KU awards $26 million in scholarship support to students for 2007-08

More than 5,400 students at the University of Kansas will receive about $26 million in privately funded scholarship support during the 2007-08 academic year. This is a 10.6 percent increase from the 2006-07 school year, in which KU students received $24.3 million in scholarship support.

This year’s recipients represent 101 of the 105 counties in Kansas, 44 other states and the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and 50 other countries.

So far, 7,603 scholarships have been awarded for the current academic year. Many students receive more than one scholarship. KU divides many scholarship awards between the fall and spring semesters, and there are some students who receive scholarship support for the summer term as well.

Virtually all scholarships, awards and fellowships awarded by KU come from private contributions to KU Endowment.

“Donors understand that without financial support, some deserving students would not be able to attend KU,” said Dale Seuferling, president of KU Endowment. “KU students are benefiting from the financial support provided recently and many generations ago by loyal alumni and friends.”

Though KU Endowment raises support for scholarships and other student aid, KU determines the distribution of available support. The figure fluctuates each year based on several factors, such as the number of students who apply for and receive them, the investment performance of endowed scholarship funds and new gifts for scholarships.

Scholarship funds are managed by KU Endowment, the independent, nonprofit organization serving as the official fundraising and fund-management organization for KU. Founded in 1891, KU Endowment is the first foundation of its kind at a U.S. public university.

Area students receiving scholarships are:

Katie May Sternberger, daughter of Jamie Sternberger, Hardtner, Freshman, Creative And Performing Arts Scholarship; Alexandra Rae Ferguson, daughter of Gail and Max Ferguson, Medicine Lodge, Pre-Physical Therapy Freshman, Lester Suhler Memorial Scholarship; Kelli J Swayden, Medicine Lodge, Nursing MS Graduate Online, Nursing Education Scholarship; Kathryn Elizabeth Lynch, Attica, Flowers Memorial Trust.
One of the prize winners in the Country Christmas Parade in Sharon on Sunday, Dec. 2, was this Sunflower 4-H entry. Kristen Eck, a Sunflower 4-H member, is the driver, and some of the other Sunflower 4-H members are on board.