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Anyanka Katz wins the 2021 Ryan Scholarship

Congratulations to Anyanka Katz, winner of the 2021 Norman V. Ryan Scholarship through Monroe County 4-H Youth Development. Anyanka, a member of the Mariah Meadows 4-H Club, will be heading to Niagara University in the fall to begin her studies in Biochemistry.

A huge portion of Anyanka's 4-H experience has been learning more about horses. She was able to go to multiple other barns with her 4-H experience. She said, "talking to other kids and experiencing other methods, made me a better rider and greatly improved my horsemanship". She learned a lot about horses, from care and riding to anatomy, injuries, and illnesses, and even how doctors treat and save animals. "As a result, I chose to pursue a study of biochemistry with a minor in public health because I want to become a medical doctor. I am currently planning to go into pain management after seeing how pain debilitates people and animals and prevents them from enjoying their lives."

Anyanka credits her 4-H experience as an important part of her growth. She said, "When I started with 4-H, I didn't talk a lot. I lacked confidence and often just didn't know what to say....My 4-H club gave me opportunities to talk about things I cared about, helped me explore new ideas, and gave me confidence in what I knew...The confidence I gained was not only evident in my knowledge of horses or limited to 4-H. There were improvements in school and in my other activities. I was a captain my second year of Junior Varsity Basketball and again my second year of Varsity Basketball. Academically, I graduated Summa Cum Laude and as a National Honor Society member."

Susan Coyle, 4-H Program Leader said, "It is a pleasure to honor Anyanka with the Norman V. Ryan 4-H Scholarship. Anya has been able to learn and develop life skills through her 4-H experience. It is particularly exciting to see her pursuing studies and a career field that were inspired by the experiences she took part in through 4-H. "

Through 4-H, Anyanka has been a role model to others on how to treat horses physically and emotionally, helped plan parties and winter fest as a teen leader, and helped less

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experienced riders at Intercounty. She has also been involved with volunteering in the 4-H booth at the State Fair by doing presentations and talking to fair goers about the 4-H program.

The skills and confidence Anyanka has gained in 4-H, coupled with the satisfaction of continued learning and community service, have prepared her for the transition to college. Everyone involved with the Monroe County 4-H program wishes her well in her new adventures!

The Norman V. Ryan scholarship is presented to a Monroe County graduating high school senior who has demonstrated leadership and community service. Special consideration is given to teens who are planning to enter a field of study or employment as a result of their 4-H activities and experiences.

The Monroe County 4-H Youth Development Program is offered through Cornell Cooperative Extension to the youth of Monroe County. 4-H is a worldwide youth development program open to all youth aged 5-to-19, who want to have fun, learn new skills, and explore the world. In return, youth who participate in 4-H find a supportive environment and opportunities for hands-on or "experiential" learning about things that interest them.

Learn more at <http://monroe.cce.cornell.edu/4-h-youthdevelopment>.



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