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Ronald Blue Trust Announces 2020 Scholarship Winners

Inaugural program benefits students who demonstrate passion for delivering financial advice based on biblical principles

ATLANTA – Ronald Blue Trust has announced that it has extended four \$2,500 scholarships to undergraduate students in 2020 as part of a new outreach program that supports students pursuing a career in financial planning. 2020's recipients included Alyssa Bedard, Westin Dawe, Kasey Keith, and Brannon Walters.

The candidates were selected based on their academic achievement and passion for learning about biblically based financial advising. To be eligible to apply for the scholarship, each student needed to be currently enrolled in an undergraduate degree program in the United States and majoring in Financial Planning, Finance, Accounting, or another related field of study. They also must have maintained a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher. In addition to a desire to pursue a career as a financial advisor, they needed to demonstrate a commitment to integrating biblical principles into financial advice.

"Ronald Blue Trust's mission is to help Christians become financially free to assist in fulfilling the Great Commission (1 Timothy 6:17-19)," said CEO Nick Stonestreet. "Out of the many quality applicants who responded from 12 different U.S. universities, we were very pleased to extend scholarships to four outstanding students who share our vision of money management and the benefits of biblical principles in the planning process."

With an average GPA of 3.8, eligible applicants came from a wide range of backgrounds and experiences. However, four students stood out to Ronald Blue Trust's leadership team.



Alyssa Bedard is a fourth-year student at the University of Georgia who is pursuing majors in Financial Planning and Social Work. She enjoys connecting with others, is involved in various organizations and ministries, and has a passion for service. She is currently interning for her church and filling the role of public relations chair for the Student Financial Planning Association.



Westin Dawe is a junior at Biola University in La Mirada, California pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a concentration in Financial Planning. He is the captain of the Men's Swim & Dive Team, the Vice President of the Biola Financial Planning Association, and the Marketing Liaison for the Student Athlete Advisory Committee. He hopes to use financial planning as a way to serve the financial needs of clients, while also incorporating ways to address their spiritual needs.



Kasey Keith is a senior at Mount Vernon Nazarene University in Mount Vernon, Ohio. She is pursuing a career in actuarial science and is a thrower on the track team. Ever since attending a Kingdom Advisors conference, she has been actively seeking out financial planning as her future career.



Brannon Walters is a senior at Grand Canyon University in Phoenix, Arizona who is pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Finance and Economics. Upon graduation in the spring of 2021, he plans to pursue a career in financial advising to help guide people in their path towards financial peace through God's word.

Ronald Blue Trust will offer the scholarships again in 2021 and beyond; however, going forward, there will be three scholarships awarded each year – for one female student, one male student, and one scholarship will be dedicated to a student attending a Historically Black College or University (HBCU). Leadership hopes that this change will encourage greater gender and racial diversity in the field of Financial Planning. “For 2020 only, our inaugural year, we extended the Scholarship to four undergraduate students,” Stonestreet explained. “We will continue to offer the scholarship to three students per year in the future as an extension of our overall recruitment efforts to support students in pursuit of a career in financial planning.”

To learn more about the Ronald Blue Trust Scholarship, please visit www.ronblue.com/scholarship. The 2021 Scholarship application window will close on August 30, 2021.

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About Ronald Blue Trust

Ronald Blue Trust advisors apply biblical wisdom and technical expertise to help clients make wise financial decisions to experience clarity and confidence and leave a lasting legacy. With nearly \$11.5 billion of assets under advisement and a nationwide network of 16 offices, we offer comprehensive financial services and objective advice to over 10,000 clients across the wealth spectrum in all 50 states. *As of 12/31/20 and subject to change*

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