

## Barbershoppers Award

### Criteria

Awarded annually to students in the Masters degree program in the area of Speech-Language Pathology in Communicative Disorders. Determination of awards will be based on grade point averages, letters of recommendation, a personal statement, and the Department's judgement of research and clinical potential. The School of Communication Sciences and Disorders Scholarship Review Committee, including at least one representative who is a member of the School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies, will select the recipient.

Value: 2 at \$1,000 each

### Recipient Information for 2020-2021

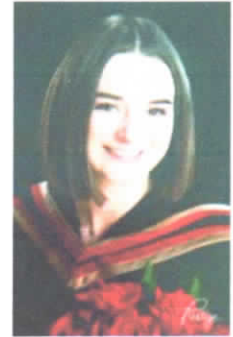
**Erica Stone**

Master of Communication Sciences & Disorders  
Faculty of Health Sciences  
\$1,000

**Melanie Wrobel**

Master of Communication Sciences & Disorders  
Faculty of Health Sciences  
\$1,000

# Western Students Thank You



## Erica Stone Barbershoppers Award

Dear Donor,

It is an honour and a privilege to be a recipient of the Barbershoppers Award. Your generous contribution will go a long way in supporting my studies in the Speech-Language Pathology program at Western.

COVID-19 made it harder for many students to earn as much as expected from their summer jobs this year, myself included. Thanks to your support, the financial burden of my education will be more manageable this year. This award will help me make the most of my time in graduate school so that I can make a difference in the lives of those with communication disorders.

Music was a huge influence in my life growing up, and even in my decision to apply for this program. My father and grandfather were, in fact, members of barbershop quartets! My interest in speech therapy started from my grandma's stories of her time doing music therapy at the Aphasia Institute. Though many of the people she worked with found it difficult to communicate through speech, they could still sing beautifully and express themselves through music.

In the future, I hope to help stroke survivors regain their ability to communicate, helping them speak (and sing) freely. As a first-year graduate student I am very excited to see what this part of my educational journey will hold, and I am truly thankful for your support.

Sincerely,

Erica Stone

# Western Students Thank You

## Melanie Wrobel Barbershoppers Award

Dear Donor,

I wish to express my sincere gratitude for your support through the Barbershoppers Award.

I completed my Bachelor of Arts (major in Psychology) at the University of Winnipeg. I paid my University of Winnipeg tuition expenses by working part-time while attending my classes. I was working as a Support Worker for an organization that supports people with disabilities. During that time, I had the opportunity to volunteer with SLPs, working with people with disabilities. It is through that experience that I discovered my path was to become an SLP.

I had to quit my part-time job when I moved to London, Ontario to attend Western University. My full-time schedule at Western currently does not allow me to work part-time. Therefore, I am funding my Master's through student loans and other financial loans.

I am extremely grateful for this award as it will help me offset the financial expenses of my tuition fees and living expenses.

With deepest gratitude,

Melanie Wrobel  
mwrobel5@uwo.ca  
204-292-5928