

CT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS 2021-2022

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Lillian Borbas from Morris, Connecticut received this year's CT Horticultural Society's award that honors the memory of Dr. Edwin "Pat" Carpenter a Professor of Horticulture. Lillian is a senior majoring in Sustainable Plant and Soil Systems with a concentration in Environmental Horticulture. She is a Dean's List student with a cumulative grade point average of 3.95.

Julie Turner from Shelton, Connecticut received this year's CT Horticultural Society's award that is given in memory of Ludwig Hoffman, a well-known Nurseryman. Julie is a senior majoring in Sustainable Plant and Soil Systems with a concentration in Environmental Horticulture. She is a New England Scholar with a cumulative grade point average of 3.64.

Annabelle Caswell from Norwich, Connecticut is the recipient of this year's CT Horticultural Society's award in memory of David J.A. Smith, an Emeritus Society Member. She is a transfer student from the University of Maine, and a senior majoring in Sustainable Plant and Soil Systems with a cumulative grade point average of 3.6. Annabelle will be graduating in May of 2022.

Naugatuck Valley Community College

Aiden Usher is majoring in Horticulture and received her Associate Degree in Science, with a 4.0 GPA. She is finishing her education at UConn Storrs, also planning to major in horticulture.

In her personal statement, she wrote: "I am so proud of myself for being able to continue my education in a field of my passion. I am a strong believer in the saying 'Love what you do; do what you love.' That is exactly what I am trying to do, taking classes such as 'Woody Plants' and 'Soil Systems' may not compare with 'Accounting 101,' but to me, it is exactly what I have always wanted to do. Learning about plant physiology, growing procedures, the different layers within soil, sustainability, and being able to identify every other plant I see is extremely gratifying. I dedicate the time and effort to my studies because I love what I do, and I have a passion within the subject, which is something that not everyone can say.

"This scholarship will grant me the ability to enhance my current education and give me the means to continue it. Although community college is seen to be the 'cheap' way to get an education, it is just as important and can be equally as costly. Textbooks, gas, and extra materials put a financial strain on many young people, including myself. For one of my classes, I was required to purchase a "Landscaping Tools" kit for \$130, which was out of pocket because financial aid did not cover it. This extra, unexpected cost put me back that amount of money which jeopardized my education due to the fact I had to put in extra work hours that week to pay off the bill. These costs add up and having a scholarship that would be able to help compensate these costs would allow me to better my education in a significant way."

Elizabeth Grimaldi studies horticulture at Naugatuck Valley Community College. There, Elizabeth is enrolled in NVCC's two-year horticulture program. After this, Elizabeth plans to attend UConn to continue studying horticulture and the environment.