

**Date:** June 1, 2023  
**To:** Lincoln School Committee  
**From:** Lincoln Scholarship Committee (LSC)  
**Re:** **2023 LSC Annual Report**

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Lincoln Scholarship Committee Members:

For the 2022-2023 academic year, the continuing members of the Lincoln Scholarship Committee included Carolyn Dwyer (appointed by the Town Moderator), Aldis Russell (appointed by the Select Board) and Barbara Slayter (appointed by the Lincoln School Committee). In early October, Carol Lovell Carmody was appointed by the Lincoln School Committee to succeed Barbara Slayter. We thank Barbara for her years of energetic and committed service on the committee. It is also important to note that Barbara was extremely generous in sharing her experience to facilitate Carol's transition onto the committee.

Committee Process:

The Committee's activities are concentrated in the months of January through June. Starting in January, Lincoln high school seniors are informed of the availability of awards and scholarships. This outreach includes a letter describing each of the scholarships/awards and the application process which is sent to the home of each senior and their parents, postings in each house at LSRHS, communication with the Minuteman/Metco coordinator at LSRHS, and announcements in both the Lincoln Squirrel and Lincoln Talk. Application materials are also reviewed and updated by the Committee, and are made available online via the LSC page on the Town of Lincoln website. For this year, the application cycle opened on February 1, 2023. Applications were due by the end of March and student interviews took place in early May.

The Committee also prepares an annual appeal letter that is sent to all households in Lincoln to solicit financial support for many of the scholarships/awards. In contrast to prior years, when the assembling and mailing of the appeal letters was handled by the Committee, in 2023 we worked with our long term printing company partner to handle the town wide mailing as well as the printing. This was a significant process improvement for the LSC.

In 2023, our pool of applicants was smaller than in prior years, but we had a number of highly qualified candidates. After the review of applications and completion of interviews, decisions on recipients are finalized and this year were formally announced at the LSRHS awards ceremony which took place on May 30, 2023.

### Awards:

- Fannie S. Campbell Award for academic achievement. This one-time award (\$500) recognizes overall scholastic excellence as well as superior achievement in a particular discipline or area of interest. Each student applicant must submit an essay. This year there were three applicants for this award. This year's award recipient is Francesca ("Frankie") Liu, a student with a very strong academic record.
- Sumner Smith Community Service Award. This one-time award (\$500) recognizes a student that has contributed in a significant manner to a community need. This year there were five applicants for this award. This year's award recipient is Andrew Craig, a talented young man who, during Covid, recognized the increasing prevalence of food insecurity. To address this issue, Andrew organized and led two town wide food drives for the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry in Lincoln.

### Scholarships:

- Ogden Codman Scholarships: The Codman Scholarship Committee includes two Codman Trust representatives, Susan Taylor and Kenneth Mitchell, who work closely with the LSC to evaluate student applications and select the award recipients for the following multi-year scholarships that are funded by the Codman Trust:
  - 1) Ogden Codman Scholarship (\$5,000 for each of 4 years): This scholarship is awarded to a Lincoln resident student who has demonstrated both a high level of academic achievement and strong leadership qualities in LSRHS activities and town community service. There were three applicants for this scholarship this year. This year's recipient is Alexander ("Aleco") Buendia, with an impressive academic record that included multiple advanced mathematics courses, as well as athletic and community engagement/leadership.
  - 2) Codman Opportunity Scholarship (\$2,500 for each of four years): This scholarship is awarded to a Lincoln student that plans on attending a two or four year college, vocational school or other post-secondary study or training program. Student potential and commitment to success in a specific field or trade are all important decision factors. There were three applicants for this scholarship this year. This year's recipient is Kyle Atwood. Kyle has been successful in overcoming learning issues, and has served the Lincoln Community in his work for the Parks and Recreation Department (Codman Pool, Lincoln Summer Camp, and LEAP). Kyle is interested in a career in Parks and Recreation Management.
- Harriet Backus Todd Scholarship (\$5,000 offered each year and renewable for a second year): The purpose of this relatively new scholarship (est. 2021) is to encourage students pursuing post secondary studies and/or training consistent with Harriet Todd's lifetime of devotion to public service and voluntarism and recognizing commitment and passion for a broad range of civic concerns. The scholarship is funded by a bequest to the Town of Lincoln by long time resident Harriet Todd. This is our first scholarship that is open to students who are not residents of Lincoln, but who have attended Lincoln

Schools in grades 5-8 and are graduating from LSRHS or Minuteman Technical school. This year's recipient is Alexander ("Aleco") Buendia.

- Lincoln Community Scholarships: The Lincoln Scholarship Committee offers several scholarships that are primarily needs-based and that are dependent (at least in part) on the community's response to the annual appeal letter and on the number of applicants. These scholarships are generally in the \$1,000 to \$4,000 range for one year only. There were three applicants for these scholarships this year. This year's recipients are Kyle Atwood and Alexander ("Aleco") Buendia.

#### Fundraising Results:

To date, Lincoln community members have contributed over \$8,200 to the Lincoln Scholarship Committee's 2023 appeal. This amount is fairly consistent with prior years. In general, contributions are received beginning almost immediately after the town wide mailing in April, with the bulk of annual contributions coming in the first two months after the mailing. However, contributions continue to be received throughout the calendar year. Most contributions are in the \$50-\$100 range, but many are larger. Most contributions are received via mailed check, but increasingly donors are taking advantage of an ACH payment option on the LSC page of the town website (<http://www.lincolntown.org/645/Lincoln-Scholarship-Committee>).

#### Looking Forward:

The following areas warrant further consideration:

- Outreach improvements: Given the ever-accelerating cost of post-secondary education, we would like to see expansion of our candidate pool in future years. Generating ideas for improvement in the effectiveness of our outreach efforts – both with regard to timing and content – are a top priority.
- Improving process efficiency: There are technology improvements that could markedly increase the efficiency of the application submission process for both applicants and the Committee (an example would be an online platform for application completion and submission). Adding a credit card payment option for our donors has also been suggested.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Lovell Carmody (on behalf of the Lincoln Scholarship Committee)