NEWS RELEASE

Investing in the next generation

2025-05-31

Now in its eighth year, the Ferguson Women in the Mechanical Industry (WiMI) Scholarship continues to celebrate and support the next generation of mechanical professionals. Presented annually at the Mechanical Contractors Association of America (MCAA) Convention, the scholarship awards $5,000 each to two standout students who demonstrate leadership, academic excellence and a strong commitment to the mechanical contracting field.

This year's recipients, Olivia Kiefer and Sophia Bernhard, are already making their mark.

Olivia, a Construction Engineering student at Iowa State University, will serve as President of her student chapter in the 2025–26 academic year. Since joining in 2022, she's helped nearly double the chapter's membership and is spending her summer interning as a Project Coordinator with MCAA member AZCO.

Sophia, a Mechanical Engineering major at the University of Maryland, College Park, is returning to MCAA member Poole and Kent as a Mechanical Engineering Intern. She has served as her chapter's Fundraising Chair and credits MCAA with helping her grow through hands-on experience and professional networking.

"Supporting the next generation of mechanical professionals is essential to the long-term strength of our industry," said Todd Young, former Vice President of Commercial Business Development and newly appointed Senior Vice President of Sales and Customer Insights at Ferguson. "We're proud to help students like Olivia and Sophia take the

next step in their careers.”

Through continued support of the WiMI Scholarship, Ferguson remains committed to strengthening the skilled trades and investing in future industry leaders.