

# Thank You

## AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY



**Rebecca Craig**  
Okemos, MI  
Ferris State University  
Welding Engineering Technology  
Detroit Roth - Resistance Welding - District 11 Scholarship  
and Detroit Section Scholarship  
District 11 - 101-Central Michigan

To the Scholarship Committee,

Thank you very much for awarding me this section scholarship. I am humbled to be selected and I will work to be a worthy recipient. This scholarship will allow me to give my senior year of college my full attention and make the most out of my final year. Your generosity makes a difference, and I will make the most of this opportunity.  
Thank you again.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Craig



**Jessica Duff**  
White lake, MI  
Ferris State University  
Welding Engineering Technology  
Detroit Section Scholarship  
District 11 - 011-Detroit

Dear Detroit Section Scholarship Committee,

Thank you so much for rewarding me a scholarship for this upcoming school year. I will be a senior in the welding engineering technology program at Ferris State University. I have been given the honor of receiving a scholarship from the Detroit section for three of the four years of my academic journey.

Thank you for giving me this chance to worry less about the financial stress being a college student can create. This scholarship has granted me the ability to worry less about money and more on my studies. After I graduate I look forward to becoming a member of AWS Detroit Section.

With much Thanks,

Jessica Duff

# Thank You

## AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY



**Milad Eeso**  
Macomb, MI  
Wayne State University  
Civil Engineering  
Detroit Section Scholarship  
District 11 - 011-Detroit

I am writing to express my deepest gratitude for being selected as the recipient of the Detroit Section Scholarship in the amount of \$3,500. It is an honor to receive this scholarship, and I want to thank you for your generous support of my educational and career goals.

As a student pursuing a degree in Civil Engineering at Wayne State University, this scholarship will greatly ease the financial burden of my tuition, textbooks, and other essential academic expenses. Your contribution will enable me to focus more on my studies and career development without the constant worry of how to cover these costs. It also provides me with the opportunity to continue excelling in my academic journey and pursuing my dream of becoming a civil engineer with a focus on sustainable infrastructure.

The Detroit Section Scholarship will not only help me financially but will also serve as a reminder of the importance of community support and giving back. Your commitment to investing in students like myself motivates me to work even harder to achieve my goals and contribute to the betterment of our community.

Once again, thank you for your generosity. I deeply appreciate the trust you have placed in me, and I will continue to strive for excellence in my studies, hoping to make a meaningful impact in the field of engineering.

Sincerely,

Milad Eeso

# Thank You

## AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY



**Madelyn Goodwill**

Ypsilanti, MI  
Washtenaw Community College  
Welding and Fabrication Technology  
Detroit Section Scholarship  
District 11 - 101-Central Michigan

Dear Detroit Chapter of the American Welding Society,

I am writing to express my deepest gratitude for the most kind gift you've granted me via this scholarship. I really appreciate this gift as I, and many students like myself, would not have been able to access this education without it. I am currently two semesters away from my welding associates degree and hope to eventually be able to properly join my AWS chapter and pay forward this most generous gift.

With all kindness and sincerity,

Madelyn Goodwill



**Sophia Gugel**

Rochester Hills, MI  
Oakland university  
Mechanical Engineering  
Detroit Section Scholarship  
District 11 - 011-Detroit

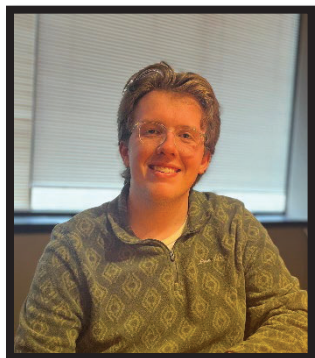
Thank you for your continuing support of my education. This scholarship will help me focus more on my academic pursuits. I am currently attending Oakland University, pursuing a degree in mechanical engineering, and plan to continue my education at Ohio State, focusing on welding engineering. I appreciate your support, as this helps me be able to continue learning things that bring me joy.

Sincerely,

Sophia Gugel

# Thank You

## AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY



**Sean Higgins**  
Woodhaven, MI  
Wayne State University  
Welding and Metallurgical Engineering  
Detroit Section Scholarship  
and District Scholarship  
District 11 - 011-Detroit

Thank you to the Detroit section and District scholarship. This is going to go greatly help me out financially to be able to get through this next school year. I'm honored to be selected for this scholarship.

Sincerely,

Sean Higgins



**Jackson Guillery**  
Wixom, MI  
Ferris State University  
Welding Engineering Technology  
Detroit Section Scholarship  
District 11 - 011-Detroit

Dear Detroit Section AWS Scholarship Committee,

I just wanted to sincerely thank you for awarding me the AWS Detroit Section Scholarship again this year. Receiving it last year was already such an honor, and being chosen a second time means even more to me. Your continued support not only helps me financially but also reminds me that the welding community believes and supports what I'm working towards. That alone motivates me every day, whether I'm in class, at my internship, or planning for the future.

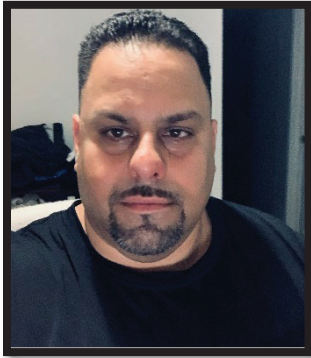
I'm proud to be pursuing a career in this field of work and it has become a true passion for me that only keeps growing the more I learn. I'm determined to keep growing, learning, and eventually giving back to the industry that's given so much to me. Thank you again for your generosity and trust. It truly inspires me to keep pushing forward!

Thank you!

Jackson Guillery

# Thank You

## AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY



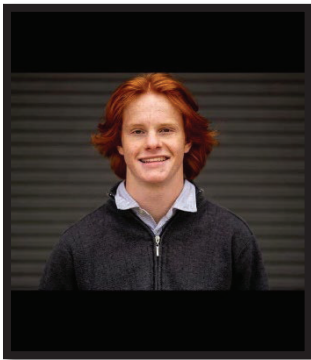
**Mark Hamilton**  
Shelby Township, MI  
Wayne State University  
Welding and Metallurgical Engineering  
Detroit Section Scholarship  
District 11 - 011-Detroit

I am deeply grateful to be the recipient for the American Welding Society Scholarship. I am forever thankful for your kindness and generosity.

This scholarship affords me the opportunity to learn and take another class in metallurgy. Welding has always been exciting and being able to do what I love isn't work; it's my purpose. I am deeply excited to accept this scholarship and follow my dreams to achieve this bachelor degree in metallurgy.

Thank you and God Bless You!

Mark Hamilton



**Oliver Hess**  
Augusta, MI  
Ferris State University  
Welding Engineering Technology  
Detroit Section Scholarship  
District 11 - 051-West Michigan

Thank you American Welding Society, and specifically the Detroit Section for awarding me for a scholarship for the 2025-2026 school year.

This means more to me than words can express, as it will greatly help me focus on my education without worrying about tuition payments or accumulating debt. As it is my final year at Ferris State University, AWS has greatly helped me achieve my goals and aspirations of becoming a Welding Engineer. Once again, I greatly appreciate the generosity from AWS and the Detroit section for awarding me a scholarship!

Thank you,

Oliver Hess



# *Thank You* **AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY**



**Jefferson Hill**  
Macomb, MI  
Wayne State University  
Welding and Metallurgical Engineering  
Detroit Section Scholarship  
District 11 - 011-Detroit

Dear The Detroit Section os AWS,

Thank you for the scholarship. As a full time student the money helps a great deal towards my education. I am greatly appreciative of this award.

Thank you,

Jefferson Hill



**Andrew Musselman**  
Oak Park, MI  
Schoolcraft College  
Welding and Fabrication Technology  
Detroit Section Scholarship  
District 11 - 011-Detroit

Thank you!

These funds will help me advance my skills and capabilities as a fabricator. Fortunately, Schoolcraft promotes AWS's work in the industry and encourages students to take advantage of its membership. AWS makes our jobs safer and sets the bar for quality and craftsmanship. Thank you for keeping us honest. Thanks especially to the AWS Foundation for reducing the barriers to education for so many students.

I appreciate it.

Andrew Musselman

# Thank You

## AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY



**Makumba Jallow**

Warren, MI

Wayne State University

Robotics and Industrial Automation

Detroit Section Scholarship

District 11 - 011-Detroit

Dear Members of the Detroit Section Scholarship Committee,

Thank you for awarding me the 2025-2026 AWS Detroit Section Scholarship. This \$2,000 award is more than a financial boost, it is a vote of confidence in my journey from The Gambia to Detroit and in my goal of becoming a controls engineer who delivers efficient, automated solutions for modern manufacturing.

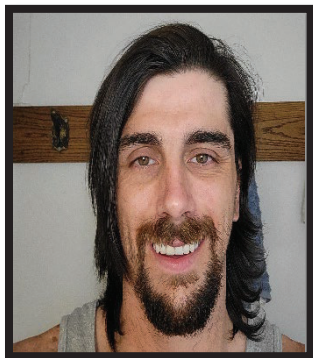
Your support arrives at an exciting time in my education. Alongside my graduate coursework in robotics and industrial automation, I am serving as a manufacturing engineering technician intern at a Tier-2 automotive supplier, where I am tasked with process optimization and improvement of assembly lines equipped with laser welders and other advanced joining technologies. The scholarship eases my tuition burden, allowing me to fully engage with both my academic studies and the practical experience I gain on the factory floor.

Opportunities like this scholarship remind me that dedication is noticed and rewarded fueling my determination to innovate and give back. Thank you again for investing in my education and for advancing the next generation of controls engineers and manufacturing technology professionals. I am deeply grateful for your support and committed to honoring it through hard work and future contributions to the field.

Sincerely,

Makumba Jallow.

# *Thank You* **AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY**



**Steven Laberdie**

Ypsilanti, MI  
Washtenaw Community College  
Welding and Metallurgical Engineering  
Detroit Section Scholarship  
District 11 - 101-Central Michigan

Detroit Section Scholarship,

I send this letter with much gratitude for the scholarship that you have chosen to award me with. With this scholarship, it will help me to continue to fund my pursuit of obtaining my associates degree in applied science and welding technology which is also paving the way for me to continue my bachelor's degree once I complete my program.

I plan on not only bettering my life once my degree is achieved but to also use my knowledge to help better the welding field and help others learning to weld as well. Thank you for this wonderful opportunity.

Sincerely,

Steven Laberdie



# Thank You

## AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY



**Olivia Peleg**  
Lake Orion, MI  
Wayne State University  
Welding and Metallurgical Engineering  
Detroit Section Scholarship  
District 11 - 011-Detroit

Dear AWS Detroit Section Scholarship Committee,

I am writing to express my sincere gratitude for awarding me the AWS Detroit Section Scholarship. I am truly honored to be selected as a recipient by the AWS Detroit Section.

This scholarship will significantly help me pursue my education in Welding and Metallurgical Engineering at Wayne State University. Your support helps ease my financial burden and allows me to focus more intently on my studies to prepare for a successful career in the industry. I am passionate about advancing welding technology, and this scholarship motivates me even more to excel academically and to give back to the welding community in the future, just as you have supported students like me.

Thank you once again for your generosity and investment in my future. I am proud to be connected to the AWS community and look forward to one day helping others pursue their dreams, just as you have helped me pursue mine.

Warm regards,

Olivia Peleg

# Thank You

## AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY



**Jesse Pequeno**

Kalamazoo, MI

Wayne State University

Welding and Metallurgical Engineering

Detroit Section Scholarship

District 11 - 051-West Michigan

I, Jesse Lee Pequeño, would like to express my sincere gratitude for being chosen as a recipient for scholarship by the AWS.

As I finish the last year of undergrad the path that I am on is more sure and more true than ever. I take honor in being a welder, a tradesperson, and will use the opportunities given me to pave the road for future generations of welders and welding engineers.

Sincerely,

Jesse Pequeno



**Logan Pethers**

Lapeer, MI

Ferris State University

Welding Engineering Technology

Robert P and Mardell D Wilcox Scholarship (Detroit Section)

and Detroit Section Scholarship

District 11 - 011-Detroit

To the Detroit District of AWS,

Due to your generosity, I now feel more relieved as I will be one step closer to pursuing my dream of becoming a Welding Engineer. With this scholarship it will help with paying for my school bills this coming semester. I am honored to be accepted, by your district and will make you proud.

Thank you,

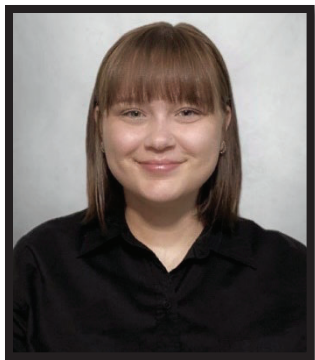
Logan Pethers

Ferris State Welding Engineering



American Welding Society®  
FOUNDATION

# *Thank You* **AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY**



**Caitlyn Popp**

Van Buren, MI

Wayne State University

Welding and Metallurgical Engineering

Detroit Section Scholarship

District 11 - 011-Detroit

Dear Donors,

I am writing to express my heartfelt gratitude for your generous support through the scholarships I've received.

Your investment in my education is not only a financial relief but also a tremendous source of encouragement as I pursue my academic and professional goals. With this scholarship, I'm able to work toward building a future where I can give back to my community in the same spirit of generosity you have shown me. Your support has made a meaningful impact on my journey, and I am truly honored to have been selected as a recipient. Thank you again for your kindness and belief in my future. I am deeply appreciative of your contribution and hope to carry this gift with me as I move forward in my education and career.

Sincerely,

Caitlyn Popp

Wayne State University

Welding and Metallurgical Engineering Technology



**American Welding Society®**  
FOUNDATION

# Thank You

## AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY



**Cameron Scharboneau**  
Monroe, MI  
Wayne State University  
Welding and Metallurgical Engineering  
Detroit Section Scholarship  
District 11 - 046-Northwest Ohio

Dear AWS Detroit Section Scholarship Committee,

Thank you for selecting me as a recipient of the AWS Detroit Section Scholarship. I'm incredibly grateful for your support, and I want you to know how much it means to be recognized by my local welding community.

I've lived and worked in Michigan most of my life, and it's here that I found my passion for welding, first as a fabricator and now as an engineering student at Wayne State University. I currently work full-time as a welding engineer at Ventower Industries, where I help qualify procedures, support welder training, and contribute to quality and repair improvements in large-scale wind tower manufacturing.

Balancing school and work is no small task, and this scholarship helps take some of the pressure off. It allows me to focus more on learning, growing, and giving back to the industry that's given me so much. I'm especially proud to receive support from the Detroit Section, because it feels like encouragement from home, from the very community that helped shape who I am today.

I plan to continue deepening my knowledge in welding metallurgy, process optimization, and quality assurance, with the goal of becoming a well-rounded engineer who can drive real improvements on the shop floor. Your investment in my education moves me one step closer to that goal. Thank you again for your generosity and for believing in students like me. I hope to pay it forward in the future by supporting and mentoring the next generation of welders and engineers in our region.

With gratitude,

Cameron Scharboneau

# *Thank You* **AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY**



**Jason Smith**  
Novi, MI  
Wayne State University  
Electrical Technology in Welding  
Detroit Section Scholarship  
and District Scholarship  
District 11 - 011-Detroit

Thank you to the Detroit Section of AWS for this opportunity.

I greatly appreciate being chosen to receive a section scholarship. Receiving this scholarship will make the next semester a lot less stressful knowing I have the support of the American Welding Society.

Sincerely,

Jason Smith



# Thank You

## AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY



**Michael Smith**  
pierson, MI  
Ferris State University  
Welding Engineering Technology  
Detroit Section Scholarship  
District 11 - 051-West Michigan

Dear Detroit Section Scholarship,

I am thankful and honored to be selected as a recipient of the Detroit Section Scholarship. Your amazing support is helping me continue the pursuit of my bachelor's degree at Ferris State University.

I'm currently studying in the Welding Engineering Technology program at Ferris, where I maintain a GPA of 3.82. Outside of my coursework, I volunteer with MITES (Michigan Industrial & Technology Education Society) and will always be involved in developing my professional skills. I expect to graduate in May 2026 and plan to pursue a career in Automation as a Welding Engineer. The education and training I receive through this program will serve as a strong foundation as I work to make meaningful contributions to the welding automation industries.

Receiving this scholarship will help with some of the financial stress associated with attending college and allows me to stay focused solely on achieving my academic and career goals. Without support like yours, it would be much more difficult to pursue this path. I'm very grateful for your commitment to students like me and for helping make higher education more accessible.

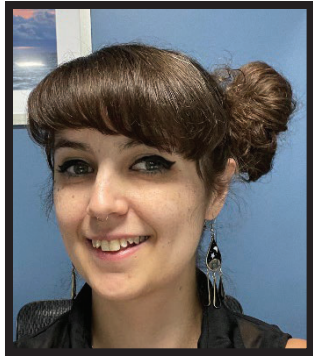
Scholarships like yours truly make a difference. For many students, financial pressures can affect whether they attend school full-time or part-time or even whether they can attend at all. Your contribution lightens that burden, and I sincerely thank you for the opportunity you've given me and all the students alike.

Sincerely,

Michael Smith

# Thank You

## AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY



**Barbara Staley**  
Lansing, MI  
Lansing Community College  
Welding Technology  
Detroit Section Scholarship  
District 11 - 061-Saginaw Valley

Dear Detroit Section Scholarship Committee,

It's a true privilege to be chosen as the recipient of the Detroit Section Scholarship. I'm deeply grateful for your support not only for the financial assistance, but for the belief it shows in my journey. This award makes a meaningful difference in my ability to continue working toward my goal of becoming a Certified Weld Inspector (CWI). Each semester brings new expenses that often put a serious strain on my budget, and this scholarship eases that financial burden and removes a significant barrier to my success. With it, I'll be able to purchase the essential Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) necessary for the Welding Technology AAS program I'm in. That includes prescription safety glasses, new lenses for my welding helmet, replacement respirator filters, hand tools, properly fitting fire-resistant clothing, and most importantly welding gloves.

You'd be surprised how much time and focus get lost adjusting gear that doesn't fit right. Having the right equipment will help me stay safer and fully concentrate on applying what I learn in lectures to hands-on lab work, refining my skills, and preparing for a career in the welding industry. I've worked in several areas of welding from small fabrication shops to military vehicles, quality control, and automotive. I came back to school because I believe staying current with machines, technologies, and techniques is the best way to stay sharp and relevant. After earning my associate's degree, I plan to enter a welding apprenticeship to gain more real-world experience, then move toward CWI certification through preparation courses and the three-part exam. My long-term goal is to inspect bridges throughout Michigan, across the United States, and eventually, around the world. The impact of this scholarship on my future is truly immeasurable. Thank you, from the bottom of my heart, for supporting my education with this generous award and helping me take this next step forward. I deeply appreciate your confidence in me, your support means more than I can say.

Sincerely,

Barbie Staley

# Thank You

## AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY



**Benjamin Taylor**  
Lowell, MI  
Ferris State University  
Welding Engineering Technology  
Detroit Section Scholarship  
District 11 - 051-West Michigan

Thank you,

I am incredibly honored to receive this award from the Detroit Section. This gift to my family and me will bless us immensely as I take my last year at Ferris State University. I am also expecting my first baby girl in September, and these funds will help me cover school costs while I can focus more on our new family. Words cannot describe how thankful I am for your generous support. Go Tigers! Go Lions!

Sincerely,

Ben Taylor

# *Thank You* **AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY**



**Trevor Townson**

Clarkston, MI

Ferris State University

Welding Engineering Technology

Amos & Marilyn Winsand Scholarship (Detroit Section)

District 11 - 011-Detroit

Dear Amos & Marilyn Winsand Scholarship Committee,

I hope you are all doing well. My name is Trevor Townson, and I am entering my senior year at Ferris State University, pursuing a degree in Welding Engineering Technology. I am writing to sincerely thank you for the generous scholarship that you have chosen me for.

The financial support provided by kind people such as yourselves has allowed me to focus fully on my coursework and trainings, and less on the financial pressures that come with higher education. This aid has also made a significant impact on my personal and educational development. This upcoming year will be my final one at Ferris State, and I'm excited to take the next step towards a career in the welding industry. I am especially grateful that an organization such as yourself believes in students like me and is invested in bettering the quality of future welding engineering professionals.

Thank you again for your support. Your generosity has made a lasting difference in my life, I only hope that one day I am in a position where I can give back to future engineers that are following in my footsteps- as I am the ones that came before me.

With sincere appreciation,

Trevor Townson

# *Thank You* **AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY**



**Anthony Valko II**  
Howell, MI  
Washtenaw Community College  
Welding Technology  
Detroit Section Scholarship  
District 11 - 101-Central Michigan

Dear Donor,

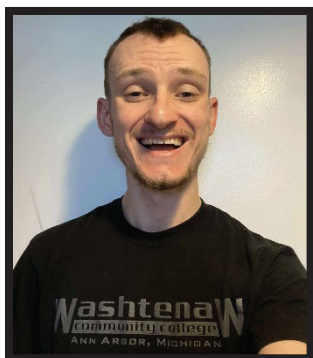
I am beyond grateful for the support I have been given while pursuing a career in welding. My time at Washtenaw Community College has been an incredible academic journey thusfar, and I look forward to continuing with your support.

I look forward to my upcoming Fall 2025 semester knowing I am backed by those who see the future and importance of the welding trade. As I continue to push and persevere through my learning, I strive to become a better individual in and out of the classroom while beginning my journey as a young welder. Once again, thank you for your support in my welding journey.

Anthony V.



# *Thank You* **AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY**



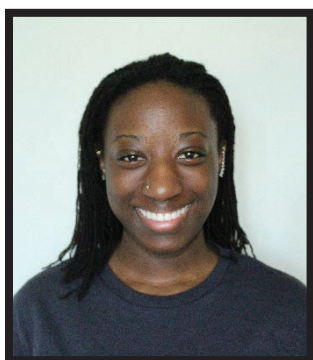
**Scott VanNispen**  
Westland, MI  
Washtenaw Community College  
Welding Technology  
Mardell D. Wilcox Scholarship (Detroit Section)  
and Detroit Section Scholarship  
District 11 - 011-Detroit

I am incredibly grateful for this scholarship.

Quite frankly, the last few months have been a bit rough financially due to medical expenses and unforeseen circumstances. This money will be used to rebuild my emergency savings and will be used very responsibly. Thank you so much for considering me for this scholarship. It could not have come through at a better time I believe.

Sincerely,

Scott VanNispen



**McKenzie Waddell**  
Macomb, MI  
Wayne State University  
Welding and Metallurgical Engineering  
Detroit Section Scholarship  
District 11 - 011-Detroit

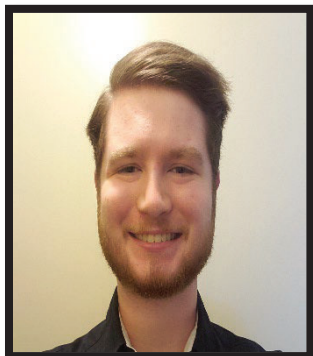
Thank you for your support in relieving the financial burden of college and allowing me to thrive, grow, and contribute to this field.

This path has allowed me to go farther than I ever thought possible for myself and this scholarship has emboldened me to push forward in any goal I set out to achieve in my career. I'm deeply grateful of all your support.

Sincerely,

McKenize Waddell

# *Thank You* **AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY**



**Andrew Bieber**  
Zeeland, MI  
Ferris State University  
Welding Engineering Technology  
District Scholarship  
District 11 - 051-West Michigan

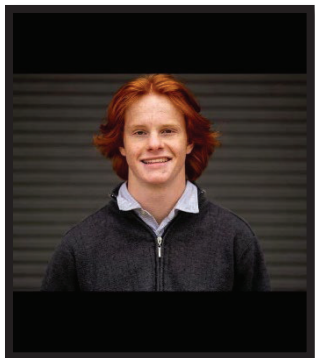
Thank you for offering me the West Michigan Section District Scholarship.

The scholarships that have been provided to me by the West Michigan Section have meant a great deal to me and to be able to accept the District scholarship is a great honor. This scholarship will help to make my final year at Ferris the lowest cost and allow me to finish in less debt. Thank you again to the West Michigan Section for providing me with this amazing opportunity.

Sincerely,

Andrew Bieber

# *Thank You* **AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY**



**Oliver Hess**

Augusta, MI

Ferris State University

Welding Engineering Technology

Detroit Ellicott/Arc Welding - District 11 Scholarship

District 11 - 051-West Michigan

I would like to thank American Welding Society and Detroit Ellicott/Arc Welding for awarding me this scholarship.

I am very grateful to receive this scholarship as it will help me further my education and career in this field. Its an honor to be recognized by these foundations that want to see students make the most out of their education. I am grateful to receive scholarships that help me focus on my education without having the burden of too many tuition bills.

Thank you,

Oliver Hess

# Thank You

## AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY



**Elise Jackson**  
Zeeland, MI  
Ferris State University  
Welding Engineering Technology  
District Scholarship  
District 11 - 051-West Michigan

Dear West Michigan District Donors,

I would like to sincerely thank you for awarding me the 2025–2026 West Michigan District Scholarship. I am truly honored by your support as I pursue my degree in Welding Engineering Technology at Ferris State University.

I have been working a job since I was 13 years old, saving to pay for college. The last two summers I have worked full time internships with a welding and welding engineering focus. This scholarship significantly reduces my financial burden and allows me to focus more fully on my coursework and involvement in Ferris's AWS Student Chapter. Your generosity makes a meaningful difference in my education and future career. Thank you again for your support.

With sincere gratitude,

Elise Jackson

# Thank You

## AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY



**Garan Nelson**  
Caledonia, MI  
Brigham Young University-Idaho  
Welding and Fabrication Technology  
District Scholarship  
District 11 - 051-West Michigan

AWS West Michigan Section Scholarship Committee,

I am deeply honored and grateful to be selected as a recipient of the District 11-051-West Michigan Scholarship for the 2025-2026 academic year. Your generous support is a tremendous encouragement as I pursue my education and career in welding fabrication technologies at Brigham Young University-Idaho. This scholarship significantly alleviates the financial burdens for me and my young family, who rely on my support while I am in school. It allows me to focus more fully on my studies and hands-on training in welding.

Your contribution helps cover essential costs such as tuition, books, and equipment, and it inspires me to strive for excellence in both my coursework and future career. I am particularly moved by the AWS Foundation's commitment to fostering the next generation of welding professionals, and I am proud to be part of this community. My passion for mastering welding skills drives me to contribute meaningfully to the industry. This scholarship empowers me to pursue that passion with greater confidence and determination.

I hope to honor your generosity by excelling in my studies and, one day, giving back to the field that you have so graciously supported. Thank you once again for this incredible opportunity. I deeply appreciate your belief in my potential and your dedication to advancing welding education. I look forward to carrying forward the values of hard work and innovation that the AWS West Michigan Section represents.

Sincerely,

Garan J Nelson  
Welding Fabrication Technologies Student  
Brigham Young University-Idaho



# *Thank You* **AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY**



**Anthony Valko II**  
Howell, MI  
Washtenaw Community College  
Welding Technology  
District Scholarship  
District 11 - 101-Central Michigan

Dear Donor,

I am truly humbled and overwhelmed by your support. As a young man pursuing a great career in welding, knowing I have support, and aid pushes me to the best welder I can be. I began my journey in welding at the beginning of 2024, and I haven't regretted it. I

It is satisfying, exciting, and challenges me to be better every day. I have big dreams like most young men and women, but I truly will use my welding skills and knowledge to be a great builder in this world and work toward an incredible future for all. You, supporting the next generation, supports the future sustainability of this important trade and dreams everywhere. Thank you again for your contribution and belief in the future of the trade.

Anthony V.

# Thank You

## AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY



**Emily Baksik**  
Dexter, MI  
Wayne State University  
Welding and Metallurgical Engineering  
Central Michigan Section Scholarship  
District 11 - 101-Central Michigan

Thank you so much for selecting me as a recipient of the Central Michigan Section Scholarship.

I'm incredibly grateful for your support, this scholarship will make a big difference as I continue my education. It's encouraging to know that others believe in my goals and potential. I truly appreciate the help and the confidence you've shown in me.

Thanks again!  
Best,

Emily Baksik



**Max Estep**  
Saginaw, MI  
Delta Community College  
Welding  
Saginaw Valley Section Scholarship  
District 11 - 061-Saginaw Valley

Thank you guys so much it means the world and this will go along way to create my dream of being a welder, thank you guys.

Sincerely,

Max Estep

# *Thank You* **AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY**



**Joshua Gartke**  
Dexter, MI  
Ferris State University  
Welding Engineering Technology  
Central Michigan Section Scholarship  
District 11 - 101-Central Michigan

Dear Central Michigan Section Scholarship Committee,

I hope this letter finds you well. I'm writing to thank you for choosing me to receive the Central Michigan Section Scholarship. I sincerely appreciate your kind assistance, which enables me to continue my studies and earn a degree in Welding Engineering at Ferris State University.

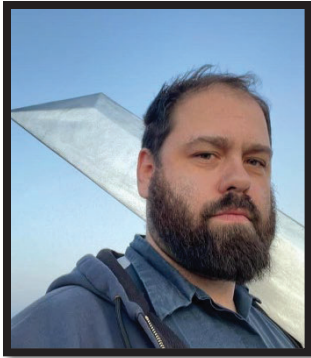
My family and I now have less financial strain thanks to this scholarship, which allows me to concentrate more on my studies and extracurricular activities. I am very interested in and passionate about the field of welding engineering, and I am looking forward to the opportunities that lie ahead for me to develop, learn, and contribute to industry. Your support enables me to take advantage of these opportunities by supporting my education. Thank you again for your support in furthering my education through this scholarship.

Sincerely,

Joshua Gartke

# Thank You

## AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY



**Matthew Medler**

Lansing, MI  
Lansing Community College  
Welding  
Central Michigan Section Scholarship  
District 11 - 101-Central Michigan

I would like to sincerely thank the Central Michigan District of the AWS for the generous scholarship donation that I will be receiving for this 25-26 academic school year.

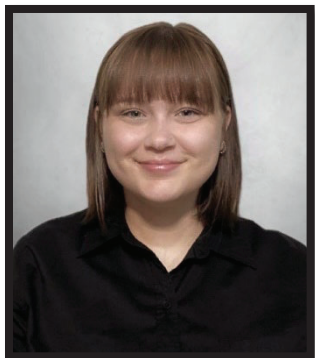
It will be put to good use as I am getting closer to fulfilling the requirements for an associated in applied science of Welding Technology. Lansing Community College has an excellent program, instructors and coincides with my work schedule to get the experience and skills I desire. The scholarship awarded to me from the AWS will be the last piece I need to help financially sustain my academic year and advance in this exciting and rewarding trade. Helping to complete my goals in the classroom and my future career in welding.

Thank you so much. I have high marks in all my welding classes thus far and will continue to work hard at finishing this degree with honors. I couldn't have done this without the support of the AWS to complete my basic training.

Sincerely,

Matthew Medler

# *Thank You* **AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY**



**Caitlyn Popp**  
Van Buren, MI  
Wayne State University  
Welding and Metallurgical Engineering  
Osceola Scholarship (Chicago Section)  
District 11 - 011-Detroit

Dear Donors,

I am writing to express my heartfelt gratitude for your generous support through the scholarships I've received.

Your investment in my education is not only a financial relief but also a tremendous source of encouragement as I pursue my academic and professional goals. With this scholarship, I'm able to work toward building a future where I can give back to my community in the same spirit of generosity you have shown me. Your support has made a meaningful impact on my journey, and I am truly honored to have been selected as a recipient. Thank you again for your kindness and belief in my future. I am deeply appreciative of your contribution and hope to carry this gift with me as I move forward in my education and career.

Sincerely,

Caitlyn Popp  
Wayne State University  
Welding and Metallurgical Engineering Technology



# *Thank You* **AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY**



**Trevor Selk**  
Saginaw, MI  
Ferris State University  
Welding Engineering Technology  
Saginaw Valley Section Scholarship  
District 11 - 061-Saginaw Valley

Dear Saginaw Valley,

Thank you so much for awarding me the Saginaw Valley Section Scholarship. I am truly honored to receive this scholarship, and I appreciate the generosity so that I can pursue a career in Welding. This scholarship will go a long way in helping with the cost of college, and it means a lot to me and my family.

This fall, I'll be attending Ferris State University to study Welding Engineering Technology, and I'm excited for the opportunities ahead. I am ready to continue my love for welding and learning hands on techniques that will make things better for others. The encouragement I have received from my welding instructor and now your support has made taking this next step a little easier. I'm very grateful for that. Thank you again for supporting me and investing in my future.

Sincerely,

Trevor Selk



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FOUNDATION

# *Thank You* **AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY**



**Caley Wagner**  
Lindsey, OH  
Ferris State University  
Welding Engineering Technology  
O.E. Meyer Co. – Rodney S. Belden Scholarship  
District 11 - 046-Northwest Ohio

Thank you so much for choosing me to receive this scholarship.

This scholarship will be a huge help with the upcoming school year. I will be in my junior year at Ferris State University, majoring in Welding Engineering Technology with a minor in Leadership and Project Management. After school, I am unsure of where exactly I want to work but I am thinking something agriculture related, as I grew up around agriculture and would love to keep it a core part of my life.

Receiving this scholarship means much more to me than just money towards school. This shows me that people are supporting my dreams and helping make them come true. College is a stepping stone into my career and having people supporting me is very encouraging. I love what I do and I enjoy getting to share my passion for welding with others. I am very grateful to have received this scholarship and thank you again for your support!

Caley Wagner

# Thank You

## AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY



**Charles Aloff**  
Midland, MI  
Ferris State University  
Welding Engineering Technology  
West Michigan Section Scholarship  
District 11 - 061-Saginaw Valley

I would like to thank the West Michigan Section for graciously granting me this scholarship.

I am very passionate about my education and love to continue to learn more about the welding industry, but the cost of college today is very high. This scholarship will play a significant role in lessening the financial burden on myself and my family and help me receive the education that I have been working for, while still being in a good position financially upon graduation.

Thank you!

Charles Aloff



**Daniel Ash**  
Riverdale, MI  
Muskegon Community College  
Welding  
West Michigan Section Scholarship  
District 11 - 061-Saginaw Valley

Dear West Michigan Section,

I am sincerely honored to have been selected as the recipient of the West Michigan Section Scholarship. I want to thank you for your generosity and support. Your support is helping me pursue my goal of earning an associate's degree at Muskegon Community College. Thank you again for your kindness and generosity. I am truly grateful for your investment in my education and future.

Sincerely,

Daniel Ash

# *Thank You* **AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY**



**Andrew Bieber**

Zeeland, MI

Ferris State University

Welding Engineering Technology

Dietrich and Betty Roth Scholarship (West Michigan Section)

District 11 - 051-West Michigan

Thank you for offering me the West Michigan Section Dietrich and Betty Roth Scholarship.

This scholarship means a great deal to me and will help me finish my Bachelor's degree with less of a financial burden once I graduate. Thank you again for this great opportunity and investing in my future.

Andrew Bieber



**Sydney Boyer**

Blanchard, MI

Ferris State University

Welding Technology

Aim High - Jerry Clay Scholarship (West Michigan Section)

District 11 - 061-Saginaw Valley

I want to thank the Jerry Clay Scholarship for picking me to be a recipient.

This scholarship will help me tremendously in attending Ferris's welding program this coming school year. I do not know how to thank you all enough in just a short thank you letter. From the bottom of my heart thank you!

Sydney Boyer

# Thank You

## AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY



**Jace Burns**

Sanford, MI

Ferris State University

Welding Engineering Technology

Aim High - Jerry Clay Scholarship (West Michigan Section)

District 11 - 061-Saginaw Valley

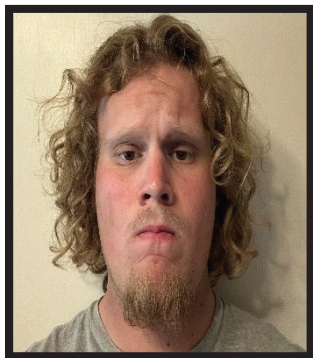
Dear AWS Scholarship Committee,

I am writing to sincerely thank you for awarding me the Aim High - Jerry Clay Scholarship. I am honored to be selected, and I appreciate your support of my academic journey. This scholarship plays a significant role in helping me continue my educational, along with career goals in the future. It helps with the financial difficulties of college, as well as keeping me motivated to keep working hard.

I will do my best to uphold the values of this scholarship and make the most of my opportunities it allows me. Thank you again for your generosity and belief in my potential. I am very grateful.

Sincerely,

Jace Burns



**Avery Cotton**

Clare, MI

Ferris State University

Welding Engineering Technology

Aim High - Jerry Clay Scholarship (West Michigan Section)

District 11 - 061-Saginaw Valley

Hello, my name is Avery Cotton.

I would like to start by saying thank you for awarding me the Aim High - Jerry Clay Scholarship (West Michigan Section). This scholarship will be going towards my time at Ferris State University, as I am in the Welding Engineering Technology program. I will be entering my second year in this program in the Fall of 2025. Not only am I honored to receive this scholarship, but I am also honored to be a part of the American Welding Society. Again, thank you very much for this award.

Avery Cotton



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# Thank You

## AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY



**Jessica Duff**

White lake, MI

Ferris State University

Welding Engineering Technology

Aim High - Jerry Clay Scholarship (West Michigan Section)

District 11 - 011-Detroit

Dear Detroit Section Scholarship Committee,

Thank you so much for rewarding me a scholarship for this upcoming school year. I will be a senior in the welding engineering technology program at Ferris State University. I have been given the honor of receiving the Aim High scholarship for two of the four years of my academic journey.

Thank you for giving me this chance to worry less about the financial stress being a college student can create. This scholarship has granted me the ability to worry less about money and more on my studies. After I graduate I look forward to becoming a member of AWS West Michigan Section.

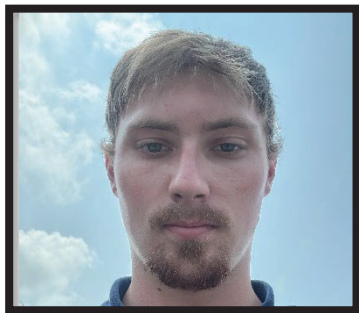
With much Thanks,

Jessica Duff



# Thank You

## AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY

**Riley Foss**

White cloud, MI

Ferris State University

Welding Engineering Technology

Aim High - Jerry Clay Scholarship (West Michigan Section)

District 11 - 051-West Michigan

Dear Mr. Clay,

I am honored to be selected for as the recipient of the Aim High-Jerry Clay Scholarship. Your generosity does not go unnoticed allowing me to spend more time focused on learning.

My name is Riley Foss; I'm going to Ferris State University where I'm a junior currently pursuing a degree in Welding Engineering Technology. I currently work for Lincoln Electric as an intern in additive solutions as well as the Michigan Department of Natural Resources on the Adopt a Forest project. I understand hard work and am deeply appreciative of your scholarship which would take me countless weeks during the school year to earn.

At Lincoln electric I'm on the Research and development side of things and I have greatly enjoyed my time so far. In high school I bought a hobby sized 3D printer thinking it was the coolest thing ever, so when I heard Lincoln Electric was accepting interns I had to jump on it and fortunately was selected for the position. If I said it wasn't the coolest form of welding I've seen so far I would be lying and being able to help push the technology has been an incredible opportunity which has been made possible by scholarships like yours.

Thank you again, Mr. Clay, for your belief in my potential. Your investment not only allows me to earn a degree but empowers me to play a positive part in future students' lives as you have in mine.

With Sincere Gratitude,

Riley Foss

# *Thank You* **AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY**



**John Freund**

Eagle, MI

Ferris State University

Welding Engineering Technology

Aim High - Jerry Clay Scholarship (West Michigan Section)

District 11 - 061-Saginaw Valley

Good morning,

I just wanted to take a moment to thank you for awarding me the Aim High – Jerry Clay Scholarship.

It truly means a lot to me, and I am honored to be recognized by your organization and the American Welding Society.

Welding has taken me further than I ever expected, from the people I have met, to the experiences I have had. I have been blessed to have the support of my family, friends, and instructors along the way. I know I wouldn't be where I am without them, or without the help of organizations like yours.

I am grateful for everything you do for the welding community and beyond. This scholarship will make a big difference in helping me cover the costs of my education and continuing to move forward in this field I care so much about. Thank you again, I truly appreciate it.

Sincerely,

John Freund



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FOUNDATION

# *Thank You* **AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY**



**Joshua Gartke**

Dexter, MI

Ferris State University

Welding Engineering Technology

Aim High - Jerry Clay Scholarship (West Michigan Section)

District 11 - 101-Central Michigan

Dear Aim High - Jerry Clay Scholarship Committee,

I hope this letter finds you well. I'm writing to thank you for choosing me to receive the Aim High - Jerry Clay Scholarship. I am honored to have been selected as a recipient this year and sincerely appreciate your generosity that allows me to continue in my pursuit of a bachelors in Welding Engineering at Ferris State University.

The financial burden placed upon my family and myself has been significantly reduced as a result of this scholarship. This in turn will allow me to place more of my attention on my academics and my extra curricular activities allowing me to better succeed in my studies. My interest in welding engineering and passion for it only grows as I progress through the classes at Ferris State and I am excited with the opportunities ahead of me to learn and contribute to industry.

Your support through this scholarship will allow me to take advantage of those opportunities by supporting my education and pursuit of a bachelors at Ferris. Thank you again for your support of my education through this scholarship.

Sincerely,

Joshua Gartke

# *Thank You* **AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY**



**Jackson Guillery**

Wixom, MI

Ferris State University

Welding Engineering Technology

West Michigan Section Scholarship

District 11 - 011-Detroit

Dear West Michigan Section AWS Scholarship Committee,

I wanted to sincerely thank you for awarding me this AWS West Michigan Section Scholarship. Receiving this scholarship is such an honor.

Your support not only helps me financially through my time in school but also reminds me that the welding community believes and supports my goals. That encouragement motivates me every day, whether I'm in class, at my internship, or planning for the future.

I'm proud to be pursuing a career in this field of work. It has really become a true passion for me that only keeps growing the more I learn. I'm committed to continue my education, keep growing, learning, and eventually be able to give back to the industry that's given so much to me. Thank you again for your generosity and confidence in me. It truly inspires me to keep moving forward!

Thank you!

Jackson Guillery



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# Thank You

## AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY



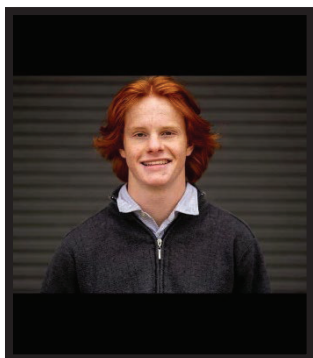
**Adam Haag**  
Midland, MI  
Ferris State University  
Welding Engineering Technology  
James Koster Scholarship (West Michigan Section)  
District 11 - 061-Saginaw Valley

I am writing to express my gratitude to James Koster for awarding me this scholarship.

I am very grateful to you for allowing me to continue my educational journey in welding. This scholarship will be used to help me purchase books and tools to help me learn new welding methods and processes that will be used in my future career.

Thank you,

Adam Haag



**Oliver Hess**  
Augusta, MI  
Ferris State University  
Welding Engineering Technology  
Aim High - Jerry Clay Scholarship (West Michigan Section)  
District 11 - 051-West Michigan

Thank you to the American Welding Society and, specifically, the Jerry Clay-Aim High Foundation for choosing me as a scholarship recipient.

Receiving these scholarships means more to me than just financial help; it makes me feel proud that I stand out in the welding community. Using this scholarship will enable me to focus more on school and contribute to more events, such as volunteering or activities within Ferris State and AWS.

Thank you again for giving me this opportunity to help pursue my education at Ferris State University and further my career in the Welding Engineering Industry.

Thank you,

Oliver Hess

# *Thank You* **AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY**



**Evelyn Hill**

Frankenmuth, MI

Ferris State University

Welding Engineering Technology

Aim High - Jerry Clay Scholarship (West Michigan Section)

District 11 - 061-Saginaw Valley

Dear Mr Clay,

Thank you so much for choosing me for the AimHigh Jerry Clay scholarship. Since I was young I knew I wanted to continue my education after high school with something to do with my hands and I decided welding was the best fit for me. Thank you so much for supporting me and others in furthering my education in Welding at Ferris State University. Your donation will help me tremendously in the coming years with funding my college expenses. Even though I do not know you personally, I want to say thank you again for your generosity.

From,

Evelyn Hill

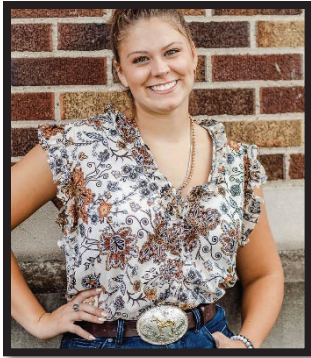


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# Thank You

## AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY



**Elise Jackson**

Zeeland, MI

Ferris State University

Welding Engineering Technology

Aim High - Jerry Clay Scholarship (West Michigan Section)

District 11 - 051-West Michigan

Dear Aim High - Jerry Clay Scholarship (West Michigan Section) Donors,

I would like to sincerely thank you for awarding me the 2025–2026 West Michigan District Scholarship. I am truly honored by your support as I pursue my degree in Welding Engineering Technology at Ferris State University.

I have been working a job since I was 13 years old, saving to pay for college. The last two summers I have worked full time internships with a welding and welding engineering focus. This scholarship significantly reduces my financial burden and allows me to focus more fully on my coursework and involvement in Ferris's AWS Student Chapter. Your generosity makes a meaningful difference in my education and future career. Thank you again for your support.

With sincere gratitude,

Elise Jackson

# Thank You

## AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY



**Jacob Johnson**  
Greenville, MI  
Ferris State University  
Welding Engineering Technology  
West Michigan Section Scholarship  
District 11 - 051-West Michigan

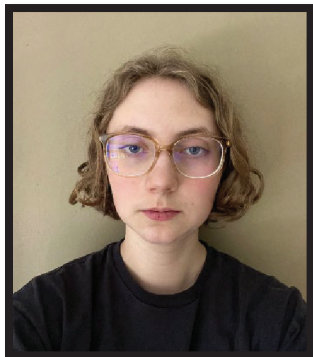
Thank you to the AWS West Michigan Section for offering me the scholarship in your name.

I am so grateful for your generosity and your willingness to put your trust in me to succeed academically. My goal is to be a welding engineer and with this scholarship, you are helping me reach my goal.

I am truly honored to be chosen and your support will motivate me to continue working hard in achieving the goals I have set for myself.

Thank you again for your support.

Jacob Johnson



**Ella Kniffin**  
Saline, MI  
Ferris State University  
Welding Engineering  
Aim High - Jerry Clay Scholarship (West Michigan Section)  
District 11 - 101-Central Michigan

Dear AimHigh Scholarship distributors,

I cannot thank you enough for not only reviewing my entry but also awarding me with the AimHigh Scholarship. I greatly appreciate the consideration granted towards me and the hope for my next steps into the future. I will make great use of the funding to help cover costs of supplies and schooling. Anything helps when it comes to taking such a large step into life and I have not the words to describe my gratitude.

Thank you again,

Ella Kniffin

# *Thank You* **AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY**



**Grant Lefers**

Rockford, MI

Ferris State University

Welding Engineering Technology

Aim High - Jerry Clay Scholarship (West Michigan Section)

District 11 - 051-West Michigan

To the Aim High - Jerry Clay Scholarship Committee,

I am grateful to have been selected as a recipient of the Aim High - Jerry Clay Scholarship. Many of my friends and family have struggled with the financial burden of pursuing higher education, and this award helps me avoid the stress of having student loan debt. It will allow me to focus on my studies during the Fall 2025 semester without having to work a part-time job to cover expenses. Thank you again for your support.

Sincerely,

Grant Lefers

# *Thank You*

## AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY



**Robert Lukas**

Tecumseh, MI

Ferris State University

Welding Engineering Technology

Aim High - Jerry Clay Scholarship (West Michigan Section)

District 11 - 101-Central Michigan

Dear Clay family,

It is an honor to be able to accept this scholarship. As a student who is working hard to get by I deeply appreciate this donation. Working full time over the summer in a production welding environment has shown me how valuable education is to my life. Being able to engineer solutions for the world is an integral part of my future career that I will always cherish. With three years of my schooling left I am looking forward to the multitude of opportunities I will have to gain more knowledge and experience.

Schooling is something I take very seriously and will continue to work hard at. Know that your generous donation will be put to good use and that I will forever treasure this generosity that you have shown towards me. Once again, I am deeply appreciative of this generous donation and the AWS for making this happen. Without people like you some students would never get the chance to further their education and help the world do better.

Best Regards,

Robert Lukas

# Thank You

## AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY



**Matiss McNally**

Ada, MI

Ferris State University

Welding Engineering Technology

Aim High - Jerry Clay Scholarship (West Michigan Section)

District 11 - 051-West Michigan

Dear Grand Rapids Community Foundation - Aim High Jerry Clay Scholarship,

Thank you for choosing me as a recipient of your scholarship. Your support will help me study Welding Engineering Technology at Ferris State University.

Thank you for your generosity.

Matiss McNally



**Aaron Lamach**

White Cloud, MI

Muskegon Community College

Welding Engineering

RoMan Manufacturing - West Michigan Section Scholarship

District 11 - 051-West Michigan

Thank you RoMan Manufacturing - West Michigan Section Scholarship for the scholarship.

This money will be used to help my future in my chase to get a degree in Welding Engineering from Ferris State. I would like to thank you for your support and continued support in the future.

Sincerely,

Aaron Lamach



American Welding Society®  
FOUNDATION

# *Thank You* **AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY**



**Alexandra Miller**

Sault Sainte Marie, MI

Ferris State University

Welding Engineering

Aim High - Jerry Clay Scholarship (West Michigan Section)

District 11 - 158-Northern Michigan

Dear Mr. Jerry Clay,

It is with utmost gratitude that I say thank you for awarding me this scholarship. I am beyond grateful to be able to attend Ferris State University and pursue my bachelors in Welding Engineering, which would not be at all possible without the help of scholarships such as this one. I have completed two internships so far working for Chicago Bridge and Iron and BWXT and through these experiences and with the help of this scholarship I will be able to have a career in this field. This scholarship will allow me to continue my education without financial worry.

Thank you for helping make my big dreams come true,

Alexandra M. Miller



# *Thank You* **AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY**



**Maximus Nelson**

wolverine, MI  
Ferris State University  
Welding Engineering Technology  
West Michigan Section Scholarship  
District 11 - 158-Northern Michigan

Dear American Welding Society and West Michigan Section Scholarship Donors,

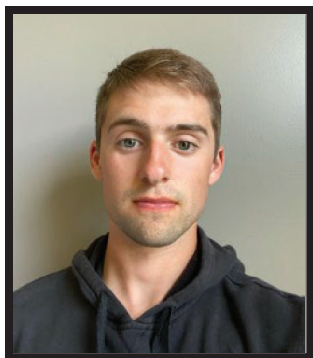
I would like to sincerely thank you for selecting me as a recipient of the West Michigan Section Scholarship.

Not only has this scholarship lifted a significant financial burden, but it has also allowed me to focus more deeply on my studies and long-term career goals in the welding industry. It will also help me pursue additional certifications, particularly in working toward becoming a Certified Welding Inspector. Thanks to your generosity, I feel more confident and motivated to push myself both academically and professionally. Thank you again for your generous investment in my future.

Sincerely,

Maximus Nelson

# *Thank You* **AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY**



**Logan Pethers**

Lapeer, MI

Ferris State University

Welding Engineering Technology

Aim High - Jerry Clay Scholarship (West Michigan Section)

and District Scholarship

District 11 - 011-Detroit

To whom it may concern,

Due to your generosity, I now feel more relieved as I will be one step closer to pursuing my dream of becoming a Welding Engineer. With this scholarship it will help with paying for my school bills this coming semester. I am honored to be accepted, by your district and will make you proud.

Thank you,

Logan Pethers

Ferris State Welding Engineering



**Jacob Phipps**

grand haven, MI

Ferris State University

Welding Engineering Technology

West Michigan Section Scholarship

District 11 - 051-West Michigan

Thank you for the 1,750\$ West Michigan section scholarship.

I appreciate your support of my education and the money sent will be used to fund my college tuition. Every dollar helps and I will continue to work hard to improve my skills and uphold the reputation of the AWS as well as Ferris State University.

Sincerely,

Jacob Phipps

# Thank You

## AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY



**Cadence Randall**  
Bad Axe, MI  
Ferris State University  
Welding Engineering Technology  
West Michigan Section Scholarship  
District 11 - 061-Saginaw Valley

Thank you to the West Michigan Section Scholarship for this award.

The money received from this scholarship is greatly appreciated and going towards my future in the welding industry,

Sincerely,

Cadence Randall



**Nolan Ruotsala**  
Sault Sainte Marie, MI  
Ferris State University  
Welding Engineering Technology  
West Michigan Section Scholarship  
District 11 - 158-Northern Michigan

Dear West Michigan Section Scholarship Committee,

I am grateful to have been selected as a recipient of your generous scholarship. I deeply appreciate your support of my academic and professional journey. This scholarship has a meaningful impact on my education. By easing the financial burden, it allows me to concentrate more on my studies and pursue my goals with greater focus and determination.

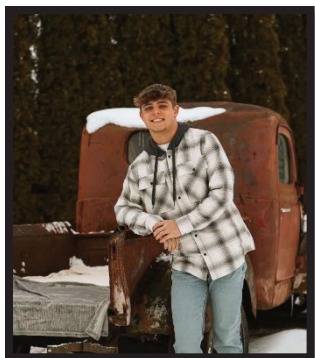
The ability to dedicate more time to learning, without the constant concern of financial strain, is a gift that will benefit me both academically and beyond. Furthermore, your support will significantly reduce my student debt after graduation, helping to relieve the financial pressure as I take the next steps toward my career. Thank you once again for your generosity and belief in my potential!

With sincere appreciation,

Nolan Ruotsala

# Thank You

## AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY



**Logan Siegel**

byron, MI

Ferris State University

Welding Engineering Technology

Aim High - Jerry Clay Scholarship (West Michigan Section)

District 11 - 061-Saginaw Valley

First and foremost, I give a big thank you to the Jerry Clay Aim High Scholarship organization.

I also want to thank American Welding Society for giving us students the opportunity to support our goals by helping fund college by providing so many scholarship opportunities. More importantly a special thank you to the Jerry Clay Aim High scholarship for selecting me and helping me fund my schooling, it means a lot. Can't wait to attend the skeet shooting event in September and pay my respects to the organization!

Sincerely,

Logan Siegel



**Dakota Simpson**

Big Rapids, MI

Ferris State University

Welding Engineering

Aim High - Jerry Clay Scholarship (West Michigan Section)

District 11 - 051-West Michigan

To begin, I would like to say thank you for the opportunity to be apart of a great community such as the AWS.

I am happy to receive the Aim High scholarship for the upcoming school year. This scholarship will help me with my books, tuition and other essentials along the way for the semester. I had the pleasure 2 years ago doing this scholarship and I remember it being a lot of fun. Being able to be with peers and other people within the community made this day exciting. Once again thank you for selecting me and giving me the opportunity to push through my last year in school.

Sincerely,

Dakota Simpson



American Welding Society®  
FOUNDATION

# Thank You

## AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY



**Benjamin Taylor**

lowell, MI

Ferris State University

Welding Engineering Technology

Aim High - Jerry Clay Scholarship (West Michigan Section)

District 11 - 051-West Michigan

Dear Aim High Board and Members,

I am extremely grateful for your generous gift. These funds will go towards tuition costs. This expense coverage is critical for my growing family as my wife and I are expecting a little girl in September. You are tangibly helping the future of my family financially. This will allow me to be more present with the first year of my daughter's life.

Sincerely,

Benjamin Taylor

# *Thank You* **AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY**



**Trevor Townson**  
Clarkston, MI  
Ferris State University  
Welding Engineering Technology  
West Michigan Section Scholarship  
District 11 - 011-Detroit

Dear AWS West Michigan Scholarship Committee,

I hope you are all doing well. My name is Trevor Townson, and I am entering my senior year at Ferris State University, pursuing a degree in Welding Engineering Technology. I am writing to sincerely thank you for the generous scholarship that you have chosen me for.

The financial support provided by kind people such as yourselves has allowed me to focus fully on my coursework and trainings, and less on the financial pressures that come with higher education. This aid has also made a significant impact on my personal and educational development. This upcoming year will be my final one at Ferris State, and I'm excited to take the next step towards a career in the welding industry. I am especially grateful that an organization such as yourself believes in students like me and is invested in bettering the quality of future welding engineering professionals.

Thank you again for your support. Your generosity has made a lasting difference in my life, I only hope that one day I am in a position where I can give back to future engineers that are following in my footsteps as I am the ones that came before me.

With sincere appreciation,

Trevor Townson



# *Thank You* **AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY**



**Nathan Vander Meulen**  
Marysville, MI  
Ferris State University  
Welding Engineering Technology  
Apex Controls - Bernie TeBos Scholarship (West Michigan)  
District 11 - 011-Detroit

Dear Apex Controls,

Thank you very much for awarding me with this scholarship. I really appreciate the award and the financial help will allow me to afford my education more comfortably. Welding has been something that is a huge part of my life, and seeing someone else support my dreams of becoming a welding engineer is a feeling like no other. This scholarship will help me pay for my education as well as a school fabrication project later this year that needs to be student funded. Thank you again for the help and continue doing great things in the welding industry.

Thank you,

Nathan Vander Meulen.

# Thank You

## AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY



**Robert VanValkenburg**

Freeland, MI

Ferris State University

Welding and Fabrication Engineering Technology

Aim High - Jerry Clay Scholarship (West Michigan Section)

District 11 - 061-Saginaw Valley

Dear Jerry Clay,

Thank you so much for selecting me to be the recipient of your aim high scholarship. I can't express the gratitude I felt once I had seen the text message saying I was awarded this scholarship. To be recognized as the student you felt would benefit from this scholarship makes me feel so very proud. As a kid who struggled with his path beyond high school and ultimately wasn't the best student, this scholarship makes me look back on the adversity and dedication it took for me to reach this position in life. One of my biggest goals in life is to graduate with my bachelors in welding engineering as well as graduate with no debt.

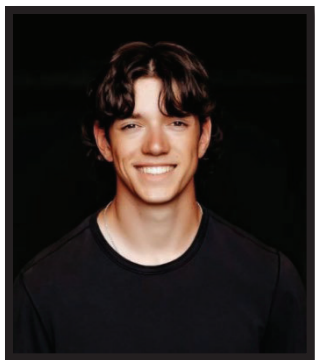
To reach this goal I have worked continuously throughout college almost working 30 hours a week during the school year. I'm not going to lie, I do love my job and have it somewhat easy because of that. However, I do recognize the time it consumes and hard work that it takes to also succeed in school while working. This is why I am so beyond grateful that you have chosen me to receive this scholarship. By granting me this scholarship and helping pay for my tuition you are also helping me achieve my dream. This is one large step towards that dream that I will remember forever and it will also give me more motivation to succeed and reach my goals. So again, Thank you so much for this scholarship. I am now one step closer to achieving my dreams and aspirations.

Best regards,

Robert VanValkenburg

# Thank You

## AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY



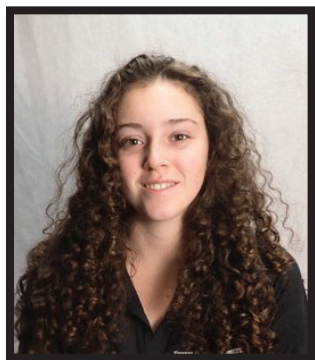
**Nathan Willcutt**  
VICKSBURG, MI  
Ferris State University  
Welding Engineering Technology  
West Michigan Section Scholarship  
District 11 - 051-West Michigan

Dear West Michigan Scholarship,

Thank you for choosing me as the recipient of the West Michigan Scholarship. I am just now finishing up my summer job working in a foundry. I'm also looking forward to the new school year where I will put my scholarship towards my tuition and furthering my education.

Thank you,

Nathan Willcutt



**Victoria Hay**  
Frankfort, IL  
Ferris State University  
Welding Engineering Technology  
Detroit Section Scholarship  
District 13 - 090-J.A.K.

Dear Detroit Section Scholarship,

I am writing to sincerely express my gratitude for your generosity. As an academically driven student, I am determined to push myself and vastly expand my knowledge. My passion for the welding industry led me to Ferris State University, where I am pursuing a bachelor's degree in Welding Engineering Technology.

My goal is to make a significant impact in the welding industry by emphasizing productivity, efficiency, and fostering trust and relationships. I am motivated by relentless determination, a quest for knowledge, and a desire to make a meaningful difference. I am enthusiastic for what the future holds, and I am dedicated to having a fulfilling career devoted to elevating the standards of the welding profession.

# *Thank You* **AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY**

I am confident that the extensive hands-on experience I have gained through our program will enable me to achieve these goals. Additionally, receiving this scholarship is immensely beneficial. Many students in our country bear the burden of student loans to cover college expenses. Your generosity allows me to focus entirely on my academic pursuits without these financial concerns. It is incredibly liberating to receive such a charitable contribution toward my future.

Thank you for your support.  
Sincerely,

Tori Hay



**Zachary Baker**  
Bolingbrook, IL  
Ferris State University  
Welding Engineering Technology  
Detroit Section Scholarship  
District 13 - 090-J.A.K.

Dear American Welding Society Scholarship Committee,

Thank you for awarding me this generous scholarship. I am extremely grateful for the opportunity, as it allows me to focus more on my studies and less on my financial situation.

Your support means a great deal to me and motivates me to continue working hard toward my goals in the welding industry and getting a Bachelors in Welding Engineering from Ferris State University.

Sincerely,

Zachary Baker