

Mike Smith Kiwanis Scholarship

Purpose: The purpose of the *Mike Smith Kiwanis Scholarship* is to provide financial assistance for post secondary education to senior High School students of northern Santa Cruz County, who demonstrate exemplary academic and civic values and to promote the reputation of the Kiwanis Club within the community.

The scholarship is intended to benefit the one graduating senior, who, on the basis of academic achievement and community involvement will best represent the Northern Valleys of Santa Cruz County and the ideals of Kiwanis. In rare instances, two students may share the award.

Finances: The value of the Scholarship shall not exceed \$2,500 without a change to this document.

Funds shall be accrued in the Kiwanis Club's Foundation Account for this purpose, with the capital amount conservatively invested in secure, high interest accounts (i.e., CD's which mature as needed). Interest proceeds, not needed immediately, will be reinvested, as part of the capital fund. Private donations, selected event proceeds and interest accrual shall create the capital.

The Kiwanis Club may, at its sole discretion, change the value of the scholarship, withhold the scholarship from time to time and increase or decrease the endowment.

Administration: In February of each award cycle, an appropriate announcement of the scholarship will be hand-delivered to the Principal and the Key Club Advisor of High Schools in the area. They will be urged to contact individual students that might qualify and to post the announcement for all to read. The announcement will list the requirements for grant of the scholarship, the amount of the scholarship for the year, and the required dates and method for submission of the application.

The scholarship application requirements will be reviewed by the Application Requirements Subcommittee of the Club, and approved by the entire Club at a business meeting in January. When the applications are returned, they will be screened by the Application Review Subcommittee, which may be the same or different from the Application Requirements Subcommittee. The Application Review Subcommittee will present the application of the top candidate and explain the final choice at a full meeting of the Club, which will approve or modify the selection.

Application: Students may apply for the *Mike Smith Kiwanis Scholarship* by writing a letter to:

Kiwanis Club of Scotts Valley
P.O. Box 66257
Scotts Valley, CA 95067

ATTN: Scholarship Committee

Applicants must be citizens of the United States and seniors in a High School program certified for a California High School Diploma. They must live in or go to school in northern Santa Cruz County.

Applicants should submit a letter, which must be presented in 10, 11 or 12-point type on plain white paper. It should not exceed 1000 words in length. They must attach a transcript of record from their High School and list the classes that they are taking for which grades have not been recorded.

The letter must be posted in order to arrive prior to 6:00PM on March 25, 2011. Late deliveries will not be considered.

The letter should be considered to be a public document and will not be returned, although only the winning applicant's letter will be publicized.

In the letter the successful applicant will clearly and succinctly describe themselves, their past academic accomplishments and their goals for the future. In describing past accomplishments, the applicants should discuss their academic achievements, most interesting classes, and the subjects in which they excelled. They should also discuss community service activities, including service clubs and projects in each year of school. If they actively worked with a disadvantaged person or population they should describe this fully, including why this was a societal benefit.

To fully describe themselves, applicants should discuss their non-academic activities such as sports, drama, student politics, etc., specifically in terms of what, when and how they interacted in these activities. They should also include activities totally unrelated to school, such as scouting, hobbies, travel and religious activities. They should describe any leadership roles they played, particularly ones that exemplified a high degree of ethical behavior on their part. If they held a paying job, they should describe it.

In terms of goals for the future, applicants should discuss both their immediate future such as schools to which they have applied (and perhaps been accepted), major programs in which they plan to study and how they see their life unfolding before them.

The applicant may also attach one letter of recommendation from an adult mentor who should be a person in a position to discuss the qualifications of the applicant in terms of the applicants chosen field of study. This letter and the transcript shall be kept private to the scholarship committee and will not be reproduced.

Applicants may be called to a face to face interview with the Application Review Subcommittee. Such interviews will take place at a mutually agreeable time.

The Subcommittee will evaluate each application for its content and for the quality of its presentation and writing skill. The Subcommittee will recommend a scholarship grant to the Kiwanis Club of Scotts Valley in a closed meeting of the Club, which will approve, modify or deny the recommendation.