We at BIAWA are proud to announce our 2014 Academic Scholarship Recipients!

Mike Warren is the recipient of the Higher Education/Professional Scholarship.

Mike Warren has a history of supporting the Brain Injury Community. He has worked in rehabilitation in a trauma hospital, conducted neuropsychological evaluations in private practice, facilitated Brain Injury Support Groups, and recently completed a 4-year research intervention with military combat personnel with post-concussive symptoms. Mike Warren is currently completing his doctoral degree in Clinical Psychology and plans to go on to pursue post-doctoral training in neuropsychology. Through his research, Mike aims to enhance emotional, behavioral and cognitive rehabilitation options for individuals with Brain Injury. His long-term goals are to become board certified in Clinical Neuropsychology and to work in a University Medical Center or Veterans Hospital.

Aaron Thomas and Hailey Hole are the recipients of the Em Finlay Western Washington Scholarship.

While playing football during his freshman year of High School, Aaron Thomas sustained a concussion that sidelined him from playing sports permanently and severely affected other aspects of his life. Despite his injury, Aaron’s teachers have “watched him rebound through hard work and dedication to maintain his studies and complete high school.” Aaron progressed from being removed completely from academics immediately after his concussion to being in the Running Start program at Tacoma Community College and graduating high school with 4 extra credits as well as 18 college credits. Aaron will go on to pursue an Associate of Science degree at Olympic College in the fall. Pediatric Resource Manager Julie Dawning expressed that what is especially admirable in Aaron is his courage in speaking truth and “his desire to make things better for others.”
In 2012, Hailey Hole sustained two brain injuries in a short period of time. The first was a collision with opponents in a soccer game, and the second was when she was rear-ended in a car accident. The combined effects of these two incidents left Hailey with noticeable cognitive deficits as well as a Chiari malformation on her brain. No longer allowed to play soccer due to her head injuries, Hailey has decided to align her passion for athletics with her passion for journalism. She will dedicate herself to a career in sports journalism and broadcasting and will pursue a degree at Arizona State University to do so. Her teachers are confident in her ability to succeed, as they have witnessed her to “be a take-charge person who successfully developed plans for her own learning and implemented them flawlessly.

Mia Vogel is the recipient of the Eastern Washington Scholarship.

Only four days into her first quarter at the University of Washington Mia Vogel sustained a devastating concussion; two years later, she still has not experienced a symptom-free day. Despite the additional challenges her concussion has presented, Mia is grateful for this opportunity to redefine herself and is excited about what the future holds. Mia is pursuing a double degree in Social Welfare and Biology with minors in Music and Diversity. According to her academic supervisor, Mia “continually breaks the silence around brain injuries and the associated stigma.”