



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CSHEMA Announces Three Scholarship Winners for 2023

Oak Creek, WI (May 15, 2023) – CSHEMA is pleased to announce three recipients of the Dr. Fay Thompson Scholarships. Each scholarship is worth \$3,000, and goes toward funding the education of qualifying applicants who have submitted compelling essays centered around safety and environmental health. This sponsored scholarship award program encourages the study of safety and environmental management, and to promote careers in this field.

Alexei Hopkinson is studying Aerospace and Occupational Safety. Alexei submitted an essay which highlighted the initiatives undertaken at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University by the EH&S office to provide safety training for staff, teachers, and students and conducting regular fire and life safety inspections in residence halls. This essay not only recognized how those crucial initiatives contribute to maintaining campus safety by identifying deficiencies, taking actions to correct them, and preparing student residents to know how to respond during an emergency, but also highlighted ways to help promote these initiatives among peers, teachers and staff including safety programs sponsored by students and safety competitions. The unique approaches that were outlined will not only enhance identification and correction of deficiencies, but will promote emergency preparedness on campus.

Eliazar Garza is studying Fire Protection and Safety Engineering. Eliazar submitted an essay which highlighted some of the initiatives undertaken at the Oklahoma State University's EH&S office to conduct regular fire safety inspections in residence halls and maintain severe weather preparation plans, which ensure all fire alarms, extinguishers, and emergency exit routes function correctly, and prepare students for severe weather through regular communications. Also highlighted in this essay were ways to help promote these initiatives among peers, teachers and staff including social media awareness campaigns and creating a team of peer-led student ambassadors working closely with the EH&S office. These unique approaches not only educate students, faculty, and staff on the various initiatives, but will teach them about proper emergency response procedures and ways to stay safe in the event of severe weather on campus.

Hannah Johnson is studying Environmental Science and Technology at University of Maryland College Park. This essay highlighted the initiatives undertaken at University of Maryland – College Park by the EH&S office to conduct scheduled fire drills at dorm buildings and health and safety orientation prior to taking laboratory courses. These initiatives, in Hannah's assessment, mimic how students are supposed to react in the event of an actual fire or building emergency including evacuation, as well as how to appropriately respond to an emergency in a teaching laboratory. This essay not only recognized how these initiatives are crucial to campus safety, but also proposed instituting an accelerated laboratory safety course for students who expect to take laboratory courses to help prepare them for emergencies, and adopting a new unscheduled drill procedure, randomly chosen to promote unpredictability and increase preparedness to a variety of emergencies. The unique approaches outlined will not only prepare students for emergencies in most common lab courses like biology and chemistry but, will promote awareness and emergency preparedness on campus.

As part of their scholarship award, the recipients are invited to attend CSHEMA's Annual Conference, which will be held in Boston, MA July 22-26. Last year's recipient, Samantha Latsko remarked "... "

About Campus, Safety, Health, and Environmental Management Association (CSHEMA)

The mission of CSHEMA is to support and to educate campus-based Environmental Health and Safety professionals to empower and to improve the EHS profession in campus environments. CSHEMA's core values are to uphold the honor, integrity, and dignity of the profession, promote inclusion and diversity in the profession, provide strong member services through ongoing needs assessment for campus-based EHS professionals, to provide advocacy on behalf of the profession as the voice of campus-based EHS, and to demonstrate commitment to practical and applicable solutions for the campus-based EHS professional, to continuous improvement and to education

To learn more about CSHEMA visit www.cshema.org, and follow us on LinkedIn <https://www.linkedin.com/company/82436603>.