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## **SCC Announces Winners of the Madam C.J. Walker Scholarship Sponsored by Mary Kay Inc.**

**New York, NY** — The Society of Cosmetic Chemists (SCC) is pleased to announce the winners of the Madam C.J. Walker Scholarship, sponsored by Mary Kay Inc., in support of under-represented minority students pursuing an undergraduate or graduate degree in chemical, physical, medical, pharmaceutical, biological, or related sciences and technology.

The selection committee, which included Madam C.J. Walker's great-great-granddaughter, chose the two winners from a group of impressive candidates, each of whom shall receive a \$5,000 scholarship:



**Imani Elaine Porter**  
*Hampton University*  
second year undergraduate  
(biochemistry)



**Joy Rutherford**  
*The Ohio State University*  
fourth year PhD candidate  
(chemistry)

The winners have been invited to attend the SCC 75<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting & Showcase, December 13-15, 2021 in New York City to be presented with the award.

"Madam Walker was a pioneering Black female entrepreneur who inspired many with her financial independence, business acumen, and philanthropy," said Dr. Lucy Gildea, Chief Scientific Officer at Mary Kay Inc. "It is exciting to honor her legacy by supporting these two outstanding students in their pursuit of careers in cosmetic science. Mary Kay is proud to inspire and empower the next generation of scientists to follow in Walker's footsteps."

"The selection committee was impressed by the outstanding applicants for the inaugural scholarship," said Erica O'Grady, CAE, CEO of the Society. "Imani and Joy rose to the top of this impressive group with their commitment to education, research, mentorship, and giving back in the true spirit of Madam C.J. Walker."

### **About the Scholarship**

Established in 2021, the Madam C.J. Walker Scholarship, sponsored by Mary Kay, awards two (2) \$5,000 scholarships to under-represented minority students pursuing an undergraduate or graduate degree in chemical, physical, medical, pharmaceutical, biological or related sciences and technology

### **About SCC**

Founded in 1945 and now celebrating its 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, the SCC is the oldest and largest non-profit membership organization serving the cosmetics and personal care industry. Dedicated to the advancement of cosmetic science, SCC headquarters provides unparalleled education, resources, and networking for nearly 6,000 members globally and via 19 chapters across Greater North America. Visit [www.scconline.org](http://www.scconline.org) for more information.

### **About Mary Kay Inc.**

One of the original glass ceiling breakers, Mary Kay Ash founded her beauty company more than 56 years ago with three goals: develop rewarding opportunities for women, offer irresistible products, and make the world a better place. That dream has blossomed into a multibillion-dollar company with millions of independent sales force members in nearly 40 countries. Mary Kay is dedicated to investing in the science behind beauty and manufacturing cutting-edge skin care, color cosmetics, nutritional supplements and fragrances. Mary Kay is committed to empowering women and their families by partnering with organizations from around the world, focusing on supporting cancer research, protecting survivors from domestic abuse, beautifying our

communities, and encouraging children to follow their dreams. Mary Kay Ash's original vision continues to shine—one lipstick at a time. Learn more at [MaryKay.com](https://www.MaryKay.com).