

## MARTHAS'S VINEYARD ROTARY DIANA BARDWELL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Established in 2012

This partnership between Rotary and the Bardwell family is to honor the memory of Diana Bardwell, business woman, wife, mother, active community member serving on many boards from arts organizations to human services and Rotary's commitment to the importance of "Service above Self" in all aspects of life.

Amount of Scholarship: **\$,2000 for the 2026 school year**

### **Criteria:**

Student must be in good academic standing

Students must be an island resident and a senior in an accredited public secondary school program.

Student must have a goal of:

enhancing their skills by enrolling in a technical school, specialized training program in a specific field or a community college as well as demonstrate "Service Above Self" through experience and service to their community.

### **OR**

pursuing a degree granting college or university program with a major in political science, public service, history or law.

Students must submit **two letters** of recommendations written by a teacher and/or guidance counselor including specific examples supporting how the student has met either above criteria.

Students must submit documentation of leadership skills either at school or in the community.

Should the student be awarded the Martha's Vineyard Rotary Diana Bardwell Memorial Scholarship in 2026, an additional \$1000 Rotary scholarship may be applied for in 2026 for the following year (and each subsequent year up to 4 years in total) by submitting a letter stating that he/she will be a full time student going forward into their next year of college study accompanied by a letter of recommendation from a faculty member, proof of grades for the first half of their college year and description of their participation in college projects, activities or services.

All Scholarship monies must be used for Tuition and/or other school/program related costs.

### **ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE TYPED.**

All questions on the application must be answered as fully as possible. You may use separate pages to respond to the questions and attach to the Application. All Applications that are not complete will not be considered for review.

NAME Grace Cotton

ADDRESS 9 Great Rock Rd, Oak Bluffs, MA, 02557

PHONE 508-560-7377 EMAIL graceanncotton@gmail.com

Please answer the following questions thoughtfully and as completely as possible to the best of your ability:

1. Please describe the activities that you have been involved in related to community service and/or service to others. Please explain why you participated and why these activities were?
2. Other volunteer activities:
3. What are your career aspirations and reasons for pursuing a career in this area?
4. Please describe leadership experiences and activities that you have participated in. Please indicate your responsibilities and how this has impacted you.

As a sophomore in high school I was the Jv soccer captain. This leadership experience was initially very frustrating and I felt as though the team didn't respect me. Over the course of the season I worked with my team to build respect and make the team stronger. My initial struggles have taught me resilience. Now when a problem comes up I don't panic like before, or hopelessly fall to the floor. I can remain calm, think of the best solution, and then do my best to execute it.

Other leadership activities:

5. Please explain why you should be considered as a candidate for this scholarship.

**Letters of Recommendation:**

Teacher/Staff member name:

Student Signature

Parent Signature

(Must have if student is a minor)

Guidance Counselor \_\_\_\_\_ (verifying student is in good academic standing)

Application due date is **Friday, March 15, 2026**. If there are extenuating circumstances please contact us (see below) and your application may be considered on an individual basis.

**All applications must be submitted to Mary Korba in the Guidance Department at MVRHS**

Please call Stephanie Burke 508 737 8550 or Dr. Rolfe Wener