**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – June 12, 2025**

**Anne McFadyen Scholarships Awarded**

SARNIA, ON – Five exceptional Great Lakes Secondary School students have been recognized for their achievements in academics, leadership, and community involvement at this year’s inaugural Anne McFadyen Scholarship.

The scholarship recipients who embody Anne’s spirit, energy and passion for making a positive change in our community. Each successful candidate shall receive $12,000 to enable them to pursue post secondary education at a school of their choice. The funds will be directed primarily towards tuition, books, and residence fees. Criteria for the scholarship included academic excellence, commitment to community service, leadership, and financial need.

Here are the recipients are:

* **Maya Chaikam**, University of Waterloo- Environment Resources and Sustainability. Maya was a member of the Concert Band and Jazz Band and performed at elementary school and in the community at various live events. Maya had the Lead Role in Music and Drama Productions at Great Lakes Secondary. Maya was also a Key Club member - Kiwanis festivals and community events (Inn of the Good Sheppard Humane Society, Toy Drive, DELC Leadership Conference, Celebration of Lights). Maya was a Reach for the Top Trivia team and was part of the Environmental Club.
* **Owen Roberts**, Western University- Chemistry. Owen was a Reach for the Top Trivia participant, a Student Council-morning announcements, school fundraisers, helping with grade 8 orientation. Owen organized the schools Relay for Life. Owen was member of both the Environmental Club; brough awareness and support to 2SLGBTQIA+ community. Owen as a Club-Kiwanis festivals and community events (Inn of the Good Sheppard Humane Society). Owen participated in Cross Country, Dodgeball, Badminton, Track and Field Team and he participated in the Great Canadian Cycle Challenge
* **Marissa Vu-Nguyen**, Western University- Medical Science. Maya graduated Honours with Distinction, was member of Student Council- secretary and treasurer, a member of the choir and Volunteered at the local soup kitchen and farmer’s market.
* **Raihaan Abrahim**, McMaster University – Life Sciences with a specialty in Biophysics. Raihaan graduated Honours with Distinction each year through high school. Raihaan participated in the University of Waterloo yearly Math Competitions. Raihaan lead the Tutoring Club and was a member of the Arlanxeo Community Advisory panel – representing student body. Raihaan was member of the School Concert Band - performing at elementary school and in the community at various live events. Raihaan was a Leadership Class member helping with the Mental Health Matters Campaign.
* **Kyleigh Noels**, University of Western Ontario – Integrated Science. Kyleigh was member of the Key Club- Kiwanis festivals and community events (Inn of the Good Sheppard Humane Society, Toy Drive, DELC Leadership Conference, Celebration of Lights). Kyleigh was a Leadership Class member - Mental Health Matters Campaign. Kyleigh was Co-prime minister of Student Council and she had the Lead Role in Drama Productions at Great Lakes Secondary.

The awards will be presented at the Great Lakes Secondary School Graduation, Thursday June 12, 2025. These students have not only excelled academically but have also contributed significantly to the school’s vibrancy, environment and over well being.

“We are incredibly proud of these young individuals who have shown dedication, perseverance, and leadership,” said Derek Stenton, Principle, Great Lakes Secondary School. “Their achievements reflect the bright future ahead for our community.”

“This scholarship reflects the power of community partnerships in creating meaningful opportunities for our students,” said Gary Girardi, Director of Education, LKDSB. “We are proud to support initiatives that celebrate student achievement and inspire future success.”

For more information call Sarnia Community Foundation office at 519 332 2588 or visit the website for more information [www.sarniacommunityfoundation.ca](http://www.sarniacommunityfoundation.ca).

For further information, please contact:

Mike Barron Executive Director

Sarnia Community Foundation

Phone: 519 332 2588

Email: ed@sarniacommunityfoundation.ca