

Kitchen 8 Donations: Kitchen 8 is an all volunteer group of alumnae and friends of Miller and Watkins Scholarship Halls at the University of Kansas. There are no fees to join. Please send your tax deductible donation payable to “EMWMSF”:

Mary (Emerson) Gomez, Kitchen 8 Treasurer
3620 Wyoming
Kansas City, Missouri 64111



2013-2014 Kitchen 8 Board Members

Contact board members to join K8 and support the women of Miller and Watkins Scholarship Halls. For a full listing of the Board please see our website at www.kitchen8.org.

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Kitchen 8 Annual Meeting

April 26, 2014



2014-2015 Elizabeth Miller Watkins Memorial Scholarship

KITCHEN

Lawrence Country Club

400 Country Club Terrace
Lawrence, Kansas

Kitchen 8 Annual Meeting

April 26, 2014

- 9:00 a.m. Registration, Coffee, and Greetings**
- 9:30 a.m. K-8 Business Meeting** Norma (Decker) Hoagland, *K-8 Chair*
Approval of Minutes Paula (Hopkins) Wrigley, *Secretary*
Treasurer's Report: EMWMSF and K-8 Sugar Bowl Mary (Emerson) Gomez, *Treasurer*
K-8 Board and Committee Reports:
Campus Coordinators Beverly (Runkle) Benso and Judy (Johnson) Niebaum
Newsletter Sarah (Wohlrabe) Shortall and Ali (Bannwarth) Zayas
Web/Facebook/Twitter Michelle Loewenstein
Mentoring Emily Bannwarth and Cathie (Fuller) Miller
Historian Laura (Draxler) Sixta
"State of the Halls" Reports: Haley Gilchrest, *Miller President*
Trina Sieg, *Watkins President*
Rates Reports: Rachel Volk, *Miller Treasurer*
Dona Diec, *Watkins Rates Chair*
- 10:30 a.m. Program: "National Treasures: Watkins & Miller"**
Sarah (Jackson) Martin, *Miller 1998-2002 National Register Coordinator for Kansas Historical Society*
- 11:00 a.m. Program: "In Her Own Write: The Life and Letters of Elizabeth Miller Watkins"**
Gail Trottier, Mary Burchill, and Norma Hoagland
- 12:00 p.m. Celebratory Luncheon**
- 1:00 p.m. Elizabeth Miller Watkins Memorial Scholarship Presentations**
Susan (Harshaw) Kissinger and Valentine Baumann, *Co-Chairs of the Scholarship Selection Committee*
- 3:30 p.m. "For the Good of All: The Community Philanthropy of Elizabeth Miller Watkins"** Exhibit showing and talk for K-8 members, friends, and Watkins and Miller residents at **Watkins Community Museum, 1047 Massachusetts Street.**



Katerina Sieg: Ottawa, Kansas

Second year recipient: Next academic year, Katerina will be a senior finalizing her BSE in Elementary Education. In her renewal application Katerina described her future plans "During the 2014-15 school year, I will be student teaching while maintaining my status as a full time student. I plan to make the most of my last year at KU by remaining a resident of Watkins Scholarship Hall. I want to remain in touch with the Watkins Hall spirit and to be able to have fully experienced 4 years of delectable meals, traditions, and fun! Upon graduation, I anticipate applying for jobs in the Lawrence area as I have been working in USD 497 since my freshman year at KU."

Natasha Sudac: Tonganoxie, Kansas



Third year recipient: Natasha will be a junior in 2014-15 studying Cellular Biology and Pre-Med, she is also pursuing a minor in Slavic Studies. On her renewal application Natasha noted, "I definitely put forth an outrageous effort to being successful in my academics, my job, and my role as an Student Endowment Board member. As a [Resident Assistant at Oliver Hall], I have had the opportunity to help many freshman Jayhawks with their transition into college. Moving forward, this year I will be holding an executive position on SEB, the Vice President of Membership. I am very proud of my accomplishments this past year, and I cannot wait to see what this next year has in store for me."



Ann (Wallsmith) Eddy: Baldwin City, Kansas

Third year recipient: In 2014-15 Ann will be a senior and will be finishing her BS in Chemical Engineering. Ann expressed in her renewal application essay "I began in chemical engineering with the intent to go into the pharmaceutical industry, however my focus has shifted to include my interest in renewable energy. I am falling in love with the research that is happening concerning using algae as a fuel source and I hope to discover more about the process. I have also joined several groups and have gained leadership positions so I am enjoying the fun and responsibility of that!"





Emilyjane Pyle: Dodge City, Kansas

Second year recipient: Emilyjane will be a senior next year completing her Music Therapy degree. She shared in her renewal application “My plan is to graduate on time in May of 2015. After graduation, I will pursue a six-month internship required for Music Therapy certification. Following the internship I will take my board certification test to become a Board Certified Music Therapist.” Emilyjane

also had happy news to pass along writing, “I am getting married in July.”

Jocelyn Sajjani: Overland Park, Kansas

Second year recipient: Jocelyn will be a sophomore studying for a BS in Biology with a focus on genetics, and recently decided to pursue a career as a doctor. A grateful second year recipient, Jocelyn expressed in her renewal application “My first semester at KU was made so much less stressful due to the Elizabeth Miller Watkins Memorial scholarship. The scholarship allowed



me to focus on my academics instead of constantly worrying about how to pay for my education. I was able to get involved in campus clubs, continue to volunteer, and start research in a genetics lab. I am now on a pre-medicine track and look forward to making a difference in my community as Elizabeth has made a difference in the lives of so many KU students, myself included.”



Natalie Scott: Topeka, Kansas

Fourth year recipient: In 2014-15 Natalie will be a senior studying Occupational Studies. Natalie explained in her renewal application, “I have changed majors to KU’s joint bachelor/master occupational therapy program. I will complete the bachelor program next school year at KU Medical Center and continue two master-level years there as well. This career path is a

fantastic fit for me and my interests in helping others in the healthcare field. I have had a wonderful fourth year at KU thanks to the support of this scholarship! In the fall semester, I was named a KU Woman of Distinction. I was also the female winner of the Excellence in Community Service, Education, and Leadership Award (Ex.C.E.L) for Homecoming 2013.”

Her Legacy: Our Inspiration

To honor the generous legacy of Mrs. Watkins, past residents of Watkins and Miller Halls, through Kitchen 8, established the Elizabeth Miller Watkins Memorial Scholarship Fund in 1998. The Fund that began with a few hundred dollars will this year award \$61,000 in scholarships. We would like to thank all who have donated. It is amazing how one woman’s vision can impact so many women’s lives.

Elizabeth Miller Watkins was born in 1861 in New Paris, Ohio, daughter of a Civil War doctor. When Elizabeth was 11, her family moved to Lawrence where she enrolled in the KU Prep School. Sadly, after only 2 years, she was forced to drop out and help support her family. Elizabeth would later turn her own unfulfilled dream of an education into a legacy for generations of women to come. At 15 she began work at the J B Watkins Land and Mortgage Co. She and JB were married in 1909. They had no children of their own and after JB’s death in 1921, she turned her attention to the plans of giving she and JB had made. With a \$75,000 donation in 1925, Watkins Hall opened in 1926, the first scholarship hall in America. Building on that success, Miller Hall opened in 1937. Mrs. Watkins also created and gave a trust to provide for the maintenance and upkeep of both halls, which is still active today.

Janice Gartrell lived in Watkins Scholarship Hall from 1939-1942. She was known as “Giggles” and “Garter” to her friends at Watkins. She enjoyed her roommates, taking pictures and she excelled academically. She had an outstanding career in the oil business and loved to travel. After her passing in March of 2009, the EMWMSF received the funds of the Janice Gartrell Charitable Remainder Trust, enabling Kitchen 8 to award generous scholarships to deserving young KU women. Janice Gartrell was truly a woman who embodied Mrs. Watkins’ legacy.

During 2013 gifts to the EMWMSF were given in memory of:

Anita (Cadonau) Birkland, James Bogner, Sr., Judy Carrico, Jennie Mae Decker, Jan Heine, George Manos, Ira Stein, Jan Strub, and Sue Overmann Garcia Thompson





2014-2015 Elizabeth Miller Watkins Memorial Scholarship Award Recipients

Bailey Rendzia: DeSoto, Kansas

In her application, Bailey noted, "Though her contributions to KU were impressive in their own right, Mrs. Watkins also helped further women's rights, which will allow me to pursue a career in engineering."

Bailey is an incoming freshman and intends to study Mechanical Engineering with an emphasis in biomechanics. She desires to have a career designing prosthetic limbs. Bailey is motivated to improve current prosthetics so they more "closely mimic mechanics of the human body" to help amputees, specifically veterans. Along with her focus on veteran's issues, she is also a volunteer with the Special Olympics and passionate about advocating for special-needs individuals.



Jill Winter: Mount Hope, Kansas

Jill will start her 6th and final year in the Pharmacy school next fall. She is one of eight children and grew up on a farm near Wichita. In her application Jill shared her childhood experience of selling corn her dad grew with her siblings and saving the money earned for their college funds. Jill explained this early lesson taught her the meaning of hard work and self-sufficiency, and

the value of education. She has worked her way through school in order to help fund her educational goals and reduce her dependence on student loans. Jill noted that Mrs. Watkins "saw the benefit that young women could reap from earning an education. I plan to use my education to help others manage their medical conditions and broaden their knowledge. College has been one of the best decisions I have ever made, it has created a future that otherwise would have been unattainable."



Yuqi Gao: Lawrence, Kansas

Third year recipient: Next academic year, Yuqi will be entering the Master's of Accounting (MAcc) program at the University of Kansas. She intends to graduate in May 2015 and take the Certified Public Accountant exam. On top of a busy course load including graduate level courses, Yuqi shared, "I will be studying abroad in France for a week in March. I'm so excited!"

Erika Garcia: Merriam, Kansas

Second year recipient: In 2014-15 Erika will be a senior majoring in Public Administration. In her renewal application Erika stated "I continue to have the desire to work in a non-profit organization to help others reach their educational goals of going to college." Erika was excited to share "I was recently invited to join the Jayhawk Central Advisory Board,



[which] is responsible for making sure student's needs are met at the Edwards location." She expressed the challenges of being both a student and a mother while working to help cover the cost of school, "I found a compromise that has proved to work for a more balanced life. I work [during the week] as a part-time nanny. Finding this opportunity has allowed me to work on my homework during the hours I am home, therefore freeing my weekends to spend with my daughter."



Anna Hu: Wichita, Kansas

Third year recipient: Anna confirmed in her renewal application "I still plan on entering pharmacy school next fall." She will be a 4th year student in the 6-year program. Anna shared hopeful and exciting news, "I have applied to study abroad in China this summer. I've applied to the Princeton in Beijing Program, an intensive language course in Beijing this summer.

The coursework would be equivalent to 1 year of Chinese." She continues to work as a technician at a local pharmacy. She awaits news on acceptance into both Pharmacy school and the study abroad program.



Akira Cowden: Lawrence, Kansas

Second year recipient: Akira will be a junior next year and will be graduating in May 2016. In her renewal application Akira explained “During this academic year I have decided to take courses in order to double major in Global/International Studies and East Asian Languages and Cultures with a focus in Korean. I will be studying abroad at Yonsei University in Seoul, South

Korea in order to enhance my academic experience.” This study abroad is through KU and all courses will be applied towards achievement of her new double major path. Akira noted “I am taking responsibility for my education entirely on my own through scholarships, grants, loans, and working.”



Katie Strnad: Munden, Kansas

In August 2014, Katie will begin her third year in the 6-year Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) program. Katie shared in her application “Mrs. Watkins left a legacy of aspiration and achievement, however difficult the road. She set an example to young women that they should not be afraid to dream and persevere. This is inspiring to me as I set out to become the first graduate student of my family and first to earn the title of doctor.” Outside of her studies, Katie is deeply involved in church groups, participates in a Biology Lab, and is the current Community Service chair at Miller Hall.

Jennifer Calderwood: Ulysses, Kansas

Next academic year, Jennifer will be a sophomore working towards a degree in Cell Biology/Pre-Medicine. Jennifer pointed out that in creating Watkins and Miller Scholarship Halls, “Elizabeth created a community of young women who do not have things handed to them, who work hard to achieve their goals, and who rely on each other for support.” Jennifer said these characteristics, which she sees in her hall-mates, are similar to the values she learned while growing up in a small town. She noted in her application that Mrs. Watkins’ generosity is allowing her to pursue her dreams of becoming a doctor, which she is currently exploring in more depth by participating in a breast and pancreatic cancer research lab at the University of Kansas.



Simona Dragieva: Overland Park, Kansas

Third year recipient: Next academic year will be Simona’s 6th and final year of study in the Pharmacy school. She will graduate in May 2015, with a PharmD, and noted in her renewal application “During the current academic year, I have focused more on international experiences and cultural understanding. I spent a month learning in a Portuguese pharmacy. In 2014, I will be traveling to Panama to participate in a medical brigade. I am looking forward to taking my knowledge and passion for improving health to a global level. I plan to organize a medication and hygienic product drive in order to help as many people who lack basic needs as possible.”



Jenna Gannon: El Dorado, Kansas

Fourth year recipient: Jenna, a senior this coming Fall will be graduating with a BGS in Liberal Arts & Sciences in December 2014. Jenna wrote of her plans in her renewal application “I am currently looking into Academic Advising and Public Administration Masters programs with the goal of pursuing a career in Academic Advising, Non-profit Management, or Human Resources. I have started another job within the past year and I now work at the Lawrence Optometric Center as well as the Undergraduate Advising Center.”



Anna Balmilero: Lawrence, Kansas

In 2014-15 Anna will be a junior majoring in Global & International Studies and East Asian Languages and Cultures. In her degree she has a focus of Korean language and will be studying abroad next year in South Korea. Anna is a first generation American citizen and is also the first in her family to attend college. Anna and her family hold a strong value for education, which, as she expressed in her application, is a value that is shared with Elizabeth Miller Watkins. Anna wrote, “Education has impacted my life in that I have access to opportunities my parents could only dream of, and I am able to continue indulging my love of learning.”

Haley Nus: Lawrence, Kansas

Haley will be a junior next academic year majoring in Psychology and Women's Studies. In her application she wrote, "Mrs. Watkins was a revolutionary thinker. Her big dream to open Watkins and then Miller Scholarship Hall paved the way for thousands of women like me to be embraced by a community that her giving heart inspired: a loving and supportive community of women bound to determine their own destinies. Living at Sellards Scholarship Hall for two years now, it has been my utmost pleasure to see Mrs. Watkins love upheld." Haley is currently studying abroad in Valparaiso, Chile.



Elizabeth Goodrow: Topeka, Kansas

In 2014-15 Elizabeth will be an incoming freshman majoring in Chemistry/Pre-Medicine. She hopes to one day be a doctor, specifically a neurologist, and work with patients suffering from brain or spinal damage. She was inspired to choose this field of study when she was a counselor at a summer camp for individuals who have various disabilities resulting from brain or spinal damage. Elizabeth shared in her application "[Mrs. Watkins] aided many people throughout her life; I am hoping that by being a doctor, I can assist people like she did. I not only aspire to be a doctor, but a businesswoman. Throughout high school, I have been involved with youth entrepreneurship, and have developed various entrepreneurial skills. With these skills, I would love to open up my own practice, and run a business just like [Elizabeth Miller Watkins]."



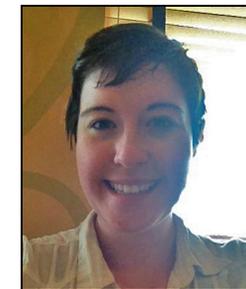
Jordan Meradith: Omaha, Nebraska

Next academic year Jordan will be a sophomore majoring in Spanish and Italian with a minor in Linguistics. Jordan currently works two jobs to offset the cost of school and serves on the Scholarship Hall Selection Committee. In her application Jordan wrote "Like [Mrs. Watkins], education is one of the things I value most; the knowledge you acquire is something that can never be taken away from you. I want to use my education to help people and I think studying multiple languages will allow me to do that. Whether I end up being really adventurous and traveling to a third world country to help

people or if I simply assist an immigrant find their way around. Just like Elizabeth, I want to use my resources and talent to help others in any way I can."

Allora Richey: Augusta, Kansas

Allora will be a senior studying Psychology and Human Biology, she is also the first in her family to attend college. Allora wants to continue on to receive a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology and eventually work for a non-profit with a focus on assisting women. She currently works at First Step at Lakeview helping women with dependency issues. Allora shared in her application, "My responsibility as a counselor and a human being is to offer support and guidance for those who ask for it, and to allow individuals to choose their own destiny, which is what Elizabeth Watkins stood most for. She set up every opportunity for women to join the academic field while remaining strict in her assertions that it was the responsibility of the students themselves to become scholars and equal members of society."



EMWMS Renewal Recipients:

Kerra Cissne: Topeka, Kansas



Third year recipient: In 2014-15 Kerra will be in her 5th year of the 6-year Pharmacy program. She shared in her renewal application "As I continue my professional education at the KU School of

Pharmacy, I am constantly reminded of how many opportunities there are for someone who is well-prepared and passionate about his or her potential role as a clinician. I am beyond excited to become a pharmacist!" Kerra is interested in a future career in an outpatient clinic or hospital setting and is involved with several organizations and activities pertinent to her career path. A new mother this year, Kerra is balancing school, work, and the responsibilities of motherhood. Kerra expressed that her son "really is the best thing in my life. He makes me want to be a better person and motivates me to do better in school."