



Ashland Business Association (ABA)

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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Photo supplied below

Ashland Business Association Awards Scholarships to Ashland High School Graduating Seniors: Victoria Hyland and Olivia Sewell

ASHLAND, MA—June 12, 2018—The Ashland Business Association (ABA) recently awarded two scholarships to Ashland High graduating seniors **Victoria Hyland** and **Olivia Sewell**, who each received a check for \$1,500. Hyland plans to study actuarial science and business management at Temple University and Sewell plans to study biochemistry at Boston College.

Each year the ABA offers scholarships to high school seniors residing in Ashland who exemplify community and business spirit, work ethics and creativity. As part of their application, the students are asked to develop a community improvement project. Several years ago, the ABA implemented one such project—an ABA social media internship where students teach local businesses how to use social media to promote themselves.

Victoria Hyland served as president of the National Honor Society in her senior year, was a member of Make-a-Wish Club and Open Enrollment-Student Council, and active in Youth Ministry at St. Matthew's Church. She studied dance since she was four years old, performing at community venues, such as the Dragonfly Festival and the Ashland Farmers Market. In addition,

she worked as an assistant dance teacher at Annemarie's Dance Center and, in the summers, at the Upswing Farm farmstand.

"After I complete my college education, I would like to start my career as an actuary. I hope that by my college graduation, I have passed five of the professional exams necessary to be a successful actuary," Hyland said. "I look forward to staying involved and volunteering in the community I eventually reside in and starting a family of my own."

Olivia Sewell was a member of the National Honor Society, held elected offices as student representative and vice president of Student Council, was a member of Academic Decathlon and Students Against Destructive Decisions clubs, and participated in varsity cheerleading as captain, ski team, and varsity track. She worked as a YMCA summer camp lifeguard and swim instructor and an after-school program counselor.

"My ultimate goal is to obtain a doctorate in biochemistry and continue into medical research, namely developing more effective treatments and medicinal supplements for ailing patients," Sewell explained. She said she hopes to work in the field of cancer research.

The 2018 Scholarship Committee members are Tricia Kendall, chair (Tricia Kendall, Architecture + Design), M.R. Fletcher (Earthly Wealth Jewelry), Claudette Rowe (Knowledge Points Learning Center), Nadine Nesbitt (WAITT, We're All In This Together) and Valerie Gaines (At Peace Reiki).

About the Ashland Business Association

Over 100 Ashland businesses make up the Ashland Business Association (ABA). The ABA holds learning programs or networking socials on the first Tuesdays of most months throughout the year. For more information, contact President Adam Sachs at president@ashlandbusinessassociation.com or call 508-656-0503. To join the ABA, visit www.ashlandbusinessassociation.com.



Olivia Sewell (left) and Victoria Hyland *(Photo/Cynthia Whitty)*