



✉ PO Box 1296, Alfred, ME 04002  
☎ 207-791-3600  
🌐 [www.mesfoundation.org](http://www.mesfoundation.org)  
🖱 [info.mesfoundation.org](mailto:info.mesfoundation.org)

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CONTACT: Kristie Hurlburt, Executive Director  
[khurlburt@mesfoundation.org](mailto:khurlburt@mesfoundation.org)

## MES FOUNDATION PROVIDES \$300,000 TO MAINE STUDENTS

*Alfred, Maine – June 24, 2024* – MES Foundation (MES) announced today the winners of the Richard H. Pierce Memorial Scholarship, which totaled \$300,000 in awards to 15 Maine students, the largest award in MES’s history. Established in honor of MES founder, Dick Pierce, who passed away in 2011, this scholarship is awarded based on distinguished academic merit and financial need.

“Receiving this scholarship has made affording school easier for my family,” said Pierce Scholar Mackenzie Hartery. Mackenzie is a graduate from Orono High School and will be attending the University of Maine in Farmington for elementary education. “My dream is to be a teacher and to help other students as I was once helped,” said Mackenzie. Mackenzie has been involved in nearly every activity that involves service to others at her school. She was a co-founder of her school’s Yellow Tulip Project which is focused on breaking the silence around mental health and providing resources to students. She was a key partner to students with special needs on her school’s Unified Basketball team and a teacher’s aid at a local elementary school.

In 2017, MES Foundation greatly expanded its scholarship program and to-date has awarded \$1.4 million in scholarships to Maine students.

MES will accept on-line scholarship applications beginning January 1, 2025 through April 1, 2025 for the 2025/2026 academic year at [www.mesfoundation.org](http://www.mesfoundation.org).

### **Richard H. Pierce Memorial Scholarship Winners: 4 Year Renewable \$5,000 Scholarship**

Margaret Chioffi – Dublin School  
Jillian Dumais – Edward Little High School  
Jessica Dyer – Deer Isle Stonington High School  
Jack Fournier – Massabesic High School  
Zoey Gilks – Lee Academy  
Ryan Hafener – Hampden Academy  
Chloe Harmon – Windham High School  
Mackenzie Hartery – Orono High School  
Crystalann Kloeber – Washington Academy  
Cassandra Kromer – Belfast Area High School  
Nhi Nguyen – Oak Hill High School  
Sarah Rossignol – Oak Hill High School  
Sophie Sansoucy – Edward Little High School  
Zoe Sikkell – Bucksport High School  
Ella Switter – Hodgdon High School

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MES Foundation is a nonprofit organization dedicated to fostering and promoting higher education.

