

Carol Caldwell NCSU Woman's Club Scholarship Fund Endowment



Jamie Casseday '24

Durham, NC

Industrial engineering

Academic Journey

Ever since I moved to North Carolina in 2015, I knew NC State was an incredible university. When I decided to change my career path, NC State was the ultimate university that I wanted to attend. One of my favorite things about NC State is the liveliness of being on campus. I always love walking on campus and feeling the excitement in the air.

Meaningful Experiences

One of the things I am most proud of is my experience with volunteering in the nonprofit sector. I am currently on the board of a new nonprofit that was formed in 2020. We focus on creating a safe space for teenagers to learn, grow and better themselves, as well as their communities, with the assistance of their peers.

Career Aspirations

After graduation, I hope to be able to travel again. My husband and I already have many trips planned. I will also continue to be on the board of my nonprofit and volunteer my time when I can. I plan to pursue a career in industrial engineering focusing on human factors. I hope to build a career in bettering work environments for employees.

Message of Gratitude

I cannot begin to express my gratitude for this opportunity. Receiving this scholarship means the world to me. It allows me to focus more on my academic studies while also giving me and my family more room to breathe in our financial situation. I am so honored to know that people believe in me. Thank you for your immense generosity and for making this scholarship possible.

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Kimberly Lackey '26

Clinton, NC

Agricultural science

Academic Journey

I have always dreamed of having a Bachelor's degree since I was a young girl. I grew up on a small family farm in Harnett County and loved going on adventures with my Grandpa to feed the animals. I love attending NC State because I get the opportunity to learn something new every day.

Meaningful Experiences

I have been a volunteer with NC 4-H in Sampson County for 14 years. I am currently the NC 4-H Volunteer Leaders Association President and the financial officer for the Southeast District. I served as the secretary of the Psychology Club at Sampson Community College while I was a student there.

Career Aspirations

After graduating from NC State I plan to work with youth in agriculture. I want to make a difference today for our future in agriculture tomorrow. Receiving this scholarship will help me reach my dreams of being a voice for the future of NC agriculture.

Message of Gratitude

I am honored and so thankful to have been chosen to receive this scholarship. This will be incredibly helpful for my family, as we have a large family of six. This also gets me one step closer to becoming the first person in my immediate family to earn a Bachelor's degree.



Chris C-Wessel with Kim Lackey at CALS Donor Event March 2

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Brooke Jelinek '24

Angier, NC

English, with a concentration in linguistics

Academic Journey

One of my favorite things about NC State is the campus itself; I love the brickyard, the dense greenery and the historic feel to most of the buildings. I'm a bit of a romantic at heart and can't resist the feeling of being somewhere history was made. One of the reasons I chose this university was also because of its large size, a bigger university comes with more diversity. Overall NC State just felt right to me. My first experience with college was at a smaller university that was more "local" to home and seemed inevitable rather than the impassioned choice I felt while applying to NC State.

Meaningful Experiences

Mostly my extracurricular activities have revolved around volunteering in the costume and scene shops of the campus theater department. Last year was my first year at NC State, so I'm still learning the ins and outs of both the school and the surrounding area. However, I've been able to attend a few meetings for some organizations and have made a plan for how to proceed in the coming semesters. For example, I don't yet have enough credits to join the English Honors Program but I've already implemented a plan to apply as soon as I meet the requirements. I have even planned a summer study abroad around the possibility to take an honors seminar.

Career Aspirations

My post-graduation plans are to continue on to graduate school. I was raised with the mindset of being the best I could be and for me that means continuing my education. Receiving this scholarship helps ease the current stress of struggling with my finances and allows me more time to focus on my studies. It will also allow me the opportunity to save more for graduate school and I hope it will give me the free time to get more involved with undergraduate research. I love learning for the sake of gaining knowledge but I also hope to one day have my own thesis.

Message of Gratitude

I'm truly grateful for this scholarship as it gives me the opportunity to keep learning and improving life for myself and others. Unfortunately, for many people the difference between receiving a scholarship or not is the difference in if they can succeed. While helping ease my financial burden and allowing me time to focus on what's important, I also find it incredibly inspiring. I grew up with financial insecurities and have always striven for a life where I could provide for myself and share with others.

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Maria Lombardi '23

Raleigh, NC

Political science, with a concentration in law and justice

Academic Journey

The research and internship opportunities offered by NC State are what drew me into becoming part of the Wolfpack. As a student majoring in political science with a concentration in law & justice, there is no better environment to pursue my studies in than here in the capital city of North Carolina. As a veteran, I've felt extremely welcomed by the community here at NC State, a university that prides itself on being military-friendly.

Meaningful Experiences

In hopes of providing a sense of relatability and comfort for veterans, I started my own blog last year where I speak on my past experiences as an enlisted member of the United States Air Force. I hope to transfer these efforts to NC State, a community with thousands of veterans.

Career Aspirations

After graduation, I plan to attend law school before pursuing a career as an attorney. I aspire to one day protect the constitutional rights of those whose socioeconomic status places them at a disadvantage. This scholarship, which breaks down the financial barriers that students are confronted with, is the perfect exemplification of what motivates my career goals.

Message of Gratitude

I'm honored to have been selected as a recipient of the Carol Caldwell NCSU Woman's Club Scholarship. Thank you for your contribution and investment in my education. By alleviating some of my financial hardship, this distinguished award allows me to focus more on my studies. Moreover, this award strengthens my confidence in pursuing my academic and career goals.