



Edmonton Folk Music Festival Society
Annual General Meeting: Apr 14, 2019
**The Don Snider “Go Wildly Forward”
Scholarship Committee Report**
Submitted by Alex Draper

April 3, 2019

2018 was the fifth year of the Don Snider “Go Wildly Forward” Scholarship.

Cheyenne Shubert, who in 2017 was awarded two years of funding, took a break from her studies and did not use the second year of her award. The Don Snider Go Wildly Forward Scholarship Committee (“the Committee”) recommended that Cheyenne’s award be deferred for one year to give her a chance to face her challenges knowing that she will have the opportunity to resume her studies without additional stress and barriers. In 2019 she was asked whether she would be resuming her studies and she indicated she would not be. Her award will therefore go unused. She did send along the following message:

“The EFMF scholarship was instrumental in making my second year of university possible. I appreciate the award and all of the sentiment and support behind it.

However, I will be taking a short break before my third year. This last semester has been incredibly tough, with the unexpected deaths of my grandfather and would-be future mother-in-law. As well as the chaotic divorce of my parents, which forced me to find lodging part way through my studies and put an extreme strain on my finances. I'm taking the time off to care for myself and those near me in these tough times.

Once again, thank you for the first year of the award and everything it has done for me. I understand this will impact the second year and that's alright. I will resume my schooling once life has calmed down and I've become more financially stable.”

In 2018, Hannah Gelderman was awarded two years of funding, with payments of \$5,000 scheduled in the autumns of 2018 and 2019. Some details about Hannah:

- Studying a Master of Education in Leadership Studies at the University of Victoria
- This program looks at the role that leaders and non-formal educators play in supporting justice-based social, environmental and political change.
- “I want to do this Master of Education program because I believe it will increase my skills and confidence as I continue to use arts-based and creative practices to engage with individuals and communities.”
- Has been going to EFMF longer than she remembers.

In 2018 funds were again available to provide a second award. Ember Large was selected for a \$2,000 one-time award. Some details about Ember:

- Studying a Bachelor of Social Work at the MacEwan University
- Has attended EFMF her entire life.
- “My whole life I have constantly tried to do everything and to say yes to every opportunity. Though I have streamlined my passions slightly in the last few years needing to place more of my focus on my schooling, I still believe that you should try and say yes to as many opportunities as you can because you never know where an adventure may lead you.”



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In 2018 the application shifted to be online. A process has been established with Edmonton Community Foundation for this arrangement to continue. This process is attached.

The launch page can be found here: <https://ecf.getopenfield.com/efmf-snider/>

A recap of the Don Snider “Go Wildly Forward” Scholarship Committee adjudication process is as follows:

- Copies of all the applications are provided to each Committee member and the Edmonton Folk Music Festival Manager of Volunteers through the online portal.
- The Manager of Volunteers looks over the list of applicants and flags any concerns regarding a volunteer’s status for the Committee to discuss.
- Any conflicts of interest are declared and the Committee member abstains from participating in any conversations or providing any recommendations regarding that applicant.
- Each Committee member provides an initial recommendation of “Yes,” “No,” or “Maybe” for each applicant.
- The recommendations are compiled and the applicants are organized into tranches based on the number of “Yes” votes they have received. This process allows the Committee to focus its discussion in the adjudication meeting on the few applications that received mostly “Yes” votes.
- A discussion at the Committee meeting determines the final recipient(s).

This process was followed to the satisfaction of the Committee in 2018, and is the plan for the 2019 adjudication.

In 2018 the committee consisted of:

- Alex Draper (Committee Chair)
- Linda Brenneman-Snider (Snider Family Representative)
- Gerrit Bjalek (Board Representative)
- Al Burant
- Marigold Kinley
- Katherine Goertz Thompson

Marianne Stover served as a resource to the committee.

Laurel Allison has joined the Don Snider “Go Wildly Forward” Scholarship Committee for 2019.

In 2019 the panel anticipates selecting one recipient to receive a two-year award of \$5,000 annually, and a one-time \$2,000 award. The application deadline for the Scholarship will be April 30, 2019. The Committee will meet shortly afterward to determine a recipient.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Alex Draper".



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The Don Snider “Go Wildly Forward” Scholarship Committee
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Moving EFMF’s Don Snider Go Wildly Forward Scholarship to ECF’s Online Application System

- The Edmonton Folk Music Festival Society’s (EFMF) Don Snider Go Wildly Forward Scholarship is funded by an Edmonton Community Foundation (ECF) fund, and therefore can make use of ECF’s online application system, Openfield.
- A landing page on EFMF’s website would link to the Openfield page, which can be customized with graphics and copy that EFMF can select.
- Applicants would need to create an account on the Openfield site, which will allow them to apply for other student awards that exist there. Likewise, other students applying for ECF awards would be able to see the Don Snider Award application.
- EFMF would be responsible for promoting the award, contacting applicants to notify them whether they were successful, organizing payment of the awards, and issuing T4As.
- EFMF would only have access to the back end of the system as reviewers.
- EFMF would need to submit all information to ECF at least three months before the application deadline (January 31 for an April 30 deadline). ECF will have the application on-line two months before the deadline (February 28 for an April 30 deadline). No changes to the application should be expected while the application is active.
- Review will happen on-line. Reviewers can print documents if they wish.
- EFMF cannot change the application deadline to be between March 20 and April 14.
- ECF will review submitted applications for completeness. Incomplete applications will not be forwarded. The review committee will determine if applications are eligible.
- If a submitted application is not complete (often they are missing a document or two) EFMF will receive a list of applicants with incomplete applications and would be responsible for determining how to proceed.
- EFMF would need to identify all committee members at least one week before the deadline (name and email address).
- EFMF would need to identify a contact to which questions can be directed (name, email and phone number).