The mikeroweWORKS Foundation Awards Tools Scholarships
In 2016 for Students at AED-Affiliated Technical Schools

The mikeroweWORKS Foundation has awarded tool scholarships to students enrolled in AED Accredited and Recognized construction equipment technology academic programs. Students in these programs spend a substantial amount on tools as they enter college and continue on into equipment technician careers. These tools are expensive; an equipment technology student can expect to spend $3,000 to $5,000 for high-quality tools during college, and $30,000 or more early in his or her career. In 2016, fifty-six graduating students each received a $1,000 tools scholarship for a total of $56,000 awarded.

You may have first become familiar with Mike Rowe as the creator and host of the widely-watched and acclaimed show “Dirty Jobs” on the Discovery Channel. Rowe’s recent series “Somebody’s Gotta Do It,” brings viewers face-to-face with men and women who march to the beat of a different drum. In each episode, Rowe visits unique individuals and joins them in their respective undertakings, paying tribute to innovators, do-gooders, entrepreneurs, collectors, fanatics—people who simply have to do it.

Mike Rowe is also doing much to promote hard work and support the skilled trades in a variety of areas. The mikeroweWORKS Foundation is focused on helping students to become aware of high demand construction career opportunities, and align their skills and knowledge to take advantage of them. These scholarships in 2016 for students at AED Affiliated colleges mark the sixth year that they have been funded by his Foundation, providing financial assistance for a 6-year total of 295 students and $283,000. Just as Mike Rowe’s approach to workforce development in the construction industry is “hands-on,” this scholarship approach to helping students is “hands-on.” It’s just one of the many ways that Mike Rowe, thru the efforts of his foundation, is working to make a difference in the lives of students planning and preparing for their future.

Visit http://profoundlydisconnected.com/ to learn more about Mike Rowe’s passion for construction industry workforce development and his “no nonsense” approach. Get a good perspective of the breadth and depth of his commitment. Here, many resources are also available to provide students with information and help them explore their career options.

Established in 1919, Associated Equipment Distributors (AED) is an international trade association based in Oak Brook, IL, representing more than 700 construction equipment distributors, manufacturers and industry-service firms in North America. AED and The AED Foundation would like to express a sincere thank you to Mr. Rowe and the people at the mikeroweWORKS Foundation for everything they are doing on behalf of workforce development in the construction industry, including these tools scholarships.

Our sincere congratulations and career best wishes to the winners!

Mr. Grant Davis  
North Dakota State College of Science, Wahpeton, ND

Mr. Aaron Jackson  
North Dakota State College of Science, Wahpeton, ND

Mr. Jonathan Dawes  
White Mountains Community College, Berlin, NH

Mr. Brady Fauteux  
White Mountains Community College, Berlin, NH

Mr. Jacob Schartner  
Northeast Wisconsin Technical College, Sturgeon Bay, WI

Mr. Taylor Parham  
Northeast Wisconsin Technical College, Sturgeon Bay, WI