



ALGOMA UNIVERSITY

John R. Rhodes

SCHOLARSHIP DINNER

HONOURING

The Stone Family



Thursday, October 22nd, 2026

*The Machine Shop
83 Huron St
Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario*



MEET THE STONE FAMILY

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For nearly a century, the Stone family has helped shape the business, cultural, and philanthropic landscape of Sault Ste. Marie. As a four-generation family rooted in local enterprise, their legacy is defined not only by longevity, but by a deep and enduring commitment to community service, the arts, and civic leadership.

That legacy began with Harold Stone, whose entrepreneurial vision and strong sense of responsibility to the community laid the foundation for a lasting family tradition- one grounded in giving back and building a stronger, more connected city.

His son, Peter Stone, remains a beloved cornerstone of both the family and the community. Now 89, he is still a daily presence at Stone's Office Supply, where he can be found enjoying his morning coffee and keeping a watchful eye on the business he helped shape. Known affectionately for "never leaving Queen Street," Peter's life reflects a deep-rooted commitment to the community and the values of consistency, integrity, and quiet leadership that continue to define the Stone family.

At the heart of the family's impact today is Marnie Stone. As owner of Stone's Office Supply- approaching its 100th anniversary- she has guided the business through decades of change while ensuring it remains a cornerstone of the local economy. Her influence extends well beyond business: she co-founded 'The Borderline' with her husband Adrian Vilaca, an online radio station supporting local creatives, and later co-opened 'The Art Hub' at Spring, a vibrant downtown space for artists and community connection.

Marnie is also the founder of Sault Women in Business (SWIB), a network supporting female entrepreneurs, and remains deeply involved in Rotary and 100 Women Who Care SSM. Her contributions have earned numerous honours, including the Athena Award and the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal, though she is best known for her energy, positivity, and genuine commitment to others.

Carrying the legacy forward is Sophia Stone, the fourth generation. With a background in marketing, she is focused on evolving the family business while remaining deeply engaged in the community. She serves as Chair of the City's Downtown Committee and as a board member of 100 Women Who Care SSM, and continues the family's long-standing involvement in Rotary. In 2025, she was honoured with the Strive Visionary Award for Consumer and Retail.

Together, the Stone family represents four generations of business ownership, service, and community leadership. Their ongoing support of the arts, dedication to volunteerism, and commitment to a vibrant and connected city continue to leave a lasting impact on Sault Ste. Marie.

ABOUT THE JOHN R. RHODES SCHOLARSHIP

The John R. Rhodes Scholarship was established in 1979 through generous donations from friends and family of the late John Rhodes. This prestigious scholarship is offered annually to a student who has demonstrated academic achievement and community leadership while involved in political, social, or academic activities. The scholarship is the most prestigious award offered at Algoma University.

This event serves to honour the memory of John R. Rhodes by raising funds to offer this prestigious scholarship to meritorious students at Algoma University. This scholarship dinner helps celebrate the students' commitment to our community while helping establish future leaders.

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Your support goes towards supporting and celebrating students just like Emma and Kirsten



EMMA WALKER

Emma is an honour roll student, receiving distinction in Grade 11 & 12, coming to Algoma University from St. Mary's College. She has been working hard not only to receive good grades, but to impact the youth of our community.

She has actively volunteered as a coach with the Sault Ringette Club and Northeast Region Ringette for many years. In addition, she contributes her time to Therapeutic Ride Algoma, supporting therapeutic and recreational horseback riding programs for local individuals with cognitive, physical, and developmental disabilities. She has also been involved in French-speaking outreach initiatives for her school and was a part of the Operation Smile Team raising a record amount of over \$10,000 this past year.

Emma is currently studying Biology at Algoma University and aspires to become a local clinical veterinarian. Alongside her studies, she is a new member of the Algoma University Wrestling team. Congratulations Emma!

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KIRSTEN DUBIEN

Kirsten graduated from Superior Heights with the highest average (Governor General's Medallion). She received the Harold Crowder Award of Excellence for outstanding achievement in Mathematics and Science including the Principal's Award for Student Leadership.

She is currently a dance teacher at Studio Dance Arts, where she graduated after 15 years of competitive dance and training. During that time she assisted with summer camps and served as a teacher's assistant for the younger students. She also coached gymnastics at the Sault Ste. Marie Gymnastics Club during her 4 years of high school. For the past two years, Kirsten was the Captain of the Superior Heights Dance Team demonstrating her commitment to fostering a safe place and welcoming environment in our community to stay active.

Kirsten is pursuing a Biology degree at Algoma University. While she is still exploring the path her career may take, she is passionate about medicine and one day hopes to continue helping people. Congratulations Kirsten!

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Diamond Sponsor \$7,500

- Corporate name and logo recognition as a Diamond Sponsor on promotional materials and the dinner program
- On-screen corporate name and logo recognition at the event
- Premium table assignment
- One VIP Table with up to 10 complimentary tickets

Ruby Sponsor \$5,000

- Corporate name and logo recognition as a Ruby Sponsor on promotional materials and the dinner program (e.g. website and social media)
- On-screen corporate name and logo recognition at the event
- Premium table assignment
- One full table with 8 complimentary tickets

Pearl Sponsor \$3,000

- Corporate name and logo recognition in the dinner program
- On-screen recognition at the event
- 4 complimentary tickets

Sapphire Sponsor \$1,000

- Corporate name and logo recognition in the dinner program
- On-screen recognition at the event
- 2 complimentary tickets

Topaz Sponsorship (Ticketless Sponsor)

Can't make it to the dinner? Support the John R. Rhodes Scholarship and honour the Stone Family and receive recognition on behalf of your business or organization.

- Corporate name and logo recognition in the dinner program Recognition will be scaled to match the gift amount (ex. A gift of \$5,000 will be recognized alongside Ruby Sponsors.)
- On-screen recognition at the event

Name: _____ Business: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ Province: _____ Postal Code: _____
Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Sponsorship Package

☐ Yes, I would like to sponsor the 2026 John R. Rhodes Scholarship Dinner

- ☐ Diamond Sponsor \$7,500
☐ Ruby Sponsor \$5,000
☐ Pearl Sponsorship \$3,000

- ☐ Sapphire Sponsorship \$1,000
☐ Topaz Sponsorship: No tickets needed,
we would love to sponsor for \$ _____

Tickets

For individual tickets, please contact our office: giving@algonau.ca

Donations

☐ Yes, I would like to make a donation to the John R. Rhodes Scholarship Fund in support of student academic achievements.

- ☐ \$250 ☐ \$1,000
☐ \$500 ☐ Other _____

Donations can be made additional to ticket purchases and sponsorship or on its own

☐ I wish to remain anonymous with my donation

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Contact Logan Costa

Senior Development Officer
(705) 908-3566 or
logan.costa@algonau.ca
to secure your sponsorship opportunity,
purchase tickets and more.



Visit
www.algonau.ca/johnrhodes
for more details