New York Water Environment Association Awards $4,000 Child of Member Scholarship to SUNY-ESF student Cameron Daley of Syracuse, NY

Syracuse, NY – The New York Water Environment Association (NYWEA), a statewide nonprofit organization of water quality management professionals, is proud to announce the award of a $4,000 Child of Member Scholarship to Cameron Daley of the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry (SUNY-ESF). This scholarship provides financial support to children of NYWEA members wishing to follow in their parent’s footsteps and pursue a degree in an environmental discipline that will support a future career in the water sector.

Daley, 22, son of SUNY-ESF Professor Douglas Daley and Barbara Daley of Syracuse, NY, is a senior at SUNY-ESF, pursuing his Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Resources Engineering. He has served in a variety of leadership positions in the NYWEA Student Chapter at SUNY-ESF, including the Undergraduate Student Association (USA) Representative, Young Professionals Liaison, and most recently as Vice President. He also served as USA Representative for the SUNY-ESF Academic Research Committee for the past two years, coordinating the planning of the Spotlight Research event on campus.

As a student member of NYWEA, Daley has had the opportunity to compete nationally in the Water Environment Federation’s Student Design Competition (SDC) each year since 2019. The SDC is intended to give students interested in pursuing an education and/or career in the water and wastewater fields “real world” design experience. Teams of student members compete, demonstrating their ability to evaluate alternatives, develop a comprehensive design, and present a solution that meets the requirements of a socially relevant problem statement. Daley is the captain of one of two teams of students from SUNY-ESF that won the New York State SDC this year. These winning teams will be representing NYWEA in the SDC at WEFTEC in New Orleans this October. Daley’s team is competing in the Wastewater Category, presenting on their design project with the Village of Parish Water Resource Recovery Facility.
Daley has gained work experience in the water quality sector with several internships during his college career. Most recently, he worked the past two summers as a Design Engineering Intern with Environmental Design & Research, DPC in Syracuse, NY. His experience has included reviewing design drawings, designing on-site wastewater treatment systems for private clients, and writing successfully funded grant applications for municipal water resource recovery projects. He also interned the previous year with the Camden Group as a Wastewater Operator in-training, performing operations and maintenance of systems and equipment at eight water resource recovery facilities across Central New York; and as an Environmental Technician, conducting monitoring for a combined sewer overflow treatment wetland in Onondaga County.

Daley also served as an intern in the NYWEA Office for several years, where he assisted with issuing professional development certificates to licensed professional engineers and water resource recovery operators for participation in NYWEA training and conferences.

“Working as an operator in Oswego and Cayuga counties exposed me to different types of wastewater treatment systems and how they operate,” said Daley. “I quickly learned that when many of the plants were designed, operational feasibility and simplicity were sometimes forgotten by the design engineers. This left treatment systems that were very difficult to operate and any sudden changes in the influent had the potential to exceed the plant’s discharge permit. I want to work as an engineer designing wastewater treatment plants to ensure this does not happen when new plants are constructed. Protecting our natural resources is a goal I have carried my whole life and my work as a professional engineer will continue to achieve this goal.”

Since the inception of NYWEA’s Scholarship Program in 1998, the Association has awarded over $702,750 in scholarship funding to 240 students - including $52,000 in scholarships awarded to 10 students this year. Details on the Child of Member Scholarship and other NYWEA scholarships can be found at: www.nywea.org/SitePages/Scholarships.

**About NYWEA:** Founded in 1929 by professionals in the field of water quality as a nonprofit educational organization, NYWEA has 2,500 members statewide and hosts several technical conferences each year for environmental engineers, scientists, public officials and others who work in water quality management. In addition, NYWEA sponsors a scholarship program, publishes *Clear Waters*, a quarterly educational magazine, administers wastewater operator certification, and supports humanitarian clean water projects. Headquartered in Syracuse, NYWEA has seven regional chapters, 15 college student chapters and is a Member Association of the international Water Environment Federation. For more information, visit www.nywea.org.