



## Ashland Business Association (ABA)

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### PRESS RELEASE

#### For Immediate Release

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\*\*\*Photos supplied.\*\*\*

### Ashland Business Association Awards Scholarships to Graduating Seniors: Justin Madison and David Celatka

**ASHLAND, MA**—June 18, 2019—The Ashland Business Association (ABA) recently awarded scholarships to Ashland High graduating seniors, **Justin Madison** and **David Celatka**, who each will receive \$1,500. Madison plans to study biology at St. Michael's College in Vermont and Celatka, secondary science education at the University of Connecticut, Storrs. Both students proposed creative community projects as part of their applications.

Each year the ABA offers scholarships to high school seniors residing in Ashland who exemplify community and business spirit, work ethics and creativity. As part of their application, the students are asked to develop a community improvement project. Several years ago, the ABA implemented one such project—an ABA social media internship where students teach local businesses how to use social media to promote themselves.

**Justin Madison's** extracurricular activities included helping a local veterinarian and participating in various school clubs such as Service and Leadership Club, Breaking the Barriers, and theater.

Madison made the Honor Roll for most of the semesters he attended Ashland High School; was recognized as Student of the Term in the fall of 2017 for integrity; and won an Academic Achievement Award in Theater his junior year.

His work experience includes being a lifeguard for the Town of Yarmouth and working in a variety of roles at AMC Theater. As a lifeguard, he was instrumental in saving a woman in trouble who was pulled around a jetty by a strong current. “We were able to successfully pull her back to shore because I remained alert and was ready to jump into action,” he said.

**David Celatka** has been doing karate for 13 years and teaching it for nine; took theater classes and performed as an actor in four school productions; and plays and coaches Ultimate Frisbee. “Through Frisbee and all of my activities, I have created strong friendships and unforgettable experiences,” Celatka said.

Celatka was a commended national merit scholar, a member of the National Honor Society, and a 2019 Zone Finalist in the Lions Youth Speech Contest. His work experience includes camp counselor and community program instructor for the Metrowest YMCA, where he worked with children and adults.

**The 2019 Scholarship Committee members** are Wendy Pyne, chair (Protegro, Inc.), M.R. Fletcher (Earthly Wealth Jewelry), Claudette Rowe (Knowledge Points Learning Center), Nadine Nesbitt (WAITT, We’re All In This Together) and Valerie Gaines (At Peace Reiki).

### **About the Ashland Business Association**

Over 130 Ashland businesses make up the Ashland Business Association (ABA). The ABA holds learning programs or networking events on the first Tuesdays of most months throughout the year. For more information, contact President Adam Sachs, [president@ashlandbusinessassociation.com](mailto:president@ashlandbusinessassociation.com), 508-656-0503, or visit [www.ashlandbusinessassociation.com](http://www.ashlandbusinessassociation.com).

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**This year's scholarship winners are pictured with ABA President Adam Sachs (center): (left to right) Justin Madison and David Celatka. (Photo/Cynthia Whitty)**