



PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE...

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SNA's Sidney B. Meadows Fund Awards \$18,000 in Scholarships

ACWORTH, GA, October 6, 2017 – The Sidney B. Meadows Scholarship Fund, created in 1989 by the Southern Nursery Association (SNA), has announced the names of twelve students from seven southeastern universities chosen to receive academic scholarships this year. Five of the awards are named scholarships honoring past industry leaders. The \$1,500 awards, totaling \$18,000, has been presented to the following excelling scholars:

Ruqayah Hamida Bhuiyan, University of Georgia - *Arthur A. "Buck" Jones Scholarship*
Crystal Jones Conner, University of Florida
Michael John Del Valle, Jr., University of Georgia - *Robert L. VanLandingham Scholarship*
Bethany Allison Harris, University of Georgia
Susan M. Hawkins, University of Georgia
Kaylee Elizabeth Ites, Texas A&M University - *Lee C. Howell Scholarship*
Shea Alexandria Keene, University of Florida
Isaac Barak Luhrs, University of Tennessee
Juan Moscoso, University of Arkansas - *Dr. James & Faye Foret Scholarship*
Ariana Rhiannon Newton, West Virginia University
Raymond Odeh, University of Florida
James Turner Smith, North Carolina State University - *Art & Mille Lancaster Scholarship*

Scholarship recipients are determined through a competitive application process, administered by a selection committee, based on academics, determination, demonstrated interest in the horticulture industry, and financial need. This year's recipients were chosen from a very competitive group of applications. Of the twelve students, six are graduate students and six under graduate.

"Congratulations to this exemplary group of students who have excelled academically and demonstrated determination and a passion for horticulture," said Danny Summers, Executive Vice President of the fund. "We continue to hear from recipients how important these awards are in reducing their financial stress allowing them the ability to concentrate more on their studies. I am confident each of these students will make an effective and positive contribution to our industry. I look forward to seeing their accomplishments as they complete their studies," he added.

With this year's awards, the fund has awarded a total of \$504,000 since the fund was established in 1989. The fund's current assets are now more than \$870,000. Seven named funds have been pledged: The Larry D. Edwards Fund, the Dr. James & Faye Foret Fund, the Richard J. "Dick" Hackney Fund, Sr. Fund, the Lee C. Howell Fund, the Arthur A. "Buck" Jones Fund, the Art & Millie Lancaster Fund, and the Robert L. VanLandingham Fund. The financial support offered by the fund has allowed many students the opportunity to begin or continue to work toward their educational goals.

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PRESS RELEASE CONTINUED

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Created in 1989 by the [Southern Nursery Association](#) (SNA), The Sidney B. Meadows Scholarship Endowment Fund is a 501 (c) 3 corporation providing scholarships to students who are residents of the sixteen southeastern states SNA represents – Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and West Virginia – pursuing a career in horticulture. The scholarship is dedicated to one of the most honored horticultural leaders, the late Sidney B. Meadows, a Past President of the Southern Nursery Association, who was an avid supporter of student scholarships and believed that providing aid for students was an important way to ensure the growth and development of all facets of the industry. The fund derives its income from individual and corporate contributions and is governed by the Sidney B. Meadows Scholarship Endowment Fund board of directors.

An application for 2018 scholarships is now available online. Those interested in receiving scholarship information or the latest fund news can subscribe to the automated information system on the fund's website.

More details on scholarship recipients can be found at www.sbmsef.org. For more information on the Sidney B. Meadows Scholarship Endowment Fund, forward your inquiry to PO Box 801513, Acworth, GA 30101, 678.813.1880, info@sbmsef.org or visit www.sbmsef.org.

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