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MacEwan University English student receives prestigious Bombardier master's scholarship en route to Queens

Edmonton--Tara Forbes is sad to be leaving MacEwan University, even though she was recently awarded a prestigious $17,500 scholarship and is beginning graduate studies at Queens University in the fall.

“My experience here has been fantastic – I love MacEwan University,” she says.

Tara applied for the Joseph-Armand Bombardier Canada Graduate Scholarships Program Master’s Scholarship on the advice of some friends already in grad school and with the help of the university’s graduate school liaison, Dorothy Ritz. “They all told me to apply – this is Canada’s big arts scholarship.”

The scholarship has a large payout, but isn’t easy to get. Both the applicant and the master’s program they’re applying to must meet the rigorous requirements set out by the Canada Graduate Scholarships program.

Several institutions in Canada receive an allotted number of these scholarships. MacEwan University, however, is not among them, so Tara applied to the general pool that is open to any Canadian citizen. She was one of 50 students to receive the scholarship.

Since her early days at the university, Tara has made an about-face regarding her education. She was, like many students, undecided about her educational goals and had considered studying political science or perhaps nursing.

It was her first-year English class that set her on her current path. She admits that in high school, English wasn’t her strongest subject, but her university-level experience changed all that.

“The instructors are awesome,” says the English major. “They actually care about what you’re learning and how you’re learning it.”

*Founded in 1971, MacEwan University is proudly celebrating its 40th anniversary. As a comprehensive university it offers more than 65 programs including undergraduate degrees, applied degrees, diplomas, certificates, continuing education and corporate training. Its philosophy of inspiring minds, providing career opportunities and opening the doors to academic excellence, continues to be its guide as it serves the educational needs of students across Alberta, Canada and the world.*

For further information, please contact:
David Beharry, Media Relations Advisor
(780) 497-5586
Cell: (780) 231-5954
email: beharryd@macewan.ca