

“Scholarships mean everything to me. They are the reason I can attend Marshall University. Without scholarships, I would not have been able to attend college. My scholarships are truly a gift to help me pursue my dreams,” said Maddy Branham, a recipient of the John Marshall, Honors College, Promise, and the Vecellio Family Foundation Scholarships. “I was relieved when I found out I received my scholarships. It made it a reality that I would be able to attend college. I was happy, as well, because I knew that all the hard-work I had put into school had paid off.”

A sophomore majoring in marketing, Maddy loves Marshall because of the community environment, rich history, opportunities to build peer relationships and helpful professors. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Beckley native was unable to visit the campus in-person before enrolling, but felt Marshall was where she was meant to be. She is thankful that some of her classes have been in-person and that the university has taken safety precautions while allowing freshmen to have some “normal first year experiences.”

“The largest adjustment for me as a student during this pandemic has been virtual classes. I am the type of student who enjoys being in the classroom. I learn a lot by communicating with others and being in the classroom lets me communicate with other students and my professors. You do not get this opportunity virtually,” Maddy explained.

Beyond expanding her knowledge outside of the classroom, Maddy’s greatest challenge as a college student has been realizing the importance of learning new skills and how they will be valuable for her future.



## Fun Facts

**Name:** Maddy Branham

**Class of 2024**

**Hometown:** Beckley, West Virginia

**Major:** Marketing

**Favorite color:** Red, and Kelly Green, of course!

**Textbooks or eBooks:** I prefer textbooks.

**Favorite thing about Huntington:** I enjoy the city atmosphere of Huntington. I live in a suburban area, so it is nice having a change of scenery.

She enjoys spending time on the Memorial Student Center Plaza by the Memorial Fountain because there is always something going on and a lot of people to see. She is looking forward to getting more involved on campus this semester and hopes that with Covid restrictions lifting.

“I believe my determination makes me unique amongst my peers. When I have a goal, I work hard to achieve it and do not give up easily,” said Maddy, who deeply values integrity in a good friend and tries to uphold it as a personal characteristic, too.

During her time at Marshall, Maddy hopes to learn valuable skills that allow her to impact the world. She is thankful for the lessons she has learned from failure and for the alumni who encourage students to keep working towards their dreams.

“When alumni give back to Marshall University, you are not only giving students the opportunity to attend college, but you are investing your money into the future.”