

MathWorks Scholarship Committee Report - May 2020

Committee Chair: Lenore Freitas

Committee Members: Sarah Burr, Gregg Cohen, Brian Fay, Richard Williams

For the past 15 years, Mathworks has given the Town of Natick funding for two scholarships of \$10,000 each! The scholarships are for students who live in Natick and who are committed to a career in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. We would like to thank MathWorks for their generous support. We are continually grateful for the commitment that MathWorks has shown our community and especially our young and promising students!

The MathWorks Scholarship selection process is always very competitive. This year in our application pool, we had 11 candidates, including 9 students from Natick High School and 2 from private and charter schools. During the review process, the Committee evaluated all applications based on academic achievement, a student essay, test scores and a demonstrated commitment to math and science. As always, it was a difficult decision, as the overall talent pool is so impressive! The committee identified two students to recommend for the MathWorks award. These students are Adham Abji and Camilla Samuel.

Adham Abji is a senior at Natick High School. He is a fantastic student with a clear interest in STEM. Adham is on the Ultimate Frisbee team and is a member of Model UN but his true passion is Robotics! He is the founder and team captain of his community Robotics team, and has won numerous awards at local and state competitions qualifying for, and competing in the World competition last year! Adham will continue his education at the University of Waterloo where he will study Mechatronics Engineering.

Camilla Samuel is also a Natick High School senior. While being ranked as one of the top students in her class, and maintaining a challenging AP course load, Camilla has been a Varsity runner on both the Indoor and Outdoor Track teams, a member of the NHS Principal's Round table, and a member of the Women in Science Technology Program. Camilla is also quite creative; she works as a sewing instructor and has had artwork pieces selected for Natick Town Hall exhibitions. Camilla intends to combine her artistic talents with her passion for science as she studies Cognitive Brain Science at Tufts University.

It is with great pleasure that we recommend these students for the MathWorks scholarships. Their commitment and passion for learning will ensure their success and will reflect most positively on the Town of Natick.