

Scholarship created in honor of community member

Local students encouraged to apply for Dewey-Wood Scholarship

DEER ISLE—Project Launch, a nonprofit organization working with area students and young adults pursuing education and career aspirations, has announced that it is accepting applications for the recently created Dewey-Wood Scholarship, according to a press release. Students preparing to graduate from Deer Isle-Stonington High School are invited to apply for the scholarship, which is open to those pursuing a college degree, traveling abroad or entering the workforce upon graduation.

The scholarship was created in honor of Mike Wood, who died in 2021. Wood was an educator for more than 20 years and was a strong advocate for Project Launch since the program's inception in 2012. He cared deeply for the Island community and volunteered for the library and Island Workforce Housing. Together the Dewey-Wood family and Project Launch joined forces and created what is known as the Dewey-Wood Scholarship.

Rob Wood, Mike's twin brother, said, "The Dewey-Wood Scholarship supports Mike's belief that all students are capable of success. I hope that the scholarship encourages students to reach larger accomplishments that they doubted were possible."

To apply, students can contact Project Launch Director Kim Hutchinson or contact their guidance counselor to begin the application process. Scholarship recipients will be announced in the spring. The deadline to apply is mid-May.

Last year's recipients included Myles Brown, Coleman Brown, Michael Joyce and Dillan Steele, who graduated from Deer Isle-Stonington High School last June, according to the release. Hutchinson said, "It was exciting that we were able to award four students with this

scholarship and recognize a variety of post-secondary plans, from college to those working towards their commercial lobster license in Maine's prominent fishing industry."

Recipient Michael Joyce said, "I'm excited for the many opportunities my degree from Eastern Maine Community College will provide me."

Those who would like to donate to the scholarship fund can make a secure gift online at projectlaunchdis.com/donate or send a check to Project Launch, P.O. Box 641, Deer Isle 04627. Please mention that your gift is for the purpose of the Dewey-Wood Scholarship fund.

Project Launch provides ongoing support needed for a successful transition from high school to post-secondary degree and also provides workforce support for young adults. The program works in partnership with Deer Isle-Stonington High School and community members from Deer Isle and surrounding communities. To learn more, visit projectlaunchdis.com.



COURTESY OF MICHAEL JOYCE

Scholarship recipient Michael Joyce.