

Julia A. Darnton Market Manager Certificate Program Scholarship Fund

In 2011, the Michigan Farmers Market Association launched the Market Manager Certificate Program (MMCP) with the goal of professionalizing the role of farmers market managers. Becoming a certified market manager equips individuals with the skills, abilities, and networks necessary to provide leadership for thriving farmers markets.

Throughout the history of this program that has certified more than 250 market managers across 6 states, there has been one individual who has made significant personal and professional investments in helping the program and the market managers it trains succeed. **Julia Darnton is not only an alumnus of the inaugural class, but she continues to go above and beyond to support the program each and every year.**

Whether in her capacity as a former board member of the Downtown Saginaw Farmers' Market, as a MIFMA Board member and professional development committee chairperson, or in her role as an Educator with MSU Extension, Julia has invested countless hours and immeasurable energy in helping this program become the premier certification program in the nation. Julia has hosted dozens of webinars, delivered presentations on a variety of topics, helped identify and recruit participants and presenters, helped craft program design and delivery, and served as an advocate for program resources. Without Julia's investment, the program would not be what it is today.

In 2019, thanks to the generous contributions of supporters like you, the fund supported program registration and travel expenses for its first Market Manager Certificate Program scholarship recipient. This support enabled a Michigan farmers market manager to invest in their professional development and strengthen their own farmers market community.

In honor of Julia's investment, MIFMA requests your support of the Julia A. Darnton Market Manager Certificate Program Scholarship Fund.

Julia embodies the qualities of leadership, professionalism, and passion for the local food system that would serve any market manager well. It is a privilege to honor her ongoing commitment to MIFMA and the farmers market community by creating this scholarship program in her name.

—Amanda Shreve, MIFMA Executive Director

Please join MIFMA in honoring Julia Darnton and investing in the professional development of market managers across Michigan by donating to the Julia A. Darnton MMCP Scholarship Fund.

