**For Immediate Release!**

**June 10, 2024**

**The Scholarship Committee of the Ancient Order of Hibernians James A. Curran Division One and the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians Division Two of Hampden/Hampshire Counties has chosen Kayla Williams of Chicopee as the recipient of the 2024 Maurice A. Donahue Memorial Scholarship. Kayla was nominated for the scholarship by her Grandfather and Hibernian member Marty Fulwood. Paul O. Mengel, Chairperson of the Hibernian Scholarship Committee recently released a statement on this most worthy scholarship winner: “The Maurice A. Donahue Scholarship was established in 1980 to honor the legacy of, AOH member and Massachusetts Senate President Maurice A. Donahue. This year’s scholarship recipient, Kayla Williams, truly exemplifies the values that Maurice Donahue lived by: dedication to community, commitment to scholarly achievement, and love of Irish Heritage. Kayla Williams is a most worthy recipient of the scholarship that bears his name.”**

**Kayla is an honors graduate of Chicopee Comprehensive High School and is the daughter of Michael and Katelyn Williams. She wants to give back to the community and will be attending Western New England University and plans to be an Elementary Education teacher. In her scholarship application, she stated that by getting a higher education degree she hopes to “help bring joy and education into young people’s lives.”**

**The scholarship will be presented to Kayla at the Hibernian Annual Traditional Summer Picnic at Hamel’s Pavilion Holyoke on Sunday August 25, 2024 from 1-5p. For tickets call Joe O’Connor at 413-627-7148 or Fran Hennessey at 413-785-5687 by August 20th. For more information on the picnic go to aoh-holyoke.com.- the public is invited to attend.**