

Grace Crain, 2014 Indiana Daffodil Society Scholar

Grace is earning her B.S. in Biology with a minor in Psychology, and plans to graduate in May of 2015. She is planning to visit our booth at the Bloomington Farmers' Market. Grace is a member of Professor

Lynda Delph's lab, where she studies various aspects of population differences within the species Silene latifolia, commonly known as the white campion. Because of her hard work and dedication to the Delph lab, she was invited to join the Delph team for their summer 2014 overseas field season in Spain and Croatia, where they will continue their research on the campion plant.

Grace was selected to receive the Arlene Ferguson Internship at Hilltop Gardens, where she will work during the spring 2015 semester. She is also active with several campus groups, including being a CommUNITY Educator at Wright Quad, where she facilitates diversity and social justice programs. She is also the director of philanthropy for the Nations Residence Hall Honorary, where she coordinates volunteer opportunities for the members of NRHH within the Bloomington Community, including the Hoosier Hills Food Bank and Middle Way House. She is also the treasurer of the American Cetacean Society Student Coalition at IU.

Grace sent this note to us:

Dear Mary Milberger,

I would like to thank you and the Indiana Daffodil Society for your generosity in providing me with the scholarship for the year of 2014. I was overcome with excitement when I received the news. I am very grateful to the society. Though I do not conduct research on daffodils at the university, plants, flowers and nature as a whole have been a true love of mine for as long as (I) can remember. And, what intrigued me to get involved with the Delph lab and working in the greenhouse.

As a young girl and throughout my college years, nature and the great outdoors has always been my place of peace and comfort. And with winter being so rough I thought spring would never come. Yet on this past Monday the weather shifted and I spotted daffodils beginning to pop up around campus; they were in the most unlikely places, adding a vibrant color to the surrounding landscape still trying to come back to life from the cold months of the past. A smile crept across my face at the site of the yellow petals. Daffodils truly are a gem to the Bloomington campus.

Thank you again for the scholarship funding and support. I look forward to meeting you and the other society members in the near future at the farmers market or another society event.

Sincerely, Grace M. Crain