

The Scholarship Committee of Hudson Garden Club announces the two 2023 recipients of the Genevieve Jyurovat Horticultural Scholarship Award. The recipients are Hudson High School students Elise Taylor and Payton Bakonyi.

Elise Taylor realized her passion for environmental problem solving and water quality when she began volunteering at Möbius Nature Center in Aurora, Ohio as a sophomore. After graduation Elise will be attending Princeton University, majoring in environmental engineering with a focus on marine environments. While at Hudson High School Elise has been a member the band and Hudson Community First all four years. Her other activities include HUDDLE, National Honor Society, French Honor Society, Speech and Debate team officer, National Merit Finalist, awarded the French Seal of Biliteracy. Her community activities include Sierra Club Ohio and Sierra Student Coalition Environmental and Social Justice Committee, volunteering at Tinker's Creek Watershed Partners, Hudson Food Pantry, Hudson Public Library Tutoring, Doan Brook Watershed Partnership, Akron Cooperative Farms, 2022 Hudson Home and Garden Tour Garden Shop as well as working this past summer as an OSU student Research Assistant in the OARDC Weed Lab with research about the efficacy and safety of various pesticides.

Peyton Bakonyi will be attending The Ohio State University. The past ten years of living near the Cuyahoga Valley National Park has shaped her concern for conservation and the environment. Peyton will be studying engineering with a minor and focus in environmental science and sustainability. While at Hudson High School Payton has been a member of the Nation Honor Society and has taken seven AP courses these past three years. Payton has been a member of student government as both a representative and an executive board member as well as serving on the Leadership Conference planning committee in 2022; a member of Hudson Community First, and Hudson's Girls lacrosse for all four years. She also served on the Greenhouse Management Team. Away from school Payton is a member of St Mary's Lifeteen, their retreat planning team and a summer counselor at Camp Celebrate as well as working at Appalachian Outfitters as a sales associate.