
Student Scholarship Recipients

Jade McClellan, currently in her third year as a music major in violin performance, is a recipient of the Whitney Wang Watson Endowed Scholarship Award. Before coming to Andrews University in her freshman year, Jade was homeschooled in the metro-Atlanta area where she grew up.

During her freshman year at Andrews University, Jade was involved with the leadership of University Sabbath School as a volunteer. Currently, she actively serves in the Greater Youth Movement based out of the Harbor of Hope Church in Benton Harbor, Michigan.

“I help with their children’s ministry which reaches many of the precious, funny and vivacious children living in Benton Harbor,” she explains. “Of course, being a music major, I get many opportunities to serve through music on worship teams and playing selections for church services. I enjoy praising God



and hopefully drawing others closer to Him through worship music.”

Music, according to Jade, is a very practical field of study that allows her to apply what she learns in the classroom. She enjoys seeing how studying, playing and listening to music can truly affect audiences. As a result of her passion for music, Jade plans to continue her education to the doctorate level after graduating from Andrews. One of her goals is to mentor African-American young people who are looking for a way to develop careers in music. Her overall hope, God willing, is to use music as a way of connecting with and serving others.

“I desire to use music as a way to share the love of Jesus and to form personal relationships with people such as students with whom I can share more of Jesus,” she says. She also plans to spend some of her time doing ministry in Japan.

Jade is very thankful for the way that the Whitney Wang Watson Endowed Scholarship Award has helped her on her path toward achieving her goals.

“I see my degree not just as a personal achievement meant to help me support myself financially in the future, but also as a way for me to use my knowledge and skill to help others,” she says. “Not having to constantly worry about the financial aspect of schooling has given me a sort of peace of mind and has allowed me to fully focus on giving my best to my studies so that I can grow into the best musician I can possibly be for the purpose of ministry and expanding the kingdom of Jesus.”

Lucinda Ford, now a senior mathematics major at Andrews University, is a recipient of the Whitney Wang Watson Endowed Scholarship Award. Prior to transferring to Andrews University from Oakland Community College in 2016, Lucinda spent most of her formative years in Pontiac and Highland, Michigan. Many of her activities centered around church, school, Pathfinders and Adventurers at the Waterford Riverside Adventist Church.

Lucinda’s experience has not been without difficulty. Just before her 18th birthday, her father died, dramatically changing not only her life but also that of her three younger siblings. She also has a problem with her vision which adds extra challenges to obtaining her education.

Despite this, Lucinda is very involved in extracurricular activities, community service and honors clubs here at Andrews University. Currently, she is a member of the Pi Mu Epsilon and Phi Kappa Phi honor societies.

“Compared to my experiences in my previous school, my experiences in a Christian academic setting make me feel especially blessed as I enjoy the encouragement from



and patience of the professors and staff in the Department of Mathematics and Office of Student Success,” she says.

Last year, Lucinda became involved with the Human Empowerment Life Project (H.E.L.P.), a project to help teach literacy skills to first- through fourth-grade students in Benton Harbor, Michigan. During the spring 2018 semester, the program expanded to include teaching mathematics skills in a first-grade classroom. As a result, Lucinda currently serves as a student leader for the mathematics portion of H.E.L.P. and was also part of a summer team that tutored Algebra I for a credit-recovery program.

In addition to her tutoring with H.E.L.P., Lucinda has also worked in the classroom both as a teacher’s aide at Waterford Adventist School while attending OCC and as a teacher’s assistant for Math 091–092 and the Math Center at Andrews University. Because of her love for working in the classroom, she plans to go to graduate school after Andrews to earn a PhD in either mathematics education or in mathematics with a research emphasis in mathematics education to become a math professor.

“My goal is to contribute to the improvement of mathematics education and to help struggling students find success with math and not to be afraid of it,” she explains. “I don’t know where I will end up teaching, but even if it is at a community college, that’s okay. What I do know is that God has a plan for my life and a place for me to serve him.”

Lucinda thanks the Watson family for helping to fund part of her education. While she did not have the privilege of meeting Whitney she prays that her life and career will honor both God and Whitney’s legacy.