Her passion for diving, particularly technical diving and hyperbaric medicine, evolved while working as a research associate at Divers

Alert Network. Training as an emergency medical technician developed skills in urban and wilderness emergency management. The grant will help build a deeper and more personal understanding of the factors that impact decompression safety.

*Sponsored by Diving Matrix UK (Olivier van Overbeek) (\$1500)*

#### Celia Marlowe



Celia is a Ph.D. candidate at the University of East Anglia in the United Kingdom. Her research is focused on using scuba divers as citizen scientists, collecting temperature data generated by dive computers and determining whether it can become a useful data source for oceanographic monitoring or underwater feature identification, for scientists and policy makers. Currently a PADI Divemaster and entry-level tech diver, Celia will use the grant to expand her technical skills by completing the RAID 50 technical diving course.

### Amelia Behrens-Furniss Memorial Hardhat Dive Training Grant

*Sponsored by the family and friends of Amelia Behrens-Furniss (\$1000)*

#### Holly Lompa



Holly is enrolled in the Marine Diving and Technology program at SBCC and is now earning her Commercial Diving Certification. She enjoys the MDT program because of how knowledgeable and passionate her instructors are in the classes she is taking, which include Underwater Welding, Mixed Gas Diving, Hyperbarics, and Ocean Structures. But, of all the classes she has taken thus far, she enjoys the Surface Supply Ocean Diving class the most. She plans to pursue a career in salvage diving.

### Code Blue Education Ltd Diver Medic Training Grant (2 grants)

*Sponsored by Code Blue (Chantelle Newman)*

#### Jessica Nordstrom



Jessica is the newly-appointed Assistant Dive Safety Officer at the Point Defiance Zoo and Aquarium in Tacoma, WA. She is passionate about marine conservation with a focus on sharks, and outreach to the local community. She has been diving since 2010 and last year received her PADI Open Water Instructor Certification. She owns JN SCUBA, teaching diving in Puget Sound. Jessica first became interested in dive safety when she was working as a scientific diver for the University of Washington and always strives to put diver safety as her number one priority.

#### Carly Winner



Carly is a sophomore at the University of Wisconsin-Madison studying Environmental Studies, Conservation Biology, and Elementary Education. Currently, Carly is studying at the School for Field Studies in Bocas del Toro, Panama, where she is studying Tropical Island Biodiversity through ecology, socioeconomics, and resource management. Carly has been diving since the age of 12 and has been infatuated with the ocean ever since. Tying her diving background, and current lifeguard occupation together with the Diver Medic Grant it will allow her to have a future occupation in the field of diving.

### Hugh Fletcher Memorial Training Grant to Assist the Disabled to Dive

*Sponsored by Friends of Hugh Fletcher (Kathy Weydig) (\$500)*

#### Cristina Carrasco



Born and raised in Ecuador, she grew up in the highlands but always had a deep passion for the ocean. She started to dive at the age of 18 and continued her diving education until she became an instructor in 2015. She also graduated as a psychologist in 2017. She is particularly interested in deep exploration, the mind and the ocean. By getting education to become an instructor for Disabled Divers, she hopes to be able to find common grounds between humans and ocean, using nature to help people.

If you are interested in further information about the scholarship programs or would like to make a tax-deductible donation, please visit our website at:

[www.wdhof.org](http://www.wdhof.org)

### **PADI 4 Change Scuba Leadership Training Grant (5 - \$2500 each)**

*Sponsored by PADI*

#### **Melissa R. Price**



Melissa is a Senior Archaeologist with the Florida Bureau of Archaeological Research. She received her B.A. in Anthropology from James Madison University (2012), and after a *Titanic* documentary piqued her interest in scuba diving and shipwrecks, she went on to receive an M.A. in Maritime Studies from East Carolina University (2015). Afterwards, she worked various projects all over the world, including Costa Rica, Jordan, Kwajalein, and Bermuda. Now, her interests have taken her to tiny

Caribbean islands, where she hopes to train terrestrial archaeologists in the field of underwater archaeology in order to promote and protect submerged cultural heritage.

*Sponsored by PADI & WDHO*

#### **Madeline Kaufman**



Maddie graduated Summa Cum Laude from the University of Miami with a B.S. in Marine Science and Biology in 2016. She is now pursuing an M.S. degree in Marine Biology and Ecology at RSMAS with a focus on conservation genetics and coral restoration, while working as a divemaster and the environmental coordinator at South Beach Divers. She is also the outreach coordinator for Debris

Free Oceans and helps run marine debris outreach and cleanup events. Her goal is to work as a researcher and field technician for an environmental non-profit.

#### **Julia Newman**



Julia recently earned her B.S. in Television, Radio and Film from Syracuse University. She first became interested in diving after becoming certified in 2013. She is currently in the process of receiving her Divemaster and PADI Master Scuba Diver Trainer certifications. Her goal is to combine her passion for the ocean, diving, and documentary filmmaking by continuing her scuba diving education to polish her skills as an underwater videographer.

She hopes to create documentaries that impact the way the public views our oceans. Her goal is to dedicate her dive career to creating positive impact by making films that shed light on the amazing ties between the water and us.

#### **Nakia Cullain**



Nakia is a marine biologist, conservationist, and founder of Marine Action Research (MAR) in Zavora, Mozambique. As the scientific director of MAR, she leads students and citizen scientists in underwater projects such as manta ray photo-ID, shark and ray identification, nudibranch (sea slug) surveys, artificial reef colonization, and seahorse monitoring. Her mission is to conserve the coastal ecosystems of Mozambique while teaching people,

both theoretically and practically, the importance of research and the beauty of working in the underwater world.

#### **Yasmin Sanaya Hauge El Dabagh**



Yasmin is a medical student from Aarhus, Denmark, with a passion for scuba diving. She is currently working full time on a research project concerning pre-hospital interventions for decompression sickness. In her spare time, she volunteers as a scientific coordinator for the organization “Dive with Doctors” (Dahab, Egypt), an organization that teaches international medical students about safe diving and diving physiology. Her long-term goal is to become a doctor with a special expertise within the field of diving medicine.

### **PADI Young Explorer Dive Training Grant (2 - \$1000 each)**

*Sponsored by PADI*

#### **Emily Drappeau**



Emily is a high school junior who became interested in scuba diving after a short introductory course. She began to save money for her certification before coming in contact with OceansWide. After receiving her open water and advanced certifications, she continues to work for OceansWide, sharing in their passion for diving while helping to teach and inspire the young marine scientists of tomorrow. She enjoys AP biology, environmental studies, and biostatistics, and is looking into marine biology and environment-based college programs and studies. This grant will help her receive her rescue certification while working towards her masters.

*Sponsored by WDHO*

#### **Erin Cowan**



Erin is a high school senior who certified as an Open Water Diver in 2015 at age 15. After experiencing a shark dive in the Bahamas to see blacktip reef sharks in 2016 and volunteering at the National Aquarium in 2017, she discovered her passion for marine biology and conservation. Erin plans to pursue a degree in marine science and work towards her advanced dive certification in order to volunteer as a diver at the National Aquarium.

### **Lifeguard Systems-Public Safety Diving Scholarship (3)**

*Sponsored by Lifeguard Systems, Inc. (Andrea Zaferes)*

#### **Colleen Ferris**



Colleen is a conservationist, public safety diver and educator who calls the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem home. Colleen is a Wilderness EMT and PADI Divemaster, and is proud to be the first woman in over a decade to serve on the Gallatin Co. SAR Tactical Dive Team. She balances her time working for a local community-based non-profit and teaching wilderness medicine. Her goals are to complete public safety diving and ice rescue certifications; she wishes to

promote aquatic safety in her community and inspire safe diving practices in Montana.

### Lifeguard Systems-Public Safety Diving Scholarship (cont.)

#### Katie Klosterman



Katie is a successful free diver and stuntwoman. She is a lead Staff Instructor for Performance Freediving International, as well as being ranked 12th in the world for women in competitive free diving. She is an accomplished stuntwoman working for movies and television. Katie has always been an avid water woman, growing up as a swimmer, lifeguard and all-around athlete. She believes safety is the most important aspect of water education. Her career goals

are focused on helping others become more aware of how to handle water/diving-related medical emergencies and become safer in the water.

### Instructor Advanced Education Scholarship

Sponsored by Jeanne Bear Sleeper (\$2000)

#### Sarah Linden



Sarah holds a B.A. in History from Texas A&M University and a M.A. in Historical Archaeology from the University of West Florida. Sarah began diving as an undergraduate student in 2006. She became passionate about scuba diving immediately and began her diving career in 2013 as a PADI and SDI instructor. In 2013 she accepted a position aboard a live aboard, creating curricula for students in Sweden, centered on Shipwreck Archaeology. She

later ran away to the circus as a rescue diver in Cirque Du Soleil's "O." Sarah is currently a Marine Archaeologist and the Diving Safety Officer for the Texas Historical Commission. Sarah hopes to further her career as a Dive Safety Officer by earning professional medical certifications.

### NAUI Scuba Leadership Grant

Sponsored by NAUI (\$2500 each)

#### Casey Sokolovic



Casey is a senior at North Carolina State University studying Business Administration & Marketing. She will be attending NC State University next year for graduate school in the Global Luxury and Management program. Despite not being in a field that is marine centered, she hopes to use her passion for scuba and her business acumen to ensure that companies are being environmentally conscious. She aims to use this training grant to improve her diving

skills and knowledge so she can be a better steward for scuba and the planet.

### Morgan/O'Neill Underwater Photography Grant

Sponsored by Erin O'Neill and Frank Boulanger (\$2000)

#### Jessica Pate



Jessica is a marine biologist with a graduate degree in Biology from Florida Atlantic University. She began her career studying sea turtles in Florida, West Africa, and Central America. Jessica began diving and taking underwater photos in 2008 and is now a PADI Instructor. She founded the Florida Manta Project in 2016 to study manta rays in southern Florida. Improving her underwater photography skills will aid her in promoting research and conservation of manta rays.

### Interdive Assistant Life Support Technician Training

Sponsored by Interdive UK (Craig Sawkins)

#### Rachael Priest



Rachael is a passionate scuba diver and, while working at Vobster Quay, developed an interest in marine conservation. She earned a BSc in Marine Biology from Plymouth University, while working as part of the hyperbaric chamber team at the Diving Diseases Research Centre. After completing an MSc with Heriot Watt University, and working on the MV *Halton* dive charter in Scapa Flow, she became interested in the hyperbaric unit in Orkney. This has inspired her to

take her hyperbaric career further with the ALST training grant. She hopes to utilize her training to assist divers and eventually apply her knowledge to related research.

### Women's Scuba Association Dive Training Grant (3)

Sponsored by Women's Scuba Association (Jennifer King) (\$1500)

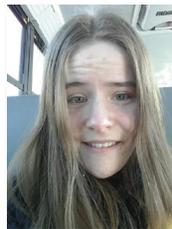
#### Cole Higgins



Cole is 15 years old, a sophomore at South Central High School in Winterville, North Carolina, and active in cross-country, basketball, and lacrosse. He became interested in scuba diving through his work with Love a Sea Turtle program. He is very active in the JROTC program at he school, where he competes on the raider, drill, and color guard teams. After high school, he plans to join the Coast Guard and become a rescue diver.

Sponsored by Women's Scuba Association (Jennifer King) (\$750)

#### Nicole Gustafson



Nicole has been a Sea Cadet for 2 years; she learned about scuba diving during her first year and she became open-water certified in the summer of 2017. She plans to use the funds from the training grant to get additional dive training—and to buy a thicker wetsuit and gloves for the colder waters of Minnesota.

Sponsored by Women's Scuba Association (Jennifer King) (\$750)

#### Samantha Grace Holland



Samantha is in her sophomore year at George County High School in Mississippi. She has been in the AJROTC program for two years and is a currently a 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant and acts as the S1-Battalion Adjunct. In addition, she is dually enrolled in college classes and will graduate with her Associate's Degree by the end of her junior year in high school. She started taking PADI classes in the summer of 2016 and found a passion for diving. Her next step is to become a rescue diver. When she turns 18, she intends to become a PADI instructor.

### Human Factors Skills in Diving (online micro-class)

Sponsored by Human in the System Consulting (Gareth Lock)

Colleen Ferris  
Sarah Linden  
Madeline Kaufman  
Katie Klosterman  
Jessica Nordstrom

Melissa Price  
Rachael Priest  
Sarah Smith  
Casey Sokolovic  
Carly Winner