

2019-2020 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS, (2) \$2000 EACH

Adria Lewis (Grassfield HS, '18, Chesapeake)



Adria, who dreams of becoming an astronaut, is a sophomore Aerospace Engineering major and expects to graduate in 2022. She was as a mentee in the Women in Engineering Program Orientation and now serves as an envoy and participates in “WEPO Wednesdays”, the LionTech Rocket Lab and Pep band. She also volunteers with Fresh START as a team leader and is involved in fundraising and the outreach board for E-house-THON.

The most significant impact on Adria’s academics and student involvement actually came before her very first class. She’d been invited to attend the Women in Engineering Program Orientation (WEPO). The decision to attend the orientation led her to meet other freshmen engineering students, participate in team building exercises and to be introduced to campus and State College. It also included professional workshops that introduced the students to business practices including resume writing, career fairs, networking with engineering professionals and even dining etiquette. After being seated with a representative from GE Aviation at a networking dinner, she received a job offer, which she accepted.

In her scholarship essay, Adria wrote that because of her continued involvement with the Women in Engineering Program Orientation, “I have been influenced to continue striving towards my dream of being an aerospace engineer and hopefully an astronaut, because giving up would mean losing that dream which could be worth all the hard times of engineering at Penn State.”

Kristen Schiltz (York HS '18, Williamsburg)



Kristen, a sophomore marketing major in the Smeal College of Business, graduated with high honors from York High School's International Baccalaureate Program. She expects to graduate in 2022.

An avid ice skater, Kristen competed in local and world competitions as a junior skater. She continues to skate with the Penn State Figure Skating Club, which took third place in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's intercollegiate competition. Kristen's community service includes the Tri-State THON organization where she serves as vice-president this year. She is also involved in intramural sports leagues.

In her application essay, Kristen wrote that the class or program that's had the most influence on her at Penn State was a sociology class. Admittedly, she took the class to fulfill a general education requirement but never expected it to have a long-lasting effect. While the course covered different relationships within the family, she discovered that many of the themes she learned- especially involving communication- could be applied in the business world as well. She wrote, "if I apply what I learned in SOC 30, I believe that I can connect with people because it would be easier to understand their point of view or perspective... in marketing and business."

The class had such a profound effect on her that Kristen is considering adding a sociology minor to her marketing major.