



PRESS RELEASE: 2021 OGSA HERITAGE AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED WITH AN UNPRECEDENTED TIE FOR SECOND PLACE!

July 20, 2021 – The OGSA would like to congratulate Sydney Ackermann, on winning first place, and Holly Lecour and Grayden Stauffer, who have tied for second place, on earning the top spots for the OGSA Heritage Award. Each winner will receive a cash award of \$1,500 to help offset the cost of their education as they pursue their chosen fields of study.

Sydney Ackermann, child of Robert Ackermann (Superintendent at Weston Golf and Country Club), has completed her undergraduate degree with a double major in Physics and Ecology & Evolutionary Biology with a minor in Math at the University of Toronto. Sydney has recently been accepted into the Master's program in the Department of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology with a plan to do a PhD, and pursue a career in research.

Holly Lecour, child of Chris Lecour (Senior Sales Rep, BASF), is attending Queens University, also earning top marks, and is working toward a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology. Holly developed a passion for helping children after spending time volunteering in an art therapy camp for kids and has aspirations to earn her Masters in Psychotherapy and eventually become a child therapist.

Tied for second, Grayden Stauffer, child of Jeff Stauffer (Superintendent at Rosedale Golf Club), is currently attending the University of Tennessee at Martin, pursuing both his athletic and academic career goals as a member of the division 1 baseball team, and achieving honour marks in the Bachelor of Arts Social Work program. Grayden aspires to be a coach, and intends to use his degree in social work to improve his ability to ensure a safe and supportive environment for athletes.

Ian McQueen, OGSA director and scholarship committee liaison shared, "The OGSA is committed to finding ways to support our members and in the case of the Heritage Award, their families. This year, we had a number of excellent applicants and were very impressed with their applications. With five judges reviewing each submission, we were surprised to find that we had a tie for second place! This has never happened before, but we're glad it did. These are three very deserving young people."

The OGSA awards over \$10,000 in scholarships to help support members, education and professional development within the industry. The OGSA has developed this scholarship program to recognize the scholastic accomplishments of students who are the children or grandchildren of members of the OGSA and are studying a post secondary curriculum unrelated to Turfgrass Management. For more information about the OGSA scholarship and awards program, visit ogsa.ca.

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