PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Willard House & Clock Museum The Center of Early American Clockmaking



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Willard House & Clock Museum Announces the Recipient for the 2022 David G. Gow Memorial Scholarship for Horology

Annual scholarship program dedicated to future professional careers in clock conservation.

North Grafton, MA: As part of a long-term plan to support the study of horology (the study of time and timekeepers) and aid those working toward a professional career in clockmaking, the family of former Willard House & Clock Museum conservator, David G. Gow and the museum is pleased to announce the first Gow scholarship recipient.

Twenty-one-year-old Parker Boughton of Des Moines, Iowa was among nearly 20 applicants competing for the scholarship. Parker studied conservation at Saint Ambrose University and was chosen among a diverse pool of applicants.

"We are delighted to celebrate Parker as our first Gow scholarship recipient", says Callum Gow of the scholarship review board. "I anticipate that Parker will be the first in a long-line of Gow scholarship winners over many years to come."

"Today the professional career path of museum-level clock conservation is not well defined", says Robert C. Cheney, Willard's Executive Director, "Unlike a century ago, formal apprenticeship programs are scarce and any funding difficult to obtain –Willard hopes to provide improvements on both fronts."

When asked why Boughton decided to pursue this field, he commented, "I like clocks because of their varied technical repair and restoration challenges, the innovation that's inherent in these machines and the opportunity to understand the engineering intent of the clockmaker."

The Gow family with the collaboration of the museum trustees and staff, established the memorial scholarship to help worthy students obtain this specialized training. The details:

- Any US-based student that has begun the journey into the profession of clockmaking qualifies
- \$5,000 will be awarded and the money may be used attend advanced courses provided by various clock and watch making schools across the country

Applications for the 2023 scholarship are due by November 4, 2023. The recipient will be announced on or around December 14, 2023.

To learn more about the Gow Memorial Scholarship for Horology, go to: <u>https://willardhouse.org/david-gow-scholarship</u>

To donate to the Gow Scholarship, you can call the museum at 508-839-3500, mail a check to the museum or hit the DONATION button on the Willard House & Clock Museum homepage button at <u>https://willardhouse.org</u>. Please indicate the donation is for the Gow Scholarship.

Willard House and Clock Museum is Celebrating its 50th Anniversary!

Located at 11 Willard Street in North Grafton, MA, Willard House and Clock Museum exhibits more than 90 Willard clocks in the birthplace and original workshop of the Willard clockmakers, along with family portraits, furnishings and other family heirlooms. The work of all three generations of Willard clockmakers, focusing on the famed brothers, Simon Willard and Aaron Willard are displayed. The Museum tour includes the original Willard House built in 1718, the original 1766 clock-making workshop, and three modern galleries.

Willard is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Visit the Willard House and Clock Museum website at www.willardhouse.org

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