

HOUSE OF GORDON USA SCHOLARSHIP REPORT 2012

The process for the Scholarship application was moved to open on November 1st annually with submissions closing on March 24th this year. The announcement of recipients went out on April 2nd in time for Tartan Day Celebrations kicking-off the main festival season nationwide. This worked well giving us plenty of time to get the information to our conveners and online.

This year we were faced with a particularly difficult choice in that we had so many outstanding young people apply. The scholarships were voted on by the board based on need and the dedication and qualifications of the applicant. We applied the funds available to the following recipients:

The GMHG Grade 4 Junior Piper of the Day a \$250.00 grant and trophy, which will be awarded today.

Jonathan and Hannah Wolff of Huntersville, NC are joint recipients of a \$500.00 award.

Jonathan and Hannah, 16 and 18 year-old siblings, are dancers with the Charlotte Scottish Country Dance Society and members of the Royal Scottish Dance Society. Both are dedicated to their Scottish heritage and to the preservation of the Scottish Country Dance art form. They have been integral in bringing young people and their families into the Charlotte program. They have grown in their knowledge of their heritage as well as the dance, and Hannah will be working on earning her Teacher's Certificate this summer. It is our pleasure to assist these two in their quest to better their art and attend the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society summer school in St. Andrews this summer.

Isabelle Young of Waxhaw, NC is the recipient of a \$500.00 award.

Isabelle, a 17 year-old Scottish and Irish Fiddler with the Ceilidh Players, started violin lessons at age eleven and has applied her classical training to her studies of Celtic music, and likewise finds that the techniques she employs in Celtic music help enormously in her classical music with the Union Symphony Youth Orchestra. We wish her all the best in her studies at Berklee College of Music in Boston.

Azure Davis of Richmond, VA is the recipient of a \$250.00 award.

She is an academically gifted student and exhibits the drive to be successful in all she does. Her love of the dance is evident in her hard work and dedication as she strives to perfect the movements of each dance to make her performance crisper. She is always willing to help other dancers master a difficult technique, and it is this combination of hard work, dedication and esprit de corps which has made her a winning competitor.