Press release: 2016: 09: 16: WLP Recognizes USFSP Student Scholarship Recipients

University of South Florida St. Petersburg, Office of University Advancement.

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WLP Recognizes USFSP Student Scholarship Recipients

Six students from USFSP were recognized during a recent ceremony by USF Women in Leadership and Philanthropy. To date, this is the largest group of USFSP scholarship recipients that has been recognized.

“With the partnership of Regional Chancellor Wisniewska and other key WLP members, we are thrilled to have grown our presence and contributions at USFSP and in the surrounding community significantly over the past several years,” said India Witte, executive director, USF Women in Leadership & Philanthropy. “We are proud of the increased student engagement in our scholarship and mentorship programs.”

A list of USFSP scholarship recipients, listed by award:

- **WLP First Generation Scholarship**: Alexandria Bailey and Jillian Medrano
- **WLP/Judith Bryan Darsey Scholarship**: Tiffany Lyp
- **WLP/USF St. Petersburg Scholarship**: Shelby Rehnke
- **WLP/Wilma Fowler Scholarship for USFSP**: Kaitlyn Mollo
- **Women in Leadership and Philanthropy Endowed Scholarship**: Melody Ucros

This is the second time Ucros has been recognized by WLP, having received the 2015-16 WLP Endowed Scholarship last year.

“I’m proud to be a second time scholar of such an amazing and diverse organization like WLP,” said Ucros, 19, a native of Puerto Rico and a senior majoring in Entrepreneurship in the Kate Tiedemann College of Business. “WLP not only helps me financially, but they also offer resources and opportunities that encourage me to keep developing as a female leader.”

The criteria for selection varies for each scholarship—some are based on financial need and merit while others are given based on academic major, career aspirations, or civic engagement.

“Through WLP, I have access to a pool of leaders who push me to be brighter and better every day,” she said. “Thanks to their support, I’ve been able to stress less about how to afford tuition and focus more on pursuing my goals and making an impact in my community.”

Founded in 2005 by a small group of individuals and a handful of Tampa Bay area corporations, WLP advanced a vision shared by noted philanthropist Carol Morsani and USF System President Judy Genshaft. The goal was to create the first women’s philanthropic organization in the Tampa Bay region focused on developing the intellectual and leadership potential of women through the promotion of leadership, development, mentorship, philanthropy, community engagement, and scholarly excellence. Since 2005, WLP has distributed in excess of $500,000 in scholarships to USF System students.
USF Women in Leadership & Philanthropy will host its 11th annual symposium on Thursday, Oct. 6, from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Hilton in downtown Tampa. It will feature keynote speaker Claire Shipman, an Emmy, Peabody, and DuPont award-winning television journalist and regular contributor to Good Morning America and other national broadcasts for ABC News. Proceeds from the symposium will support WLP’s efforts to provide scholarships, faculty research awards, and mentorship opportunities for students and young professionals.

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