

## **Press Release**

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For Immediate Release

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## Hydropower Foundation announces the Julie Keil Scholarship for Women in Hydropower 2021 recipient

The 2021 recipient of the Julie Keil Scholarship Award will be presented to a young woman who reflects many of Julie's attributes. Currently pursuing her bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering at Montana Technological University, Elsie Brown is a student whose leadership has been recognized with the Archie McDonald Leadership Award. In addition, she volunteers her time leading the Skills USA Team. Her passion for the environment, sustainability, and hydropower emerged after her internship at Holter Dam, a hydroelectric straight gravity dam on the Missouri River about 45 miles northeast of Helena, Montana, in the United States, for two summers. It was this experience that inspired a change in career goals for Elsie. She shifted her course work from veterinarian studies to majoring in mechanical engineering to pursue a career in the hydropower industry and focus her passion on ensuring hydropower generation is an integral part of the clean energy mix. The Scholarship Committee is hopeful that this award will assist her in reaching her education and career goals.

"Julie Keil was a major force and recognized as a leader for change in the hydropower industry. Her highest personal priority was to raise two thoughtful and independent young women empowered with education and personal character. Providing financial assistance to support and encourage the entry of women into the hydropower industry is right out of the Julie Keil playbook." (John Suloway, past president of the National Hydropower Association).

Elsie will be recognized virtually at the Hydrovision Connect, "Women in Hydro" virtual session on December 6, 2021, at 9:00 am CST.

## About the Julie Keil Scholarship for Women in Hydropower:

The Julie A. Keil Women in Hydro Scholarship fund seeks to honor Julie and her legacy by supporting women who aspire to a career in hydropower and share her characteristics: leadership, energy, courage, strength, enthusiasm, and persistence.

The Julie A. Keil Women in Hydro Scholarship provides support for women enrolled in an accredited college, university, or technical school program majoring in a discipline relevant to entering the hydropower industry. The scholarship is based on merit and financial need. Grants are also made to the recipient to attend an "In-Person" industry conference to assist with expenses.

Information on future scholarships for women entering the hydropower field is available at <u>Julie Keil</u> Women in Hydro Scholarship.