

The Friends of the Sisters Library Peg Bermel Scholarship Procedure

Defined:

The Friends of the Sisters Library Peg Bermel Scholarship was first established in 2007 in order to offer a college scholarship to a deserving Sisters High School Senior.

The Friends of the Sisters Library Board named the scholarship in Peg Bermel's name to honor her longtime service as the Sisters librarian. Her dedication to the Sisters Community, its youth and its library helped the library grow along with the community. Beginning her tenure in a small, one-room library, heated by a wood stove, Peg shepherded the library's growth through two major building projects. The Friends look to honor a student who shows this kind of hard working dedication.

The scholarship is \$1000 per year for the first 2 years, and may be used towards tuition only.

Criteria:

The following criteria are essential in order to be considered for this scholarship:

- The student must have demonstrated motivation, commitment and involvement in the community through school, volunteer work, or in the work force
- The student must have taken rigorous high school classes, and maintained a good attendance.
- The student must have challenged themselves as individuals through their studies, community involvement, and/or work.
- The student must have a 2.5 GPA, but it is also a secondary consideration to motivation, work ethic, and responsibility.
- The student applicant must complete an application, provide a record of volunteer and or/work experience, a high school transcript, and include a letter of recommendation from a teacher and a letter of recommendation from another community member.

General Procedure:

The FOSL Scholarship Committee shall be responsible for reviewing all scholarship application packages.

As part of this reviewing process, the members of the committee will score each package according to the following criteria:

- 20 points for the School Essay and 20 points for the Library Essay. The criteria considered for each 20 point essay shall be:
 - Well organized with:
 - Introduction
 - Main content
 - Conclusion
 - Free of major or frequent grammatical and spelling errors.
 - Well written with good use of vocabulary.
 - Complete, with the essay questions thoroughly answered.
 - Outstanding from other essays.
- 10 points for School/Family Activities
- 10 points for Volunteer Service/Work
- 20 Points for Challenging Course Work
- 20 Points for Letters of Recommendation, 10 points for each.
- Bonus points up to 5 for Attending a State School
- Bonus points up to 10 for Special Consideration (keep in mind that the intent of this scholarship is not necessarily to pick the highest achiever, but to consider the student with the 'sparkle' in his/her eye)

After the review of the application packages is complete, the Scholarship Committee will meet and decide the recipient of the FOSL Peg Bermel Scholarship for the current year.

The Scholarship Committee shall submit the name of the scholarship recipient and the reviewed application packages to GRO by the notification deadline.

The Scholarship Committee requires written acceptance of the scholarship by the recipient within 10 days of the scholarship presentation at SHS.

Note: if the chosen recipient declines the scholarship, the committee shall choose another student from the top 5 applicants.

The FOSL Treasurer shall send the disbursement funds to GRO by August 30th. GRO will send the funds directly to the school the scholarship recipient plans to attend.

FOSL Scholarship Committee

- The committee shall have five members, including a Chair; 2 members from the FOSL board, and 3 members from the Sisters community.
- The Chair shall be appointed by the other members of the committee.
- The terms of membership for each member shall be three years, alternating with other members.
- Responsibilities of the Chair:
 - Interface with the Sisters Graduate Resource Organization (GRO).
 - Pick up the scholarship application packages from GRO and make copies for each committee member.
 - Arrange the initial meeting with the committee in early May to distribute the application packages, discuss procedures and the criteria and scoring of the packages.
 - Arrange the final meeting with the committee to discuss the reviewed packages before the notification deadline. The members will reach consensus at this meeting as to the top 5 applicants, including the recipient of the scholarship.
 - Return all application packages to GRO for shredding after the final meeting.
 - Inform the FOSL board who the scholarship recipient is, and invite the scholarship recipient to the FOSL Annual meeting.
 - Assist with the scholarship presentation at SHS. (This is when the recipient is first notified)
 - Ensure a letter of acceptance from the scholarship recipient is received within 10 days of the presentation at SHS.
 - Provide the necessary publicity to the Nugget newspaper.
 - Contact GRO after the first year, to ensure the scholarship recipient's transcript shows that a GPA of 2.5 was maintained during the freshman year.
 - Keep all records, past and present, of the scholarship committee proceedings.
- Responsibilities of the Committee:
 - Attend all meetings as scheduled.
 - Read and evaluate all of the scholarship application packages using the scoring criteria provided.
 - Reach consensus with the other members as to the top 5 applicants, including the recipient of the scholarship.