

Committee selects four 2011 Cornaro Scholars

Nova Scotia recipient is first Cornaro winner from Canada

The Cornaro Scholarship Committee announced the winners of the 2011 KGP scholarship competition at the National Convention Banquet in Chicago on June 18. In honor of Kappa's 85th anniversary year, the 2011 recipients will each receive \$3085 (instead of the usual award of \$3000). The prestigious Cornaro award (open only to Kappa members) may be used for graduate expenses at any accredited university.



Allison Patricia McColough Pressé of Halifax, Nova Scotia, (St. Francis Xavier University, Antigonish, Nova Scotia, '10) will attend Dalhousie

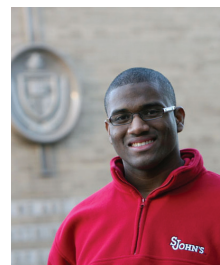
University Schulich School of Law in Halifax this fall. Allison commented in her Cornaro application, "A career in law is an opportunity to bring about change and improve the lives of others. My inspiration for this occurred in February when I, along with members of my church, ventured to Nicaragua to improve the lives of a poor Managuan family by building them a home. I returned from this experience knowing that I want to continue making a difference by fighting for change, for education and for civil rights."

Jingqiu Guan of Notre Dame, Indiana, (Saint Mary's College, IN, '11) will study for an M.Ed. at Harvard University in International Education Policy. As an undergrad, Jingqiu organized three annual events to promote cultural understanding: China Night, Music and Dance Around the World, and an International Cultural Festival. Each featured performances and exhibits that attracted hundreds from the St. Mary's and South Bend communities. Her goal is to establish a nonprofit organization that will use arts education as a tool to build social justice. "Ultimately, I hope to establish arts centers in countries around the world," said Jingqiu. "These centers will support refugees and underprivileged children, offer classes for people to learn to express their emotions through art, and support artists of all disciplines to create and perform art works that advocate for positive social change."



Thank you for your generous donations to fund the Cornaro Scholarship for Graduate Studies. Since 1985, KGP has awarded this scholarship to 79 deserving Kappas. We are grateful for your contributions—these tax-deductible gifts are the sole source of funding for our annual scholarships.

Kevin T. James of Staten Island, New York, (St. John's University, NY, '11) is working toward an MBA in Executive Management at St. John's University. Kevin's undergrad service included work for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, as a campus ministry assistant, secretary for Student Government,



Inc., president of Upbeat Show Choir and vice president for the Criminal Justice Association. He has also completed service projects in Italy, Puerto Rico and Panama. "As a student studying government and politics, I have always been fascinated by understanding how the decisions of leaders affect local communities," Kevin said. ". . . an MBA in Executive Management would be the right degree to help me achieve my goals of becoming a scholar and a proactive leader in combating this dismal economy and securing jobs for individuals of lower income status."

Ryan Jason DeCook of Arvada, Colorado, (University of San Diego, CA, '06) will pursue a Master of Arts in Christian Studies at Duke University. Ryan was featured in the September



2008 *KGP NEWS* for his work in South Africa. He led Bible studies and after-school programs for the youth of Cape Town, along with starting a microfinance institution. "My service experience began in college as I spent a summer serving Sudanese refugees in Cairo, Egypt," said Ryan. "Since then, I've had experiences tutoring in San Diego, serving at orphanages in Mexico and India, and working with churches and nonprofits in Brazil, Uganda, Kenya, South Africa, Bangladesh and Myanmar. My service and time spent with the poorest of the poor has radically changed my life. It has shaped who I am and directed my career aspirations for the future."

The Cornaro Corner

Last year, the Cornaro Scholarship Committee selected three Cornaro recipients. This year, we were pleased to award scholarships of \$3085 to four Kappas from four different affiliates.

I am very grateful to the committee members who served as judges for the competition: Teresa Bosh (Madonna, MI, '95), Mariya Sviliik (Mount St. Mary's College, CA, '00) and Frances Hickman (University of San Diego, CA, '89). Congratulations to our newest Cornaro Scholars!

*Carla Naranjo (College of Notre Dame of Maryland, '91)
Cornaro Scholarship Committee Chair*