

2017 Department of Biology Awards

IVAN G. PALMBLAD SCHOLARSHIP

Brennan Winkler, Biology



Ever since I was little I've been interested in music and science. As I've grown, I have cultivated my interests. I am musically inclined and play French horn as well as compose music. I am currently working on a music minor in combination with a biology major. My interests in science revolve around plant science, genetics, immunology, and pathology.

I began my pathway to success at the Jordan Applied Technology Center while also attending High School. I took a biotechnology course in which I learned lab techniques and designed an independent project on myopia which I presented at a poster symposium. Following this class, my friend and I developed an independent research project regarding a cancer treatment which was funded and supported by Sorenson Genomics (patent pending: US 20120245100 A1). We took this project to the International Science Fair. Around that same time, I interned at InnovaBio where I assisted with molecular cloning for a project centered around using *C. elegans* as a drug model. I have also performed viral research and bacteriology work under the direction of professors at USU. I continue to look for work and experience in biology as I continue my education. I strive to achieve high grades and effective study at USU to better prepare me for the workplace.

I was raised with an attitude of service. I had the opportunity to be a judge at the Bridgerland Science and Engineering Fair at USU during the spring of 2016. I also served a two year LDS mission where I helped and served the people of eastern Washington and learned many life skills. I intend to find ways to serve others as I pursue my professional and educational endeavors.

I expect to receive a bachelor's degree from USU in the spring of 2019 as a biology major (cellular and molecular emphasis) with a double minor in music and chemistry. I plan to attend graduate school at the University of California (Berkeley) to study infectious diseases and immunity. In the future, I see myself as a research scientist, teacher, mentor, and philanthropist. I would like to be a professor because I enjoy sharing knowledge with others and a researcher because of the exciting new frontiers that are being discovered in the field of biology.

