

PRESS RELEASE

Julie Keil Scholarship Award Winner Announced!

The Hydropower Foundation is thrilled to unveil the recipient of the 2023 Julie Keil Scholarship Award, dedicated to empowering women pursuing careers in hydropower. This esteemed honor goes to Natalie Coash, a master's student in fisheries and aquatic sciences at Auburn University, marking the sixth outstanding woman to be recognized with this prestigious award. Natalie was chosen for her exceptional qualities of leadership, determination, and unwavering passion, traits that mirror the indomitable spirit of Julie Keil herself. Natalie Coash's ambition to forge a stronger connection between fish passage and hydropower aligns seamlessly with Julie Keil's enduring legacy. We believe these qualities are pivotal to the continued growth and success of the hydropower industry, and we eagerly anticipate the day when Natalie takes her place in this vital field.



This scholarship fund seeks out students who exemplify Julie's multifaceted qualities, ensuring a perpetual tribute to her influential legacy. Kristin Sweeney, Julie's daughter, shares, *"This scholarship extends my mom's legacy of mentoring women in the hydropower industry. It would mean the world to her to know that she continues to be remembered in this way in her professional community."*

The hydropower community takes great pride in honoring Julie's legacy by recognizing outstanding individuals who embody her remarkable qualities through this distinctive award. Julie's relentless dedication to striking a balance between the hydropower industry's interests and innovative environmental conservation and enhancement programs has forever enriched our world.

Natalie Coash will be formally recognized for her remarkable achievement during the "Women in Hydro Breakfast" event on October 12, hosted by the National Hydropower Association's Clean Currents Conference in Cincinnati, OH.

The Hydropower Foundation, a 501c3 not-for-profit organization dedicated to addressing climate change by preparing the next generation of waterpower professionals, actively promotes education, research, and workforce development within the clean energy sector. The Foundation's mission is to cultivate a robust, diverse, and environmentally conscious waterpower workforce through focused education, research, and experiential learning opportunities. For more information, please visit our website at www.hydrofoundation.org.