

## ***DESCRIPTIONS OF SCHOLARSHIPS***

**American Red Cross**- Scholarships are provided by the American Red Cross to graduating seniors pursuing college degrees, due to RRHS participating in the Bloodmobile.

**The "Balancing Act"** - This scholarship is awarded by Ken and Martha Taylor to a graduating RRHS senior who has participated in four years of instrumental or choral music, has participated in at least one sport during each of his or her four years, and has taken one or more languages in at least three of his or her four years in high school.

**Blake Family Musical** – The Blake family has been a long-standing supporter of the Rocky River High School band and all of the benefits students receive by being a part of the band. This scholarship will go to a student who has been a band member for at least three years in high school, who is planning to study arts or music in a qualified 4-year institution, and has a minimum GPA of 3.0.

**Chan Engineering** - This award is given to an RRHS senior who plans to pursue a degree in engineering. The student must have at least a 3.75 G.P.A. while demonstrating an especially strong aptitude and work ethic for math and science. The student should also have experience or achievement in an additional area such as service, leadership, academic competitions, innovation, etc. and be known for character and integrity.

**Charles Scott - Salons and Spas** - This award is given by Mr. Henline, owner of the Charles Scott -Salons and Spas, to a student pursuing further education in beauty, art, architecture, fashion design or drama.

**Christina Mueller, DDS** - This award, sponsored by a Rocky River dentist, recognizes a senior with a 3.5 or higher GPA who participates in a competitive sport or competitive activity (e.g., chess club, speech and debate, solo & ensemble) all four years at RRHS. The student should also have volunteer experience in the schools or the community.

**Clifford and Judy Hanson Memorial Rocky River Soccer Organization** - Senior female and male varsity soccer players with high academic standards and community service are chosen by the Soccer Organization through an application process.

**Coca-Cola Scholarship**- This scholarship is awarded to well deserving seniors in this year's graduating class.

**Craig Saunders Memorial** - This scholarship is in honor of Craig Saunders who was diagnosed with cancer in 2012 and lost his battle in 2013. Craig and Sandy Saunders' three sons attended Rocky River schools, and the family wishes to give back to the community which helped them during the difficult times. This scholarship is given to a graduating senior whose immediate family has been affected by cancer and who is planning to continue their education at an accredited college or university.

**Dan and Lee Ludwin Memorial** - This scholarship was established by their son, Rick. Dan Ludwin was a teacher and Director of Recreation for the City of Rocky River from 1956 to 1974. He supervised the construction and operation of the Rocky River Municipal Skating Rink and Pool, which opened to the public in 1958. He was a long-time member of Kiwanis and avid golfer. Lee (Leanore) Ludwin was the owner and operator of a Cleveland sheet metal construction company and a past president of the trade group Women in Construction. Mr. Ludwin died in 1989; Mrs. Ludwin in 2002. Their scholarship is intended to help pay college expenses for a graduating senior who demonstrates educational ability.

**Danny Scherry Memorial** - Two awards have been established by friends and family of Danny Scherry, a 2005 RRHS graduate and Marine who was killed while serving our country in Iraq. The first, established in 2007, is given to a football player emulates Danny by exhibiting an unwavering passion for the game and team. The recipient is a true leader in spirit and in their convictions both on and off the field.

The second award, established in 2017, honors Danny's dedication to serving others. He graduated from the Fire Academy in 2006 before ultimately giving his life for our country as a United States Marine. In his name, the family and friends of Danny present a scholarship to 2 Rocky River High School seniors with plans to enter a service profession. This award honors Danny by helping others who are called to put their lives on the line and serve others in the Armed Forces, or as Police or Fire Men and Women.

**Do Your Best Scouting and Scholar Award** - This scholarship will be awarded to an RRHS senior who has earned the rank of Eagle Scout from the Boy Scouts of America or the Gold Award from the Girls Scouts of America by April 1 of his or her senior year, who has at least a 3.25 cumulative grade point average, and who was active in one or more extracurricular activities during at least two full years while attending Rocky River High School.

**The E. Donald Chadwick "Character Matters" Scholarship** - This scholarship is in honor of Mr. E. Donald Chadwick, a former teacher at Rocky River High School. In addition to mathematics, wrestling, and football, Coach Chadwick taught the importance of good character. Character, we learned, is who we are when we think nobody is looking.

This scholarship was established by Karen and John Kirk (RRHS Class of 1962) and will be awarded annually to a senior student athlete who best demonstrates good character traits - especially honesty, integrity, responsibility, self-discipline, reliability, courage, perseverance, and respect for others.

**George and Jane L. Balla Memorial** - George M. Balla, father of Mark Balla (Class of 1987) and Michael Balla (Class of 1991), possessed a Bachelor of Science degree in Industrial Arts Education from Ohio University. He taught Industrial Arts, drafting, and pattern making at West Technical High School for over 25 years and then taught at St. Edward High School and the Rocky River Senior Center. Jane L. Balla, mother of Mark and Michael, possessed a Ph. D. in English Literature from Western Reserve College (now Case Western Reserve University). She taught at Rocky River High School in 1968 and many of the local colleges throughout her career. This scholarship memorializes George and Jane's love, commitment, and dedication to teaching and their willingness to give students a second chance to reach their true potential. It is for a graduating senior pursuing a degree in English, Education, or Vocational Trades.

**George A. Purdy, Jr. Memorial (Class of 1962)** - George attended the U.S. Naval Academy and graduated from The Ohio State University with a degree in computer science. He had a successful career in computer management using innovative approaches to solve business and computer problems. An outstanding high school and college athlete, George was co-captain of the River football team and a class officer. He was known for his integrity, sense of humor, friendship and devotion to family. This scholarship is given to a student athlete who shows leadership, good sportsmanship, integrity, respect for his/her fellow classmates and plans to pursue studies in science, math or computers.

**"Goody" Marcks Honorarium-** The Goody Marcks Athletic Scholarship is in Honorable Memory of Goody's son Bill Marcks. Bill was a lifelong resident of Rocky River. He worked for the city of Rocky River for 30 plus years. Up until a few years ago also attended many Rocky River football games for his old Alma Mater. Bill loved sports; as sports came before almost everything.

**Grant Gretta Memorial** - This scholarship was established by John and Maribeth Gretta to honor and remember their son, Grant Gretta. Through self-discipline and perseverance, Grant successfully overcame difficult challenges during his early teen years and graduated from RRHS in 2006. Grant earned a degree in chemistry from Baldwin Wallace University and worked as a safety coordinator for RTA. In April 2014, at age 26, Grant passed away from esophageal cancer. This scholarship is in honor of Grant's high level of integrity, his ability to overcome adversity, and his natural inclination to champion a friend in need. It is to be awarded to a student who is planning to attend college in a science-related field and who has strong moral character and integrity.

**H. Robert Bueck Memorial** - This award is being given in honor of Robert Bueck, a computer specialist for Avon Schools, whose life was cut short in October, 2009. He worked for a short time in Rocky River Schools as a high school computer teacher and substitute. The recipients of this award exemplify philanthropy, strong commitment to community, appreciation for life and a strong sense of self - qualities that Robert personally embraced and was known and loved for possessing. Robert wanted to share his love of learning and enjoyed working with kids of all ages. The computers being awarded are donated by the Bueck family in honor of Robert.

**Jack Harris Memorial** - Because of Mr. Harris' focus on education, this memorial scholarship was made available from contributions of friends and family at the time of his sudden death in 1996. All seven of his children were educated in Rocky River schools, and now several grandchildren are part of the school system. Designated for a student pursuing a career in the sciences.

**Joseph V. DeGrandis Memorial** - Joseph DeGrandis was the father of Fred DeGrandis who was a Rocky River City School Board Member for sixteen years from 1988 to 2004. Scholarship was established by Fred to honor the memory of his father.

**Julia Litzler Mayer** - This annual scholarship is given to a female graduating senior who has a 3.00 GPA or above. This scholarship was established by Mr. Litzler for his daughter, Julia Litzler, a 1990 graduate, who currently resides on Cleveland's west side.

**Kate Carney Memorial Scholarship** - This scholarship is given in memory of Kate Carney, a proud participant in the Rocky River Soccer Organization who also had a love of science that was fostered at the Great Lakes Science Center. The funds for the scholarship were created when Elizabeth Demers, a RRHS student, organized a 5K race called River Run for a Cause and chose to have the proceeds from that race go to a scholarship in Kate's name. This scholarship is designated for a student who has played a sport all four years and who has excelled in the study of science during her high school career.

**Kathleen Goepfert** - This award is given in honor of Kathy Goepfert, a Rocky River School Board member, for a senior planning to enter the field of public service (government, politics, criminal justice, public safety, the military.)

**Kevin Allison Memorial** - Kevin was a 1994 graduate of RRHS and co-captain of the baseball team. He attended Kent State University the following year. In the summer of 1995, he died suddenly from an aortic aneurysm. He was only 18. This scholarship was established by his coach, friends and family in Kevin's memory. Each year it is awarded to a varsity baseball player chosen by the coach. Every June, the Kevin Allison Memorial baseball game supports this scholarship.

**Kristen Stephens Calculus Award** - Nate Black, a 2003 graduate, has donated this award in honor of Mrs. Kristen Stephens. Mrs. Stephens has consistently produced students that are both well prepared for college-level mathematics and score well on the AP Calculus exam. This scholarship is awarded to an outstanding senior calculus student who has shown an interest in pursuing a career in Mathematics.

**Lakewood/Rocky River Rotary Club** - Awarded to seniors of any accredited high school, and a resident of Lakewood or Rocky River. The recipients must show a history of academic success in his/her high school career; applied to a specific college, university, community or junior college, or trade or professional school; and have no direct relationship to a Rotarian or Honorary Rotarian (child or grandchild by blood or by legal adoption).

**Lawrence J. "Larry" Badar Memorial** - Lawrence J. "Larry" Badar spent a lifetime creating innovative ways to excite young students about physics. During his 27 years teaching physics at RRHS, he received the Presidential Award for Excellence in Teaching Science and was named a Fellow at the National Science Foundation. After retiring from RRHS, he became the Founding Director of Case Western Reserve University's Center for Science and Mathematics Education and remained active with the American Association of Physics Teachers. Mr. Badar was the first faculty inductee into the RRHS Hall of Fame. He passed away in 2012. This scholarship is for a student who intends to major in a STEM (Science,

Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) field, with preference given to a student intending to major in physics; more preferably physics education.

**League of Women Voters Greater Cleveland, Rocky River Chapter** - Given to a student who is active in public affairs, civic or community activities and preferably pursuing a political science, pre-law or related degree.

**Lester C. Roig Jr. Memorial** - Established by Randy, Wendy and Reed Roig in memory of their father, Lester C. Roig, Jr. Lester C. Roig, Jr. grew up in Rocky River and graduated from Rocky River High School in 1941. He received his BA in economics from Baldwin-Wallace University and MA in economics from Bowling Green State University. He spent his career working for Cleveland-based companies - beginning as a staff economist for the Cleveland Electric Illuminating Co. and then from 1953-1984 in the finance department of the Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad (now CSX). He died after a short battle with cancer in 2002. Although none of his children attended school in Rocky River, his grandson, Ben Roig, spent K-12 in the Rocky River School system - graduating in 2005 from Rocky River High School. The scholarship will be awarded to an RRHS senior who plans to major in finance or economics in college. Total scholarship will be distributed over four years of college.

**Mary Kay Wilhelmy Memorial** - Established by Albert Wilhelmy (RRHS Class of 1967) in memory of his wife, Mary Kay Wilhelmy, who fought a long battle with cancer and passed away in 2004. Mary Kay was a woman with a warm heart who quietly dedicated herself to her family and the community. This scholarship will be awarded to a RRHS senior student-athlete. The student-athlete must exhibit excellence in the classroom and hold a minimum grade point average of 3.2. The student must participate in a recognized varsity sport for a minimum of three years, including their senior year. The recipient demonstrates positive moral character in and out of the classroom.

**Melissa Herstrum Memorial** - Established in 1992 by friends of the Herstrum family in memory of Melissa Herstrum, a 1990 RRHS graduate who was killed while attending The University of Toledo. It is designated for a student who will study nursing or a related field in medicine.

**Metro Health Teen Brain Health Scholarship** - Metro Health Hospital, in partnership with the Harkness Family Foundation, awarded Rocky River High School seniors for their submission to the Teen Brain Health Contest. Schools from around Greater Cleveland were challenged to educate their peers about the dangers of opioid addiction and its treatments by producing a 60-second video on that topic.

**Moriah Lydon Memorial** - Moriah Lydon was a sophomore at Rocky River High School and a member of the cross country team. While running with the team in 2001, she died of an undetected heart defect. This scholarship was established by her family and friends to honor of her memory. Scholarships are awarded to male and female members of the RRHS cross country teams.

**Nancy Mihocik Memorial** - Nancy Mihocik was a teacher at Rocky River High School for many years before retiring in 1999. Nancy created a popular course on women in literature and began the French language program at RRHS, including an honors course. She also initiated an overseas exchange program and led tours to France. This honorarium, created by her husband John, a former trustee of the Education Foundation, is given annually to the best student in French AP.

**Nev Chandler Memorial** - Nev Chandler, a 1964 graduate of Rocky River High School, was a nationally known sportscaster and did play-by-play for the Cleveland Browns. He died of cancer in 1994 and the scholarship was established in his memory. It is designated for someone who will study Journalism or English.

**Ohio Association of Public School Employees #381** - Given to a graduating senior currently enrolled in a post-secondary education program.

**The Rocky River Boosters** - The mission of the Rocky River Student Activities Boosters is to provide support to co-curricular activities at Rocky River Middle School and Rocky River High School, including academic and peer organizations, sports, music, and theater. The Boosters Board is providing a scholarship for one girl and one boy who are well-rounded, involved, and positively represent their high school to the community. Candidates will have been involved

in at least two activities or sports each year they attended Rocky River High School, and their parent is a member of Boosters. Recipients will also have a GPA of at least 3.0 and plan to attend a four-year accredited college or university.

**Rocky River Chamber of Commerce Business** – Business scholarships are awarded to graduating seniors who submitted an application and were chosen by the Local Scholarship Selection Committee.

**Rocky River High School Alumni Association**

**Audrey Kremzier Memorial** – Audrey Kremzier was an alumnus of Rocky River High School. This scholarship, established through her trust, is awarded annually in her memory to a graduating senior.

**Rex Zirbes Memorial** – Rex L. Zirbes was an English teacher at Rocky River Middle School from 1959-1989. He died suddenly in 2005. This scholarship, established through his will, is awarded annually in his memory to a graduating senior.

**Rocky River High School Class of 1965 Memorial** - After their 40th reunion in October 2005, the Class of 1965 established a scholarship fund in memory of their parents, teachers and classmates who have died. This scholarship is to be awarded to a senior who has contributed to the life of Rocky River High School and who deserves to be rewarded for their commitment to the school.

**Rocky River High School Class of 1966 Scholarship**- The Rocky River High School Class of 1966 is forever thankful for our excellent educational opportunities many decades ago. This scholarship is in remembrance of our classmates who have passed. It is also a tribute to the many parents, teachers, coaches, friends, civic leaders, and community members who influenced our lives in so many positive ways.

This scholarship is to be awarded to a senior student who intends to pursue a two-year or four-year degree, and who demonstrates sound educational abilities. Our goal is to assist a student on his or her journey to becoming a productive, positive contributor to society. The recipient of this award should possess the maturity, integrity, self-discipline, responsibility, and perseverance to stay focused on the achievement of their goals.

**Rocky River High School Class of 1997**- This scholarship is to be awarded to a graduating senior. The donation came from the Class of 1997's reunion.

**Rocky River Kiwanis** - Scholarships awarded to deserving students chosen by the Local Scholarship Selection Committee, and where possible, to students who have been active members of the Kiwanis Key Club.

**Rocky River Masonic Lodge #703** - The members of Rocky River Lodge #703 are proud to provide this scholarship. As a fraternity dedicated to high moral standards and charitable deeds, they welcome this opportunity to support the future leaders of our community in this manner and wish the senior good luck in their future endeavors. Scholarship is awarded to a hard-working, energetic student who is actively involved in some kind of community service. Student must have at least a 3.0 GPA.

**Rocky River Middle School September 11 Memorial Fund** - This scholarship is being offered as a result of the initiative that funded the September 11 Memorial at Rocky River Middle School. The 9/11 project raised enough money to build the memorial and provide money to a graduating senior who intends to pursue a career as a firefighter, police officer or EMT.

**Rocky River Parks & Recreation Foundation** - This scholarship is funded from proceeds of our Foundation Arts Festival, held annually in September along Old Detroit Road, and is awarded to a graduating senior dedicated to developing talent in

the visual arts. The Rocky River Parks and Recreation Foundation encourages the pursuit of artistic excellence among Rocky River's young people, and confirms the city as a vibrant community nurturing the arts.

**Rocky River PTA Council** - For over thirty years, the Rocky River PTA Council's Student Scholarship fund has provided scholarship assistance to graduating RRHS seniors pursuing higher education opportunities. The scholarships are named by nominations from council's membership. They are funded through proceeds from the RRHS Community Homecoming Dinner and each of the five local PTA units. The Scholarships this year are named in honor of the following:

Joyce Becker  
Barbara Brindza  
Dianna Foley  
David Kennedy  
Cheryl Waltjen  
Lyle Westerfield  
Mr. Terry Lambert

**Rocky River Teachers Association** - Scholarships given to students pursuing a career in education.

**Stickney Family Language Abroad Award** – The Stickney family wishes to encourage excellence in learning a foreign language. The purpose of this scholarship is to positively influence recipients to use their language skills as they travel the world and enjoy foreign cultures. Two award recipients shall be chosen: one for the best student of the Spanish language and one for the best student of the German language. The award recipient shall have studied the language all four years in high school, including the A.P. course, if available.

**Susan Thibo Memorial** - Susan was a French teacher at Rocky River High School, but she earned her living by touching student's lives. Susan educated her students, but taught them about life. She wanted her students to expect a lot from others, to expect more from themselves, to be courageous and to be determined. Her life lessons were best taught when she battled cancer. She continued to help others when all they wanted was to help her. This scholarship is provided by family, friends and colleagues of Susan Thibo. It will be awarded to a RRHS senior who truly cares about people, has demonstrated a passion for learning, is willing to work hard to pursue his/her dreams and chooses an area of study that will provide them with a career where they can make a positive influence on children.

**Susan Wismar Cullman Memorial** - This memorial scholarship was established by the RRHS friends of Susan Cullman, also a graduate of Rocky River High School. In 2014 Susan passed away after a long battle with cancer. Susan was a focused, purpose-driven person who, even at a young age, helped lead her friends to choose pathways which built character and strengthened their moral compasses. She embodied kindness, helped others make good choices, strived to learn, and proved that strong friendships matter. This scholarship should be awarded to a senior girl who was involved in sports or activities (such as flags, cheerleading, poms, or band) for all four years of high school, had a minimum GPA of 3.5, and exhibited exemplary leadership skills through kindness.

**Terry Horn Memorial** - Brad Horn is a 2000 graduate who established this scholarship to honor the memory of his father, Terry. Mr. Horn passed away on December 5, 2011 after a fifteen-month battle with cancer. He graduated from Cleveland State University with a degree in Business Administration, and worked in various accounting and payroll positions, including Payroll Manager for Vail Resorts after he relocated to Colorado in 2005. He was an active athlete for his entire life. He loved running, biking, skiing, coaching and playing soccer, all of which were reasons for his move to Colorado. This scholarship is for a senior who has shown initiative and is pursuing a career in business or finance at an out of state college.

**Terry Lambert Scholarship**- Dedicated by the RRHS Freshman Girls Basketball Team of 2000-2001 and the many other students that Coach Lambert impacted throughout his 43 years of teaching and coaching. Terry Lambert coached with a stern demeanor that demanded respect and made his teams work hard to earn a smile from underneath his memorable moustache. There were no superstars on Coach Lambert's teams, each had their time to shine and together we became

stronger, tougher, and more accountable. The Terry Lambert Scholarship goes to a female athlete who builds-up her team and is a role model that drives those around her to work harder and improve. May this award honor the legacy of a man that instilled a confidence in his players and teams that allowed us all to succeed on and off the court.

**Thomas and Thomas Distinctive Photography** - Established by Robert and Monica Thomas, and continued by Sarah Edelman and Amy Laing-Nahra, to assist an outstanding RRHS senior who possesses a strong social consciousness and has demonstrated academic achievement.

**Vince Dooley Scholarship**- This scholarship memorializes Vince Dooley's love, commitment, and dedication to teaching and coaching. Vince Dooley received his bachelor's degree in 1957 from the University of Notre Dame, graduating with honors. From 1957-1960, he served as an officer in the United States Marine Corps, retiring as a Captain. He then returned to Notre Dame and in 1961 earned a master's degree in education. Vince began his teaching and coaching career at Cleveland's West Tech High School, where he taught physical education and coached JV football. The 1964 senior class dedicated its yearbook to him as West Tech's outstanding teacher. In 1964, Vince started teaching in the Rocky River School System, where he taught physical education in the elementary schools and junior high, and then at the high school, where he also taught biology and health. Vince was the head hockey coach at RRHS from 1972 to 1978, and coached JV baseball and football for many years. He also served as Athletic Director and Athletic Trainer. He retired in 1989 and passed away in 2017. To memorialize Vince's passion for character, athletics, and education, a scholarship is available to both a senior girl and boy who exemplify outstanding character as both a varsity athlete and as a student. To graduating seniors with a grade point above 3.50 who will pursue a bachelor's degree.

**William and Meta Kramer Memorial** - Awarded from a foundation set up in the names of William and Meta Kramer to students in good standing, without regard to grades, who have a sincere interest and desire to continue their education at an accredited college or university.

