

Janey Scholars

Handbook

2021-2022

*This Handbook describes program benefits,
student responsibilities, and all policies.*

Keep for future reference.

Janey Scholars was created in 1999 and is funded through the Janey Fund
Charitable Trust and the Ebling Family Foundation.

Janey Scholars Program

HISTORY AND BACKGROUND

College presents new academic, social and personal challenges for all students. Even the brightest and most talented youth may struggle in college without adequate financial and social supports. For first-generation and low-income students the challenges can be even greater. Janey Scholars aims to remove barriers to success for talented and hard-working students from low-income families in Boston to help them achieve their academic potential in college and prepare for rewarding careers and long-term success.

Janey Scholars was started in 1999 with four students and has grown to support 80+ students annually, primarily from Boston public schools. Janey Scholars attend top-rated colleges and universities, including Williams College, Dartmouth College, Brown University, Boston College, and Tufts University.

More than 200 Janey Scholars have graduated from college with little or no student debt. They have moved on to graduate school and exciting careers. The Janey Scholars Program has provided \$7 million in financial supports to our students.

What we do:

Access to a college education gives students a unique opportunity to build a foundation for success in life. Janey Scholars helps ensure that once students get to college they can pursue their goals and dreams. We provide flexible and individualized financial and social supports that help students excel academically, explore extracurricular activities, dream and plan for meaningful careers, and develop the skills to secure long-term financial independence.

- The financial supports fill gaps and open opportunities – books, computers, tutoring, study abroad, career building summer internships and more.
- The social supports surround students with a network of caring adults and peers who encourage, guide and inspire each Scholar. Scholars are paired with volunteer Mentors who are a resource and a sounding board to help students navigate

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challenges, celebrate successes and think boldly about their futures. Janey Scholar alumni are deeply engaged and offer exceptional career guidance and support.

Daniel Rothenberg created Janey Scholars. Dan passed away in 2013. His strong belief in the potential of young people who are willing to work hard and dream big, surrounded by a caring community is the essence of Janey Scholars. In 2020, the Ebling Family Foundation joined the Janey Fund Charitable Trust to grow and support Janey Scholars.

The expertise, life experiences and dedication of our volunteer Mentors and Janey alumni are the cornerstones of our work to help students thrive in college, set big goals, move out of their “comfort zones” and persist through the many obstacles they will face. Helping our Scholars’ achieve success and happiness are our goals.

- In 1999 Janey Scholars began with 4 students.
- In our 2020 we worked with 87 students, primarily from Boston public schools.
- Over 300 students have participated in Janey Scholars to date.

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Our Objectives

- To help students achieve their academic goals and success
- To enable students to participate in life and career influencing experiences
- To create a network of students who encourage and support one another
- To minimize postgraduate debt
- To support students in developing the skills to achieve long-term career success and financial independence
- To encourage students to participate in their community

What We Look for in Our Scholars

- Outstanding academic record in high school
- Financial need (family gross income less than \$65,000 per year)
- Strong financial aid package (no more than approximately \$5,000 in loans per year)
- Acceptance to a very competitive four-year college
- Highly motivated for academic success
- Evidence of commitment to service and their community
- Students from urban schools, with priority given to students from Boston Public Schools

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PROGRAM COMPONENTS

Janey Scholars is not a typical scholarship. We **do not** pay for tuition. We **do** provide the following support:

1) Mentoring and peer support

- One on one mentoring
 - support and advice
 - problem solving and decision making
 - planning study abroad and enrichment opportunities
 - career advice and guidance (when possible)
- Peer support
- Alumni support and engagement

2) Flexible and individualized financial support

- Books (\$500/semester)
- Spending money (\$200/month)
- Computer
- Travel to and from college or university
- Emergency needs
- Other

3) Academic support

- Summer course
- Tutoring and Enrichment

4) Financial support for study abroad and community service

- Up to three experiences (summer, semester)

5) Career development, financial coaching and mental health

- Internship support
- Alumni and professional networking
- Career coaching
- Financial coaching
- One on one counseling

6) “Back-end Scholarship” (Loan repayment)

- Up to \$20,000 in student loan debt repayment upon graduation

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STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

We encourage and expect Janey Scholars to follow the principles of LEARN, EARN and RETURN

Learn

- Maintain a minimum 3.0 GPA
- Take challenging courses and explore interests beyond your “comfort zone”
- Engage in new experiences, clubs, etc.

Earn

- Work and/or volunteer during the summer months and use some portion of your earnings for school-related expenses
- Participate in summer internships that will build skills, expand your vision of what is possible, and support career development

Return

- Give back – work, volunteer or other efforts to support your community and help others
- As a Janey Scholar and alum

In addition, students are expected to meet all deadlines, attend Janey Scholars events and keep in monthly contact with their mentors (no later than the 15th of each month)

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FINANCIAL SUPPORT GUIDELINES

Each Janey Scholar will receive money to pay for books each semester and for “pocket” money each month. The monthly stipend is intended to offset the daily costs of college and allow students to participate more fully in their college experience.

BOOK MONEY

- Students will receive \$500 in September and January

MONTHLY STIPEND

- A \$200 monthly stipend will be made the first day of each month from September through May
- Students must contact their mentor by the 15th of each month to confirm receipt of their deposit. **Students who do not contact their mentor will not receive the following month’s stipend.**

Janey Scholars also provides flexible, targeted and individualized financial supports which must be approved by Mentors.

The following guidelines serve as a general description of the financial support available through Janey Scholars. Students are required to submit a completed Request Form as part of any request for financial support.

All requests take a minimum of three weeks to be considered and processed.

Decisions on financial requests will be made on an individual basis and will be based on a variety of factors, including academic performance, need and demonstration of personal responsibility and work ethic.

GENERAL

- **The completed Request Form must include all appropriate documentation (program costs, course registration forms, etc.)**

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- **Payments cannot be made to students** – all payments (with the exception of book money and the monthly stipends) will be made directly to the vendor (college, computer retailer, travel company, etc.)

Link to Request form

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc7OnnXboibCLPm2zcN-dNYSfirt1FKc8Y7CgCIPdeN6_xLg/viewform?usp=sf_link

COMPUTERS

- Janey Scholars will supply one computer to each student.

TRAVEL TO/FROM COLLEGE

- Janey Scholars will pay for travel costs (air, bus or train fare) to/from college for a maximum of 3 times per academic year
- Travel to and from college should be booked a minimum of three weeks prior to intended travel (ideally more to secure the best fares and options). Process:
 - Contact your mentor to get approval for the flights
 - Complete the Janey Scholars Request Form
 - Janey Scholars cannot reimburse students for flights – all travel must be booked through our travel agency

SUMMER COURSES

Janey Scholars will help pay tuition for one summer course during college. The program will not provide funding for books, supplies or other expenses during the summer, as students are expected to work to cover those costs. The following issues will be considered when assessing a student's request to take a summer course:

- What is the goal of summer course – remediation, acceleration, opportunity to live away from home for personal reasons, etc?
- How many credits will be earned?
- What is the cost of the course?
- What are your summer housing plans?
- What else do you plan to do over the summer?

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SUMMER INTERNSHIPS

Janey Scholars requires students to engage in meaningful and productive experiences during the summers. This may include paid work, volunteer work, summer courses or some combination of these activities.

Because many students are interested in working for non-profits and many non-profits do not have the ability to pay summer interns, each summer Janey Scholars will offer a limited number of stipends for students who choose to work for a non-profit organization.

The amount of the stipend will vary depending on the nature of the work and the number of hours and weeks worked, but will not exceed \$15 per hour or \$5,000 per summer.

Criteria:

- Student must be a rising sophomore, junior or senior
- Student must have a minimum 3.0 GPA
- Student must work a minimum of 8 weeks, and no less than 20 hours per week
- The non-profit must be a 501(c)(3) organization within the US
- The non-profit shall identify clear responsibilities and job activities for the summer intern and provides weekly supervision
- The student is responsible for their own housing and travel related to the internship

Process:

1. Student secures internship with non-profit
2. Student reviews internship plan with their mentor (Students should discuss their internship plans with their mentor well in advance of the May 15th deadline and anticipate mentors will have questions that need to be addressed prior to approval)
3. Once details approved by mentor, student submits a completed Request Form NO LATER THAN MAY 15th. The Request Form **must** include a letter from the non-profit stating the following:
 - What the intern will do

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- How the intern will be supervised
- Number of weeks and hours/week the intern will work
(include start and end dates)

Janey will provide a grant to the nonprofit to pay the student.

Students are encouraged to seek credit from their college for participating in the non-profit internship.

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STUDY ABROAD

Janey Scholars encourages students to participate in traditional academic study abroad programs as well as community service trips during their college years (during an academic semester, the summer or a winter or spring break). Travel for academic study abroad programs and community service trips provide life-changing opportunities to learn first-hand about history, politics, geography, art, different cultures, and so much more. Study abroad and community service are also an important opportunity for students to challenge themselves by planning for and participating in a completely new experience in a very different environment and a chance for students to re-examine their place in the world.

Janey Scholars will provide support for up to *three* study abroad and/or community service experiences. Students who wish to receive financial support through Janey Scholars must meet the following criteria:

- Student must have completed first semester freshman year
- Student must have a 3.0 GPA

Scholars should discuss their plans for these programs and trips with their Mentor and submit a completed STUDY ABROAD AND COMMUNITY SERVICE WORKSHEET (see attached) to their Mentor for approval at **least one month prior to the commencement of a program or trip and not less than three weeks prior to any need for funds.** A complete request includes:

- a description of the program or trip
- detailed timelines and travel plans
- a budget that outlines all costs and the various sources of funding (scholarships, the scholar's own contribution of funds and the amount being requested from the Janey Scholars Program)

The **maximum** financial support (tuition, travel etc.) will be \$8,000 for a semester-long academic study abroad program, \$4,000 for a

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summer academic summer study abroad program, and \$2,000 for a community service trip.

The Janey funding is intended as “last dollar” support. Primary funding must come from grants, scholarships and student’s savings from work.

If a student plans to take loans to support any portion of their study abroad, the Janey Program will not provide any funding.

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GRADUATE STUDIES

- **For students attending graduate school within 3 years of undergraduate graduation.**
- Financial support is limited to semester book money and monthly stipend money
- **Three years** maximum support for graduate school

OTHER

A variety of other supports may be available to students to help them explore career opportunities, participate in enrichment activities, etc. Examples of other potential supports include music lessons and travel to conference and career fairs. These requests should be discussed with the Mentor and decisions will be made on an individual basis.

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LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM

Students are eligible to have some, or all, of their student loans paid by Janey Scholars upon graduation from college.

Janey Scholars will pay back up to \$20,000 of federal student loans issued through the student's college. We do not pay back any personal or family loans that are taken out above what the college financial aid services provide.

Upon graduation, Janey Scholars will determine students' eligibility based on the following:

- Record of academic success and personal accomplishments
- Commitment to others and to the community through volunteer and leadership activities

The loan repayment is considered by the Federal Internal Revenue Service (IRS) as income. This means students are responsible for paying the taxes on the amount of the loan repayment. Please consult a tax specialist to fully understand your tax liability.

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DEADLINES

- Mid-year status report -- submit transcript by January 15th of each year
- Janey Scholars renewal application -- submit all information online by July 15th of each year
- Request for stipend for summer internship – no later than May 15th of each year

If for any reason you are not able to make a deadline, notify your Mentor in ADVANCE with an explanation.

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MENTORS AND CONTACT INFORMATION

PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Deborah Denhart

Executive Director, Janey Fund Charitable Trust

phone: (413) 320-9055

ddenhart.crmgmt@verizon.net

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Elaines Peña (Janey ALUM)

Program Staff, The Philanthropic Initiative

75 Arlington St., Suite 710 Boston, MA 02116

phone: (617) 338-5897

fax: (617) 338-2591

janeyscholars@tpi.org

VOLUNTEER MENTORS

Guljed "Ed" Birce (Janey ALUM)

phone: (617) 838-3921

gbirce@me.com

Tom and Gayane Ebling

Phone: (617) 584-8226 (Tom)

Phone: (617) 967-1677 (Gayane)

gayane@comcast.net

tebling@gmail.com

Elaine Gelinas

phone: (617) 477-9907

elainegelinasgray@gmail.com

They Badin (Janey ALUM)

phone: (857) 266 2388

bthey@gmail.com

Bob and Judith Melzer

Bob – (617) 277-9869

rmelzer1@icloud.com

Judith – (617) 277-7745

judithmelzer@comcast.net

Madeline Mylett McIntyre (Janey ALUM)

phone: (617) 699-4496

maddie.mylett@gmail.com

Andrea and Michael Norkus

Andrea - agnorkus@yahoo.com

Michael - mnorkus@alliancecg.com

André Stuart (Janey ALUM)

Phone: 617-755-8519

stuart.andrek@gmail.com

Anne Wolf

phone: 781-894-2712

aawolf@comcast.net

Matt Epstein

phone: 617 780-6811

MEpstein@GOULSTONSTORRS.com

Maria Iglesia

mayeya1950@verizon.net

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Request Form

The Janey Scholars request form for ALL requests (travel, summer courses, additional support, etc.) must be submitted through the online google form:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc7OnnXboibCLPm2zcNdNYSfirt1FKc8Y7CgCIPdeN6_xLg/viewform?usp=sf_link

Necessary attachments (proof of cost for summer courses, etc..) must be emailed to janeyscholars@tpi.org in addition to submitting this form.

You must have your Mentor's approval before submitting the form.