

**SLP 2013
grads attend:**

Augsburg College
Bemidji State University
Bradley University
Carlton College
College of St. Benedict
Colorado State Univ.
Columbia College
Concordia University
Drake University
Gustavus Adolphus Col.
Hamline University
Indiana University
Kalamazoo College
Lawrence University
Macalester College
Mercer University
Mpls. Comm. Tech. Col.
Minn. St. Univ. – Mankato
Normandale Comm. Col.
No. Hennepin Comm. Col.
Northern Illinois Univ.
Northland College
Northwestern College
Northwestern University
St. Cloud State University
St. Louis Col. of Pharm.
St. Olaf College
Saint Leo University
South Dakota St. Univ.
Strayer University
U. of Brit. Col., Vancouver
Univ. of Cal. – Berkeley
Univ. of Col. – Boulder
Univ. of Massachusetts
U. of Mich. – Ann Arbor
U. of Minn. – Crookston
U. of Minn. – Duluth
U. of Minn. – Rochester
U. of Minn. – Twin Cities
University of Missouri
U. of No. Carolina, Wilm.
Univ. of North Dakota
University of St. Thomas
University of San Diego
Univ. of Wis. – Eau Claire
Univ. of Wis. – Green Bay
Univ. of Wis. – La Crosse
Univ. of Wis. – Madison
Wartburg College
Yale University
Yeshiva University

**95 scholarships
from:**

Neighborhoods
Families
Individuals
Memorials
Businesses
Teachers and staff
Graduating classes
Retired faculty
Sports assoc.
Community assoc.

Thanks to you.

St. Louis Park

Dollars for SCHOLARS®

A Program of Scholarship America®

Providing Post-Secondary Scholarships for Local Students

Winter 2014

Volume 17

Seniors receive \$75,000 in scholarships at 2013 Awards Night

May 28, 2013 was an important date for graduating seniors and their loved ones in attendance at Academic Awards Night. The celebratory evening recognized the academic efforts of St. Louis Park High School's seniors and featured 95 Dollars for Scholars Scholarships totaling \$75,000, awarded for post secondary educational pursuits.

Echoing the wonderful diversity of the Class of 2013, the students' educational ambitions are just as diverse, with students' plans including everything from journalism to skilled labor, and medicine to education.

Dollars for Scholars Scholarships underscore the St. Louis Park community's well known commitment to education. Neighborhoods, historically generous in their donations were responsible for 27 individual scholarships this year. Also of note is the fact that the high school staff sponsors its own scholarships as do retired staff and families of former staff members, displaying a powerful allegiance to St. Louis Park's students.



Jerry and Lou Rotman, retired SLP high school substitute teacher, present the Louise R. Rotman Scholarship to Zackary Gilbert Burke.

Scholarships come in a remarkable number of ways, some are available to all student applicants, others are specific to a sport, a career aspiration, demonstrated excellence or need. Each one is a community affirmation of our graduates.

Scholarship application process went online in 2013

The St. Louis Park Dollars for Scholars website went live in 2013 giving students the freedom to apply online for scholarships. Stlouispark.dollarsforscholars.org was an important destination for students and parents as they researched scholarships, completed application information, and checked for news and events. SLP's chapter affiliation with parent non-profit Scholarship America offered news on national scholarships and college preparatory information as well. It proved a useful tool packed with helpful content for up and coming graduates and their guardians.

Check us out at stlouispark.dollarsforscholars.org and friend us on Facebook where you'll find useful information on post-secondary planning and more scholarship opportunities for St. Louis Park High School students.

That post-secondary degree makes a difference

Post-secondary studies still pay off in the long run. So says a recent study by the Hamilton Project, a research group of the Brookings Institute. According to the Hamilton Project's June 2013 report, "measured by the rate of return, getting some college is an investment with a return that exceeds the historic return on practically any conventional investment, including stocks, bonds and real estate." The Hamilton Project report goes on to add parenthetically, "(Of course, the return to some college is considerably smaller than the return to finishing either an associate's or bachelor's degree.)" which demonstrates that even with increasingly steep post-secondary costs, higher education and college degrees still make a difference in today's job market.

Tuition costs not always what they appear

With a little research, post secondary-bound seniors can stretch their college cost dollar significantly. According to Penelope Wang of money.cnn.com, the online version of Money Magazine, private college education is well within the reach of many students, even though published tuition costs can appear astronomical. Citing \$39,500 for the average annual published private college cost, compared to \$18,000 for the annual public college, Wang, in an August 2013 article, wrote, "Discounting by private colleges, especially for good students, has become the norm."

Stated tuitions can be greatly inflated over true costs, after factoring for merit grants. Financial aid packages can include substantial merit grants based on academic performance. Wang recommends researching school aid at collegedata.com and MeritAid.com.

Recipients express thanks and Park Pride:

"It is wonderful to know that some of my costly books and fees are taken care of."

"Throughout my four years at the high school, I always felt that every teacher and staff member legitimately cared about me as a student and as a person."

"It's fair to say that I wouldn't be going where I was without the encouragement and help of staff."

"It means so much to me to know that members of the Park community are helping to support my education."

Make a graduate's day with your donation!



St. Louis Park High School Graduation 2013

Please donate today online or by mail

Make a difference in a young person's life with a donation to St. Louis Park Dollars for Scholars. Your support can help a graduate achieve his or her post secondary goals, improve that person's life and the community at large. Donating is at your fingertips with the new SLP DFS website at st.louispark.dollarsforscholars.org where you can find the latest DFS information at local and national levels. Wish to donate by mail? Please send your check to SLP DFS at P.O. Box 16403, St. Louis Park, MN 55416. Contact any board member with questions or email at slp.dollarsforscholars@gmail.com.

Our Board: Tammy McCanna, chair; Cheryl Broady, Carol Clay, Kari Conroy, Beth Cork, Dan Feder, Joann Karetov, Andi Larsen, Barb Nelson, Nancy Ostrom, Renee Retka, Jodi Rogness, Jim Romlin, Judy Romlin, Dave Rotert, Sue Rotert, Jerry Rotman, Lou Rotman, Sylvia Timian and Diane Vig