

## Congratulations to the 2012 Binc Scholarship Recipients

The Binc Foundation is pleased to announce the recipients of their 2012 Academic Scholarship Program, which saw 35 students, who were either former Borders employees or their dependents, receive \$100,000 in scholarship funding for their continuing education. The awards were broken down in denominations of \$5000 and \$2500. These recipients were chosen from a pool of 93 applicants and for those just entering college, they had an average high school GPA of 4.0. The students continuing their education had an average collegiate GPA of 3.64.

Many of these booksellers and their family members received scholarship awards that helped them achieve their dreams as educators, writers, engineer and social workers. Please read on to learn more about the 35 award winners.



---

### Raven Benner-Heflin

School: Germanna Community College (Locust Grove, VA) <http://www.germannacollege.edu/>

Major: Psychology

Recipient of the \$2,500 Binc Scholars Award

Educational plans: "I plan to get my doctorate in psychology and then use it in the field of military psychology."

Reading memory: "All of my reading memories are great! I love to read and I can't remember a time when I haven't loved to read books."

---



---

### Desirae Bennett

School: California State University (at Monterey Bay) <http://csumb.edu/>

Major: Business

Recipient of the \$5,000 Binc Honor Scholars Award

About Desirae: "I volunteer at Woods Humane Society and school fundraisers. I am also an honor student at Cuesta College."

Favorite book quote: "You don't love someone because they're perfect, you love them in spite of the fact that they're not." - Jodi Picoult

---



---

**Adam Bicksler**

School: Sand Diego State University <http://www.sdsu.edu/>

Major: American Literature

Recipient of the \$2,500 Binc Scholars Award

Career plans: "With my credentials, I am to teach at the secondary level to imbue my passion for literature onto my students to make life-long readers!"

Favorite book quote: "I have found it easier to identify with the characters that verge upon hysteria, who was frightened of life, which was desperate to reach out to

another person. But these seemingly fragile people are the strong people really."

Tennessee Williams

---



---

**Sean Clark**

School: University of Arizona <http://www.arizona.edu/>

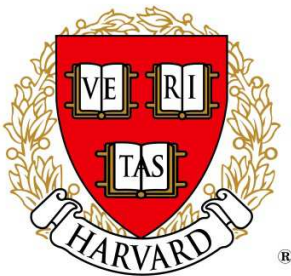
Major: History

Recipient of the \$2,500 Binc Scholars Award

Career plans: "This year I will be on the academic job market. My hope is to find a school with a close knit community of students & scholars where I can really settle down.

Favorite book: *The Rise of Western Christendom* by Peter Brown (2<sup>nd</sup> ed, 2007)

---



---

**Aerin Commins**

School: Harvard extension school <http://www.extension.harvard.edu/>

Major: Foreign Literature, Language

Recipient of the \$5,000 Binc Honor Scholars Award

About Aerin: "I recently was accepted into Harvard Summer school of Kyoto, Japan program, and am spending much of the summer taking courses at Doshisha University. During the last two summers, when I have been home, I have worked at the Ralph Waldo Emerson Memorial House, giving tours of the house while telling people about both Emerson and 19<sup>th</sup> century American life. As I am interested in both philosophy and literature, this has been a very enjoyable experience."

Favorite book quote: "Whether I was born a little mad or a little too sane, my kingdom was not of this world. I was only at home in the realm of my imagination, and at my ease only with the mighty dead." - George Bernard Shaw

---



---

**Daniel Correia**

School: Academy of Art (San Francisco, CA) <http://www.academyart.edu/>

Major: Landscape Architecture

Recipient of the \$2,500 Binc Scholars Award

Career plans: "I plan on completing my Master's degree in Landscape Architecture and then entering that field in the San Francisco bay area. I would love to work on a global scale to design solutions to environmental problems that are also beautiful and functional."

Favorite book: *House of Leaves* by Mark Danielewski

---



---

**Katherine Dvorak**

School: University of Iowa <http://www.uiowa.edu/>

Major: Health & Human Physiology

Recipient of the \$5,000 Binc Honor Scholars Award

About Katherine: "I was on the honor roll my freshman year of college, as well as volunteering for the Iowa State University food pantry, dance marathon & mentoring."

Favorite books: *Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen & *The Pull of the Moon* by Elizabeth Berg

---



---

**Sarah Dvorak**

School: Iowa State University <http://www.iastate.edu/>

Major: Pre-Veterinary Medicine

Recipient of the \$2,500 Binc Scholars Award

Educational goals: "I plan to attend Iowa State University for 1 more year, then transfer to a nursing school to get my Bachelors in Nursing."

Favorite books: *Never Change* and *Until the Real Thing Comes Along* by Elizabeth Berg

---



**Jerome Gairan**

School: Pepperdine University <http://www.pepperdine.edu/>

Major: Clinical Psychology

Recipient of the \$5,000 Binc Honor Scholars Award

Career plans: "My goal is to become a clinical psychologist with an emphasis in psychotherapy and to dabble in the field of forensic psychology."

Favorite book: *Ender's game* by Orson Scott Card

---



**Nicholas Garner**

School: Portland State University <http://pdx.edu/>

Major: History

Recipient of the \$2,500 Binc Scholars Award

Educational goals & career plans: "I plan to get a Masters in World History, and/or a law degree, followed by a PhD in History. I'd like to write, teach, and advocate for the oppressed and disenfranchised."

Favorite reading memory: "I've only realized recently how important having read Ursula Le Guin's *Earthsea* series in middle school has been to me. She's a major reason why I became interested in writing. Since then, *the Lathe of Heaven*, *The Left Hand of Darkness*, and *The Dispossessed* have been profoundly influential."

---



**Jonathan Grabis**

School: Florida Atlantic University <http://www.fau.edu/>

Major: Political Science

Recipient of the \$2,500 Binc Scholars Award

Educational goals & career plans: "I plan on pursuing my dual major in political science and economics and then pursuing graduate studies in quantitative analysis. I plan to use my degree to expand child and adult literacy in both public and private sectors."

Favorite book memory: "My favorite book is Ken Follet's *The Pillar of the Earth*. I've read it 7 times and each time it reminds me of why my love for reading is so great."

---



**Samuel Gutierrez**

School: California State University (Long Beach, CA) <http://www.csulb.edu/>

Major: Graphic Design

About Samuel: "I just recently finished an associate degree in spring 2012 in Interdisciplinary studies from Fullerton College. I play in an indie rock band Black Elephant that participates in many DIY community organized events."

Favorite book: *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald

---



---

**Cindy Haller**

School: University of Missouri (St. Louis, MO) <http://www.umsl.edu/>

Major: Social Work

Recipient of the \$2,500 Binc Scholars Award

About Cindy: "I volunteer with CASA as an advocate for foster children."

Educational goals & career plans: "I plan to get my Bachelors and Masters in Social Work. Afterwards I'd like to work with at risk teens in therapeutic educational setting."

Favorite book: *Anne of Green Gables* by Lucy Maud Montgomery

---



---

**Daniel Hoffman**

School: Kennesaw State University <http://www.kennesaw.edu/>

Major: Biology

Recipient of the \$2,500 Binc Scholars Award

Educational goals & career plans: "When I finish my Bachelor's I plan to attend a graduate program, possibly in toxicology. Upon completion I'd like to work in a position that helps both people and the environment, most likely through medical research, teaching or consulting."

Favorite reading memory: "My favorite reading memory is of a summer night when I was 12 or 13 and receiving permission to stay up as late as I wanted if I was reading. That was the first time I read an adult novel through in one sitting."

---





---

**Allison Hofstedt**

School: Metropolitan State University <http://www.metrostate.edu/>

Major: Paralegal/Pre Law

Recipient of the \$2,500 Binc Scholars Award

About Allison: "I recently graduated from Inver Hills Community College with an Associate Paralegal Degree. I was a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honors Society while attending IHCC."

Favorite book quote: "So often we only do what we think is expected of us, when we are capable of so much more." - Cynthia Hand author of *Unearthly*

---



---

**Andrew Imdieke**

School: Michigan State University <http://www.msu.edu/>

Major: Accounting

Recipient of the \$2,500 Dave H. Carpenter Award

Career plans: "After finishing my PhD in Accounting, it is my goal to perform research and teach at a top tier accounting school."

Favorite book memory: "As a kid, chomping at the bit for each new *Boxcar* children's book."

---



---

**Sara Isaacson**

School: University of North Carolina (Chapel Hill, NC) <http://www.unc.edu/index.htm>

Major: Chemistry

Recipient of the \$2,500 Binc Scholars Award

Career plans: "Upon graduation, I plan to serve my country in uniform as a US Army officer. At some point in the future, I hope to attend graduate school."

Favorite book memory: "When I was in elementary school I loved *Matilda* by Roald Dahl so much that my parents required that I read a new book before each time I re-read *Matilda*."

---



**Lara Kunnapas**

School: University of Georgia <http://www.uga.edu/>

Major: Finance

Recipient of the \$2,500 Binc Scholars Award

About Lara: "I have just completed my freshman year at UGA with a 3.5 while being active in my church and participating in many community service activities. In fall, I will be studying Spanish in Argentina."

Favorite book: *Light in August* by William Faulkner

---



**Brendan Maione-Downing**

School: Harvard College <http://www.college.harvard.edu/icb/icb.do>

Major: History

Recipient of the \$5,000 Binc Honor Scholars Award

About Brendan: "I am a member of the Harvard Mountaineering Club, recipient of the Ferguson award for best undergraduate institutional paper in History (2012), Editor-in-Chief of the Harvard undergraduate History paper. I am also a peer concentration advisor and an Oxford fellow in medieval archaeology."

Favorite book: *Ender's Game* by Orson Scott Card

---



**Matthew Maione-Downing**

School: University of Pennsylvania <http://www.upenn.edu/>

Major: Electrical Engineering

Recipient of the \$2,500 Binc Scholars Award

About Matthew: "I am a competing member and executive Secretary of the University of Pennsylvania ballroom dance team and have competed in the Penn Apps Hackathon."

Favorite book: *The Hobbit* by J.R.R. Tolkien

---



---

**Amanda MacLeod**

School: Grand Valley State University <http://www.gvsu.edu/>

Major: Music Education

Recipient of the \$2,500 Binc Scholars Award

Career plans: "After graduating GVSU, I plan to teach beginning band in a middle school as a band director. I believe the first major experience with band is what makes or breaks a child's love of music, and I want to foster as many new musicians as I can."

Favorite book quote: "Sometimes, you read a book and it fills you with this weird evangelical zeal and you become convinced that the shattered world will never be put back together unless and until all living humans read the book." - John Green author of *The Fault in our stars*

---



---

**Hannah Mundt**

School: Montana State University <http://www.montana.edu/>

Major: English Writing

Recipient of the \$2,500 Binc Scholars Award

About Hannah: "I recently worked as an editor for MSU's literary magazine Read This, in the fiction department. I also enjoy frozen yogurt, being in important places, and bike riding."

Favorite book quote: "The universe does not have laws. It has habits and habits can be changed." - Tom Robbins author of *Jitterbug Perfume*

---



---

**Catherine Popp**

School: Worcester State University <http://www.worcester.edu/default.aspx>

Major: Mass Communications

Recipient of the \$2,500 Binc Scholars Award

About Catherine: "I am Worcester State University Helping Hand award winner (2012); I would like to take classes that will help me acquire the skills needed to make the transition to a new career."

Favorite reading memory: "My love for reading began in elementary school when I won a contest for reading the most Caldecott winning books."

---





---

**Myong-Suk Robinson**

School: Middle Tennessee State University <http://www.mtsu.edu/>

Major: Library Science

Recipient of the \$2,500 Binc Scholars Award

Career plans: "I have been studying to be a school librarian and am nearing completion of my master's degree and obtaining my teacher's license. I hope to be a school librarian who helps students to be lifelong readers."

Favorite book memory: "Books have been a big part of my life since I was a young girl. I have enjoyed reading many different genres, but I especially like to read biographies."

---

---

**Jaylene Owen**

School: Austin Peay State University <http://www.apsu.edu/>

Major: Psychology

Recipient of the \$2,500 Binc Scholars Award

About Jaylene: "I current have accepted a historian position within my Psi Chi chapter this year. I am currently, planning on a study abroad program in South India. "

Favorite book quote: "Keep away from people who try to belittle your ambitions. Small people do that, but the really great make you feel that you too can become great." - Mark Twain

---



---

**Allison Schell**

School: George Washington University <http://www.gwu.edu/>

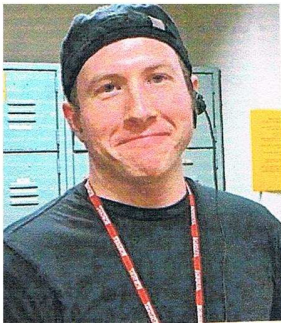
Major: Museum Studies

Recipient of the \$2,500 Binc Scholars Award

About Allison: "I intern at Gadsby's Tavern Museum (Alexandria, VA) and at the National Women's History Museum, docent at the George Washington Masonic Memorial, am an officer in GWU's Museum studies student association. I have also been awarded the DC DAR Fellowship in 2012 as well as a CCAS Summer Fellowship (2012)."

Favorite reading memory: "Founding Mothers: Women in the Revolutionary War. This book first sparked my interest in studying Women's History, which has influenced me throughout my life (I'm now an intern at a Women's History Museum!)."

---



---

**Noah Sheppard**

School: AXIA College of the University of Phoenix <http://aptm.phoenix.edu>

Major: Communications

Recipient of the \$2,500 Binc Scholars Award

About Noah: "I recently found new employment with a small but rapidly growing company based in St. Charles, and I love it. I run a book club with my fellow Borders friends, and I study like crazy. I garden, cook, read, watch old British TV shows, and I am about to run my first 5K."

Favorite book: *Neverwhere* by Neil Gaiman & *Speaker for the Dead* by Orson Scott Card

---



---

**Jennifer Stromsted**

School: St. Luke's College <http://www.stlukescollege.edu/>

Major: Nursing

Recipient of the \$2,500 Binc Scholars Award

Career plans: "I plan to graduate with my Bachelor of Science in nursing next May. I have secured a job as an RN at Shawnee Mission Medical Center after graduation. My wish is to be a medical or surgical floor nurse and to eventually return to school to become a Nurse Practitioner."

Favorite book memory: "My favorite book is *American Gods* by Neil Gaiman. When I first read it in the summer of 2002, I was on a road trip and actually passed thru areas visited in the book. It was a great memory."

---



---

**Rebecca Thomas**

School: Drexel University <http://www.drexel.edu/>

Major: Art Therapy

Recipient of the \$2,500 Binc Scholars Award

About Rebecca: "I graduated from college with a degree in jewelry but quickly found out Art Therapy was my calling. It's been a struggle to get my Master's and the most recent set back, Drexel's program is full. I keep doing art on my own for charities as a member of the modified Dolls."

Favorite book quote: "His beauty shall in these black lines be seen" - William Shakespeare

---



---

**Gilbert Thrall**

School: Champlain College [www.champlain.edu](http://www.champlain.edu)

Major: Game Design

Recipient of the \$2,500 Binc Scholars Award

About Gilbert: "I love to read, play video games, and hang out with friends. I am currently working a summer job as a quality assurance tester for Activision. I enjoy this job because it will help me with my career and I am gaining experience."

Favorite book: *Song of Ice and Fire* by George R.R. Martin

---



---

**Rebecca Van Der Jagt**

School: Columbia University Teachers College <http://www.tc.columbia.edu/>

Major: Sociology and Education

Recipient of the \$2,500 Binc Scholars Award

Career plans: "I am currently certified to teach English at the secondary level and I hope to use my Master's degree to become a better educator and activate social change in the United States."

Favorite book: *Everything is Illuminated* by Jonathan Safran Foer

---



---

**Timothy Webber**

School: University of Southern California <http://www.usc.edu/>

Major: Music Industry

Recipient of the \$2,500 Binc Scholars Award

Career plans: "I would like to be a mixing engineer at a major recording studio. Also, I would like to be a part of community service projects such as building schools or homes or helping children."

Favorite book: *Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck

---



**Shay Workman**

School: Southwestern Oregon Community College <http://www.socc.edu/>

Major: Natural Resources

Recipient of the \$2,500 Binc Scholars Award

About Shay: "I am currently an intern with the Cowlitz Indian Tribe's natural resources department. I wrestle on the Women's team at my college, enjoy hiking, watching or playing sports, listening to music, and relaxing on the beach with a good book."

Favorite book: *Memoirs of a Boy Soldier* by Ishmael Beah

---



**Sarah Wortman**

School: Southwestern Illinois College <http://www.swic.edu/>

Major: Undecided

Recipient of the \$2,500 Binc Scholars Award

Educational Goals: "I will graduate in May 2013 with my associate in Arts degree. Next Fall, I will transfer to a 4 year University to finish my Bachelor's degree. I am still undecided but I am leaning towards Nursing."

Favorite book: *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury

---



**Angela Zuniga**

School: Portland Community College

Recipient of the \$2,500 Binc Scholars Award

Major: Accounting

Career plans: "After finishing school, I hope to obtain a position in either the Accounting department or the special assets management department at the Credit Union where I am employed."

Favorite book quote: "We were always two fugitives riding on the spine of a book, eager to escape into worlds of fiction and secondhand dreams." - Carlos Ruiz Zafron author of *The Shadow of the Wind*

---

Thank you to all who applied to the 2012 Binc Foundation scholarship program. It is a great honor to have so many great bookstore employees and their families apply. We value your dedication to academic success and hope that if you are still in school you will apply in 2013.