



**Finger Lakes Advanced  
Manufacturers' Enterprise**  
Building Minds that Make It

### **February 2015 - FAME Advanced Manufacturing Student Award**

At the 2015 FAME Annual Event held on January 28<sup>th</sup> at MCC, Rick Plympton (Optimax Systems, CEO) announced a new student award which will be offered to students pursuing an education that prepares them for employment in advanced manufacturing. This award will raise awareness for FAME in the region, create awareness of career opportunities in advanced manufacturing, and help strengthen our workforce pipeline.

The FLWIB is accepting donations for the award, which will be managed by a FAME subcommittee. Optimax Systems presented Karen Springmeier (FLWIB, Executive Director) with a check for \$10,000 on January 28<sup>th</sup> to get the fund started. The hope is to raise \$100,000 within 5 years such that the fund will be endowed and self-sustaining.

- To contribute please contact Karen Springmeier at the FLWIB, email: [kspringmeier@fingerlakesworks.com](mailto:kspringmeier@fingerlakesworks.com)  
or send a check to: **FAME Student Award, c/o FLWIB**  
41 Lewis St. Suite 104, Geneva, New York 14456
  
- If you would like to participate on the FAME Student Award Committee please contact:  
Rick Plympton, email: [rick@optimaxsi.com](mailto:rick@optimaxsi.com)

A brief description of the award follows:

#### **FAME Advanced Manufacturing Student Award**

**Amount:** \$1,000

**Benefactor:** FAME (Finger Lakes Advanced Manufacturers' Enterprise)

This award was created in 2015 to promote advanced manufacturing employment opportunities and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) education within the Finger Lakes region. It is given annually to students that have an interest in leveraging their talents in a manufacturing environment. Each winner will be expected to intern (paid work-study position) at a participating FAME company. This award may be spent on any educational expense. The economic beauty of manufacturing businesses is that we produce products that are sold outside the Finger Lakes region; this brings money into our community. By encouraging students to pursue opportunities in advanced manufacturing, we are assisting with the future viability of our regional industry.