

*In Their Own Voices*

# Thanks To Scandinavia



Founded in 1963 by Victor Borge and Richard Netter, Thanks To Scandinavia expresses lasting appreciation for those people who courageously rescued Jews during World War II and works to build dialogue and understanding between the Jewish community, Scandinavians and Bulgarians today.

Visit [www.ThanksToScandinavia.org](http://www.ThanksToScandinavia.org)

This year, Thanks To Scandinavia gave scholarships to 16 students from Scandinavia and Bulgaria in recognition of the role these nations played in rescuing Jews during World War II. These scholarships include a stipend for one year of study at some of the finest universities in the United States and five additional scholarships for summer programs in Israel.

Thanks To Scandinavia also sponsored 37 promising Scandinavian journalism students on trips to the United States and Israel.

These programs have real impact. Here are a few impressions from current recipients of TTS scholarships.

## *Voices of Thanks To Scandinavia*

**Boline Skovly:** I want to thank you so much for this outstanding trip. On a professional note, I'm working on specific articles to write in the near future on topics we've touched on during the trip. On a personal level, the information about Judaism and Jewish traditions in particular has been very enlightening and personally valuable for me.

Danish Student of Journalism

**Rumyana Mihaylova:** There is no better way to understand intercultural differences than by being exposed to the reasoning of representatives of other cultures. Understanding promotes peace. I think that such a program is an investment in a better future.

Bulgarian scholar at The New School, NYC

**Jukka Välimaa:** I was so honored to be offered a scholarship with such an important historical legacy as the Thanks To Scandinavia one. After visiting TTS in New York my feelings only further strengthened, as I felt that besides preserving this historical legacy, TTS is involved in educating future leaders about global responsibility. This is a community I am happy to be part of.

Finnish scholar at Georgetown University, Washington, D.C.

**Jonas Hägglund:** For me this has been incredibly inspiring and interesting, and I think I will have a much deeper and more complex picture of American society than I did before the trip.

Swedish Student of Journalism

**Milena Tsetkova:** Of course, as a Bulgarian, I grew up being aware and proud of what my predecessors had gone through to help the Jewish people. Still, when I learned that I had been awarded the TTS scholarship, I felt unworthy of the honor. I accepted the TTS scholarship as an act of indirect reciprocity. Indirect reciprocity is one of the rules that underlie human cooperation and understanding: if you are the recipient of a generalized act of kindness, you are more likely to help a stranger and similarly this stranger is more likely to help somebody else.

Bulgarian scholar at Cornell University, Ithaca, NY



**Mari Brenna Vollan:** We met people who will inspire us in our future work.

Norwegian Student of Journalism