



The James Hillier Foundation

Nurturing tomorrow's discoveries today

34 Spalding Drive, Brantford, Ontario, N3T 5W5

Dear Hillier Scholarship Recipients;

Since 1997, the James Hillier Foundation has bestowed scholarships for university to Brantford and Brant County high school students wishing to pursue a career in scientific research. Beginning this year, the scholarship amount was increased from \$20,000 to \$28,000 for a four-year undergraduate degree. 2025 marks the 29th year for the program and including this year's recipients, 90 local students have been awarded university scholarships. To date, the Foundation has provided over \$1,500,000 in scholarships.

2025 Scholarship Recipients

This year, the Foundation was pleased to offer four scholarships. High school students Nickolas Barandich from Paris District High Schol, Shriyak Kashyap and Mohid Khan, both from Assumption College and Cuba Pucci from Brantford Collegiate Institute.



Pictured left to right – Nickolas Barandich, Shriyak Kashyap, Mohid Khan and Cuba Pucci

The Brantford Expositor conducted interviews with this year's recipients and the article outlined some of their achievements and reports on their aspirations.

[Hillier scholarship winners announced! | Brantford Expositor](#)

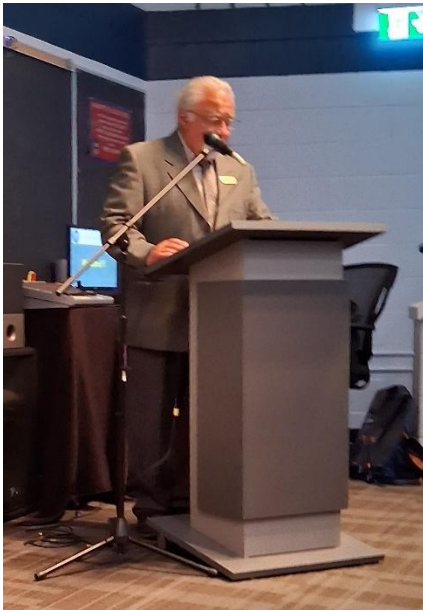
A complete listing of past scholarship recipients may be found at:

www.jameshillierfoundation.com

Foundation News

2025 Scholarship Presentations

This year's scholarship presentations took place at Assumption College in Brantford. Peter Giordano, Foundation Chair welcomed recipients and provided an overview of James Hillier's career path. Steward McLellan, 1999 recipient (Pauline Johnson Collegiate), reflected on his journey from his high school experience, his undergraduate studies at University of Guelph to his current post-graduate work at McMaster University, where he is part of a team looking into new antimicrobials.



Peter Giordano



Steward McLellan



James Hillier Public School – 75th Anniversary

This year marked the 75th anniversary of the James Hillier Public School. To celebrate this occasion, the school held an open house on Saturday, May the 10th inviting all past students to attend. The James Hillier Foundation was asked to be part of the event.

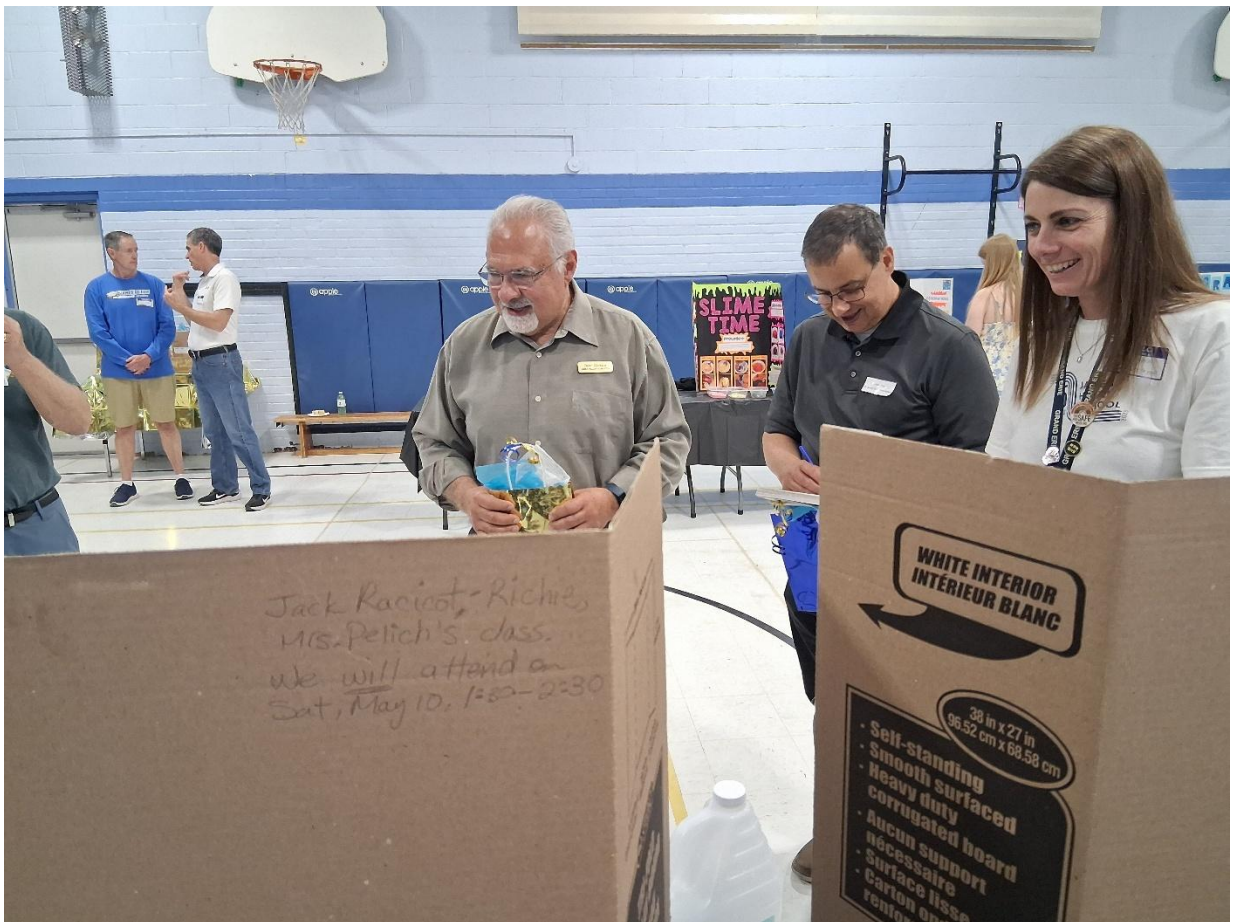
Monthly meetings took place throughout the spring to finalize a program. The Foundation provided memorial trophies and gift cards to all families that took part in a science fair, assisted in the creation of a memorial to Dr. Hillier in the school's library and provided a grand draw prize for all attendees. During the event, Foundation Directors manned informational displays in the the school library. Nathan Cross, Foundation scholarship winner 2020 and past student at the school, addressed the students.

The event was covered by local online media, the Brantford Expositor.

[Three sets of Poplar twins plan to attend school's 75th anniversary | Brantford Expositor](#)



Foundation Directors with Nolan Cross (right)



Keeping In Touch

Stewart McLellan, 2019 scholarship recipient, kindly provided a brief update on his activities.

I was a recipient of the James Hillier Scholarship in 2019. I graduated from the University of Guelph in 2024 with an Honours Degree in Microbiology. During my undergraduate Degree, I was able to pursue many opportunities relating to antimicrobial resistance, including the exploration of the gut microbiome for novel antifungals and the exploration of rare fungi for novel antibacterials. Currently, I am a Master's Student in Dr. Jonathan Stokes' Lab at McMaster University. My work focuses on the implementation of artificial intelligence for antibiotic drug discovery against some of the worst bacterial pathogens. Ultimately, our goal is to increase the rate and decrease the cost of bringing new antibiotics to patients. I was previously awarded the Robert Orr Lawson Microbiology Scholarship from the University of Guelph. Currently, I hold a Canada Graduate Scholarship – Master's, as well as an Ontario Graduate Scholarship.

Please keep us up to date with your contact information. Notify us of any changes to your email address by forwarding revised information to: info@jameshillierfoundation.com

Best Regards,

Chuck Beach

Director – James Hillier Foundation

“Success favours a prepared mind” – James Hillier