

The Davies-Jackson Scholarship: Information About the Scholarship

The Davies-Jackson Scholarship provides a unique opportunity for graduating seniors with exceptional academic records. To be eligible for the Davies-Jackson Scholarship applicants must be American citizens who are graduating seniors enrolled in one of the private liberal arts colleges and universities on the list of eligible institutions. The applicant should be the first in their family to graduate from college, that is, the applicants parents should not have graduated from a four year college or university.

The Davies-Jackson Scholar will be admitted to Cambridge as an Affiliated Student. An Affiliated Student is a graduate holding an approved degree from another university who is admitted to work for the Cambridge B.A. degree. Affiliated Students will normally have taken a full-time, three-year Honor's degree course, finishing at a high standard. They then go on to take the more advanced parts of a Cambridge degree course and qualify for the B.A. in two years instead of the usual three. Upon the successful completion of two years of study, candidates are awarded a Cambridge B.A. degree, known as the Cantab degree, often viewed as the equivalent of a Master's degree in the United States. This year for the first time, suitably qualified students may be given the option of taking a one-year M. Phil (Masters of Philosophy) program at the discretion of the St. John's Senior Tutor. Recipients of a Davies-Jackson Scholarship will be required to submit an account of their experience at St. John's College at the end of each year they have studied there.

The Council of Independent Colleges assists the U.S. Selection Committee of the Davies-Jackson Scholarship to administer the program. Applications are accepted from early September to early November. In November and December applications are reviewed by the Committee and finalist candidates forwarded to the Admissions Tutor at St. John's. At this time additional writing samples may be requested from these applicants. The award of the Scholarship is made by St. John's in January.

Davies-Jackson Scholarship Recipients

2009

Danae Mercer - Social and Political Sciences
Creighton University (NE)

2008

Brian Biggs - Social and Political Sciences
Bradley University (IL)

Joshua Wisebaker - English
Wittenberg University (OH)

2007

Randalle Hughes - English
Mercer University (GA)

2006

J. Nathan Matias - English
Elizabethtown College (PA)

2005

Michael P. Gallen - History
La Salle University (PA)

2004

No Award Granted

2003

Rose Holandez - Social and Political Sciences
St. Peter's College (NJ)

2002

No Award Granted

2001

George J. Maher, IV - Social and Political Sciences
St. Lawrence University (NY)

2000

No Award Granted

1999

Delicia Reynolds - Social and Political Sciences
St. Peter's College (NJ)

1998

Kevin M. Troiano - Music
Roosevelt University (IL)

1997

Colleen Willenbring - English
College of Saint Benedict (MN)

1996

Patricia Ronan - History
Catholic University of America (DC)

1994

Richard Pressley - Music
Butler University (IN)

1992

John Doffing - History
Marquette University (WI)

1990
Catherine Lappe - English
Loyola University of Chicago (IL)

In Their Own Words: Experiences of Previous Scholars

Over the past year I've seen, heard, smelled, tasted, and felt things of which I would have never dreamed. During my time in Cambridge I've been able to keep up with the old while indulging in the new. I've been able to maintain my previous academic interests while teasing out new interests in other fields; Skype lets me keep in touch with family and friends at home between cultivating relationships with friends here in Cambridge; rowing, rugby, and cricket have captured my attention, even though I check baseball scores every day. Cambridge has opened a whole new world of experiences to me and, in fusing these new experiences with ones I brought with me from the USA, has fundamentally and irreversibly changed me for the better.

Brian Biggs, 2008

I do not have enough thumbs to rate the Davies-Jackson Scholarship. The Affiliated BA at Cambridge gave me two wonderful years of flexible, guided opportunity with some of the sharpest, toughest to please, and nicest people in my field. Providing access to the best of undergraduate teaching and postgraduate life at Cambridge, under the encouragement of a caring scholarship committee, this program has turned my unlikely aspirations into achievable opportunities

J. Nathan Matias, 2006

The teaching of St. John's is very challenging intellectually, offering a far more in-depth look at what you are studying. Your supervisors seek not merely to teach you facts; they teach you new ways of thinking. Cambridge itself is a beautiful place that I will never forget.

Michael P. Gallen, 2005

While the academics here don't disappoint, there's nothing to fear either. What you will find is that encounters with lecturers and professors are more demanding, more intensive, and more probing than in the U.S... Your professors will stretch your mind in ways that it hasn't been before... While it has been admittedly difficult, I have balanced John's Rugby with major commitments to a Cambridge activist group, spending time with my wife, and traveling to Italy, Spain, and Scotland (along with the occasional pub crawl, of course)... Simply being in the UK affords the opportunity to see society from a different perspective, and it is just this sort of intercultural understanding that is most needed in the world today.

George Maher, 2001

My time at Cambridge has been one of the most intensely challenging and rewarding academic experiences. I have greatly solidified my knowledge in my subject area and have had a chance to work with academics and researchers who are the top in their fields. I have also had a most wonderful opportunity to work on other parts of my person, both physically and mentally. I have taken up playing the guitar, I now swim and run regularly, and I have been able to travel in continental Europe, as well as to take a brief journey to Africa.

Delicia Reynolds, 1999

I've never been in a place that drew students of the caliber that I met at St. John's. I found new inspiration for learning every time I turned around, and it's an inspiration that I'm confident I will draw on for the rest of my life. If you come from a small college like I did I guarantee that Cambridge will be an environment that will astound you, if you let it.

M. Colleen Willenbring, 1997