

2019-20 Fred Rogers Scholars Announced

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LATROBE, PA – The [Fred Rogers Center for Early Learning and Children's Media at Saint Vincent College](#) has announced the 2019-20 class of [Fred Rogers Scholars](#), students of Saint Vincent College who are interested in pursuing careers in educating and inspiring children by carrying on the legacy of Fred Rogers.

The newest cohort includes Myrissa Donaldson, a theology major from West Middlesex; James Michael Mallozzi, a communication major from Fleetwood; Courtney Rodick, a criminology, law and society major from McAdoo; Thomas Sanchez, an undeclared major from Powhatan, Virginia; and Julia Sarnowski, an undeclared major from Bridgeville who is enrolled in the [Benedictine Leadership Studies program](#).

The group was officially inducted into the Fred Rogers Scholars program on Sept. 13 in a ceremony at the Fred M. Rogers Center.

Under the guidance of Dr. Dana Winters, director of [Simple Interactions](#) and academic programs and assistant professor of child and family studies, the Fred Rogers Scholars program is a four-year, merit-based scholarship program. Selection criteria includes the student's high school grade point average, career and graduate school goals, a strong interest in helping children and an interest in the work of Fred Rogers. Students are encouraged to connect their particular area of interest with the work of Fred Rogers in efforts to develop specialized knowledge in how his legacy integrates various areas of study and extend his practice and principles in a variety of professions.

As freshmen, the students will receive an introduction to Fred Rogers and the vast Fred Rogers Archive on the Saint Vincent campus. They will meet regularly to discuss readings and activities, visit the archive and engage with a team of advisers, with whom they will work to prepare research on a topic of their choice related to the work of Rogers.

In their second year in the program, Fred Rogers Scholars will complete their individual research in preparation for a group service-learning project related to the work of Rogers. In year three, students will complete their group service project and work with advisers to plan the personal culminating project they will pursue. The projects must be related to the work of Fred Rogers and should be related to the student's major and post-graduate plans. In year four, students will work with their mentor to conduct a culminating project, which will result in a deliverable defined by the student and mentor and will include a presentation at the end of the spring semester.

Fred Rogers Scholars receive a \$2,500 scholarship, renewed annually pending the students' academic performance and active participation in the program. The 2019-20 inductees comprise the eighth cohort of Fred Rogers Scholars since the 2012 launch of the program.

For more information, contact Winters at dana.winters@stvincent.edu.

PHOTO (from left to right): Julia Sarnowski, Courtney Rodick, James Michael Mallozzi, Thomas Sanchez and Myrissa Donaldson.

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