FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 26, 2022

New York Water Environment Association Awards $4,000 Student Chapter Scholarship to Clarkson University student Robert Schneider of West Coxsackie, NY

Syracuse, NY – The New York Water Environment Association (NYWEA), a statewide nonprofit organization of water quality management professionals, is proud to announce that it has awarded a $4,000 Student Chapter Scholarship to Robert J. Schneider of Clarkson University.

Schneider, 21, son of Rob A. Schneider of West Coxsackie, NY, is a senior at Clarkson University, pursuing his Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering. He has shown academic excellence, making the Dean’s for four semesters in his time at Clarkson University and the President’s List in Spring 2020. Schneider is very engaged in extracurricular activities at Clarkson University, serving as President of the NYWEA student chapter, Vice President of the American Society of Civil Engineers chapter, and Project Manager for Clarkson’s Concrete Canoe team.

Schneider has been very involved in sustainability on campus, including work with the Clarkson University Campus Greenhouse Project, serving as the Greenhouse Manager and Geotechnical Research Assistant. He has been working with a team to test innovative ideas for efficient operation of the facility, including the installation of a glazing system to reduce heat loss from windows and a rainwater harvesting system for the grow beds and aquaponics systems. He is also developing a treatment system for greywater out of the sinks.

Schneider graduated from Niskayuna High School. While in high school, he developed a battery recycling program to reduce heavy waste from being disposed of in landfills. He also worked in the Town of Niskayuna’s Water Department to ensure all utilities were properly functioning, including stormwater mapping, Stormwater Pollution Prevention inspections, outfall and detention pond inspection, and public outreach to educate the public about the Mohawk River watershed.
Schneider also held several internships during college with Atlantic Testing Laboratories, Flatiron Construction, Taconic Engineering, and Kokosing. Schneider provided material testing on several projects related to water resource recovery facilities, reservoirs and dams, major infrastructure projects so that all have access to reliable clean water sources. The ability to work on large-scale, meaningful infrastructure projects truly interests him.

“As an engineer I would take on challenges to support the next technological revolution in terms of new infrastructure and net zero emission systems,” said Schneider. “I am extremely excited to be on the forefront of the next technological revolution and to continue studying how environmental protection will play an essential role in development.”

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 Student Chapter 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.

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