

# Meet Our 2018 Scholarship Recipients

The Muter Outdoor Fund is pleased to announce the first three recipients of its inaugural John A. Muter Memorial Scholarship. The new scholarship recognizes college undergraduates who are committed to engaging new audiences and new generations with Michigan's natural resources and rich outdoor heritage.

The winners were selected from a highly-qualified pool of 23 applicants, representing eight Michigan colleges and universities. Recipients were selected for their clear passion for Michigan and its outdoor opportunities as well as their demonstrated commitment of introducing others to those opportunities, such as fishing, hunting, camping, boating and wildlife watching. Each winner received a \$1,000 scholarship to support her 2018-2019 academic expenses.



### JENNIFER DIGNA ALPENA, MICHIGAN · NORTHWOOD UNIVERSITY

Jennifer is driven by her passion for improving the lives of youth in northern Michigan. For the past eight years, she has been working with the Boys & Girls Clubs of Alpena leading fishing, recycling, and other nature-based activities for hundreds of youth in the area. Jennifer received her associate degree in Business Administration from Alpena Community College in May 2018 and is now continuing her education at Northwood.



#### SAMANTHA LOBDELL HARRISON, MICHIGAN · CENTRAL MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

Merging her interests in natural resources and outdoor recreation, Samantha is committed to helping others find a lasting connection to the outdoors. In 2017 she developed and led the very first public nature program at Wilson State Park in her hometown of Harrison. In summer 2018, she expanded the park's outreach efforts through leading nature hikes, fishing, and other programs with families visiting the park.



### MALLORY VERCH WATERFORD, MICHIGAN · MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Mallory is entering her senior year in the Department of Fisheries & Wildlife at Michigan State University. At MSU, she serves as the President of the Fisheries & Wildlife Club, plays violin in the MSU Concert Orchestra, and participates in several other student organizations. She has also been actively involved in several wildlife-related research projects, ranging from conducting deer surveys in East Lansing to working as a black bear reserach technician in Nevada.

### First-Year Milestones

We have been busy working behind-the-scenes to establish the Muter Outdoor Fund as a nonprofit organization in the state of Michigan, file required state and federal paperwork, and strategize on the organization's structure, programs, and budget. The timeline below highlights some of our significant milestones and achievements to date.



## Financial Highlights

### 990-EZ

The Muter Outdoor Fund filed its first 990-EZ for our 2017 fiscal year. You can view those financials on our website.

### **2019 GOALS**

The Board of Directors is excited to build upon our first-year achievements. Our ambitious goals for 2019 include:

- 1. Increasing the number of scholarships awarded from 3 to 5.
- 2. Increasing the number of individual donors to the Muter Outdoor Fund by 50%.
- 3. Ensuring our annual administrative expenses remain under 10%.
- 4. Approaching Michigan-based businesses who believe in our mission to help us fund and start planning a second program for the Muter Outdoor Fund.

### DID YOU KNOW?

You can make a tax-deductible donation to the Muter Outdoor Fund online at www.muteroutdoorfund.org.



### BY THE NUMBERS

\$3,000 SCHOLARSHIP PAYMENTS

SCHOLARSHIP PAYMENTS
ISSUED IN 2018

UNIQUE DONORS TO DATE

\$100 AVERAGE DONATION FROM INDIVIDUALS