

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

A Dollars for Scholars application is required to be considered for the awards listed below. In addition to the application, some awards may require an essay and/or a nomination. Be sure to read the information carefully for each award. The general criteria for all awards includes being a candidate for graduation in June and being accepted and eventually enrolled in a college, university, business, trade or technical school in the fall. Award winners unless otherwise noted, will be selected by the Dollars for Scholars Awards Committee comprised of representatives from the school district and the community and appointed by the Board of Directors.

THE FOLLOWING AWARDS REQUIRE ONLY THE DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARS APPLICATION

Dollars for Scholars Ready for the Future Award

Sweet Home's mission statement is 'Every Student, One Community, Ready for the Future'. Sweet Home Dollars for Scholars will award one (1) \$1,000 scholarship to a graduating senior who best captures the impact Sweet Home has had on their readiness for whatever the future holds.

Seniors need to submit a 4-5 minute video where they need to describe situations, classes, clubs, music, sports, teacher or other experiences as a student in the Sweet Home district that have helped them to become 'ready for the future'. The video submissions should have some narrative in it from the submitting student that describes these experiences. Students are also encouraged to get a short (1 minute) video recommendation from a teacher, coach, faculty member and/or administrator.

When making the video, please introduce yourself. Tell us your name and if you plan on attending college next year. If the answer is yes, tell us where. If not, tell us what alternative plans you might have.

Videos submissions can be emailed to dollarsforscholars@sweethomeschools or shared on Google Drive.

In order to be eligible, seniors must fully complete the Dollars for Scholars scholarship application through ChapterNet.

Dollars for Scholars (CSFA) Scholarship Award Grants

Approximately 25 grants valued at \$500 each will be awarded. All students who complete the Dollars for Scholars application will be given equal consideration. Selection of award winners will not be determined solely on the basis of academic achievement. Although this is considered, other criteria such as program of study, extra curricular activities and school and community involvement are used to determine award winners. **Award winners will represent a wide range of academic achievement. The academic cumulative average is used to determine the top one third, the middle one third, and the bottom one third of the application pool. An equal number of scholarships will be awarded in each of these categories. A proportionate number of scholarships will also be given to students attending two-year colleges.**

Alumni Scholarship Award Grants

Several grants in an amount to be determined will be awarded by the Sweet Home Alumni Association to graduating seniors who have demonstrated a commitment to their education and have participated in a variety of activities. **All seniors regardless of grade point average will be considered.** One of the scholarships will be awarded to the son or daughter of a Sweet Home graduate. The award winners will be selected by the Alumni Board Scholarship Committee.

Priselac & Associates Scholarship

Priselac & Associates will award two \$500 awards to seniors in the Class of 2019. One award will be given to a senior boy and one award will be give to a senior girl. To be considered for this scholarship, a student must have a cumulative average of 80 or above, work a part-time job of at least 10 hours per week, plan to attend a community college and study a business related field. The award winners will be selected by the Sweet Home Dollars for Scholars committee.

Lyman Hardy Memorial Panther Volunteer Award

A four year scholarship totaling \$4000 will be given in memory of Lyman Hardy, Class of 1965. As student, Lyman was very involved in his school and later, as a graduate, worked very hard in support of Sweet Home Central Schools. The recipient of this scholarship will be a senior who display strong service to both their school and community and demonstrate a strong background of volunteerism. The winner will be chosen by the Lyman Hardy Memorial Scholarship Committee. Upon proof of enrollment, the student winner will receive \$1,000 each year for four years.

Dr. Elizabeth Summers Social Studies Achievement Scholarship

In memory of Dr. Summers, a teacher of Social Studies, department chairperson and Curriculum Coordinator at Sweet Home, a \$450 scholarship minimum will be awarded. To be considered for this award, a student must demonstrate exceptional achievement in his/her Social Studies courses. The award winner will be chosen by the faculty of the Social Studies department.

Kurt R. Langlotz Memorial Grant

A grant of \$500 will be awarded in memory of Kurt R. Langlotz, class of 1984. A senior who meets the following criteria will be considered: Minimum cumulative average of 90, a member of a recognized Honor Society, participation of at least one year in two varsity sports, participation in community service or volunteer work in school or the community, and planning to attend a 4-year college majoring in a health related field.

Robert Mesch Memorial Award

This scholarship is given in memory of Robert Mesch, a 1974 graduate of Sweet Home High School. A \$300 award will be given to a graduating senior who is ranked in the top 10% of the class and a member of one of the high school bands. This student should also be considering the possibility of pursuing further education in the area of science.

David R. Ebert Memorial Scholarship Award

One \$500 award for a boy and one \$500 award for a girl will be given in honor of Mr. David R. Ebert, long time educator at Sweet Home Central Schools. To be considered, a student must have between an 80 and 90 cumulative average and participate in two varsity sports during the senior year. The winners must provide proof of enrollment in a 4-year program before they can receive the scholarship check. The certificate will be presented at the June Awards Assembly.

Willow Ridge Community Scholarships

Two grants of \$250 each will be awarded to one male and one female by the Willow Ridge Civic Association. To be considered, a senior (1) Must live in the Willow Ridge neighborhood for their entire senior year and their parents MUST be members of the Willow Ridge Civic Association. (2) Must have a 90 average or above. (3) Must be highly involved in community service. (4) Must plan to attend a four-year institute. The winners must provide proof of enrollment in a 2 or 4-year program before they can receive the scholarship check. The certificates will be presented at the June Awards Assembly.

Thomas P. Cauley III Memorial Scholarship

This \$1,0000 scholarship is awarded in the memory of Thomas P. Cauley III, Sweet Home Class of 1974. The scholarship will be given annually to a graduating senior who will be attending the State University of New York College at Brockport in the fall. The recipient must have maintained a grade point average of 85 and been a participant on a varsity sport for at least two years.

Herrmann Studio Scholarship Awards

One \$250 award for a boy and one \$250 award for a girl will be given by Herrmann Studios. To be considered, a student must have a GPA of 85 or higher and have participated in a varsity sport. They also must plan to study in the fine arts (music, art, photography, culinary, etc.) at the collegiate level. The awards will be presented at the June Awards Assembly.

Nancy Ebert Memorial Scholarship

Two \$500 awards will be given in honor of Mrs. Nancy Ebert, long time teacher at several Sweet Home Schools. To be considered, a student must have between an 85 and 90 cumulative average and plan to major in education at the college level. The winners must provide proof of enrollment before they can receive the scholarship check. The certificate will be presented at the June Awards Assembly.

Matthews Buses Inc. Scholarship Award

One \$500 scholarship will be given, courtesy of Matthews Buses, Inc. To be considered, a student must have between an 85 and 90 cumulative average, participated in a varsity sport, and demonstrated strong community service and involvement in their school community. The award will be presented at Seniors Awards Night in June.

Joy Huston Memorial Scholarship

An award of \$300 will be given in honor of Joy Huston, long time employee of Sweet Home Central School District. Mrs. Huston was always a welcoming face to those who visited District Office and worked tirelessly in enhancing and promoting our Community education program. Candidates will have a strong background in community service, be involved in the Sweet Home school community and at some point, taken part in a sports camp or other program offered by Sweet Home Community Education. In addition, candidates should also provide 2-3 sentences on the importance of community involvement and service.

Fatman's Pizza Community Scholarship

One \$500 will be given courtesy of Fatman's Pizza. To be considered, a student must have over a 90 cumulative average, demonstrated strong community service and involvement in their school community and worked a part-time job for 10+ hours per week. Strong consideration will be given to those students interested in studying small business after high school. The award will be presented at Senior Awards Night in June.

Seth Creenan Memorial Scholarships (Zekas Family)

This scholarship is given in memory of Seth Creenan. Seth was a 3rd grade student at Glendale Elementary who's life ended way too early in a tragic house fire in October 2018. Although very young, Seth was very passionate about music, animals as well as family and friends. There will be two \$1000.00 scholarships and one \$500.00 scholarship given to graduating seniors. The three categories are:

\$1000.00 Music -The winner must have been an active participant in the Sweet Home schools music program for at least 3 years and attending a college in a music related field

\$1000.00 Animal care /veterinary studies - the winner must have at least 20 hours of verifiable volunteer service at either the SPCA or the Buffalo Zoo and pursuing a career in Veterinary studies or Animal Science.

\$500.00 Community service - the winner of this award must have at least 10 hours verifiable volunteer service with a local fire company and be pursuing a career in either Emergency Management or Fire Science

The Seth Creenan Memorial Scholarship Committee will make the selection of the award winners.

Seth Creenan Memorial Scholarship (Lauer Family)

This \$250 scholarship is given in memory of Seth Creenan who lost his life in a house fire in 2018. To be eligible, seniors must plan to attend a 2 or 4-year college, have a minimum GPA of 87, played one varsity sports and volunteered at least 10 hours in support of animals. The winner must also have attended Glendale Elementary School.

**THE FOLLOWING AWARDS REQUIRE ESSAYS IN ADDITION
TO THE DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARS APPLICATION
DO NOT INCLUDE YOUR NAME ON OR IN THE ESSAY
AWARD WINNERS ARE SELECTED ANONYMOUSLY**

Paul D. Strefeler Throwers Scholarship

A \$500 scholarship will be given annually to a thrower on the Sweet Home track team(s). In order to be eligible the student must answer the following essay question:

Please describe how the skill set developed as a thrower will assist you in your chosen field of study in College and for life beyond College.

Sweet Home Education Association Scholarship

The Sweet Home Education Association will award two scholarship awards in the amount of \$300 per year for up to four years of study. Recipients must show proof of matriculation each year and maintain satisfactory academic standing. **To qualify for this scholarship you must write a one-page essay on the topic “You have just completed your secondary education in this state. What kind of constructive ideas could you give to the school and state education system that would have made your last four years even more productive?”** Do not put your name on or in the essay. Winners will be announced at the Awards Night.

Richard McBride Glendale Sterling Scholarship Award

An award of \$300 will be presented to a graduating senior who attended Glendale Elementary School. The award is named in honor of Mr. McBride, former principal at Glendale. **A one-page essay typed or word processed is required on the topic: “Describe an experience or experiences you had at Glendale that have helped you become the student that you are.”** Do not put your name on or in the essay. The recipient will be selected by the Glendale Scholarship Committee.

Heritage Heights Scholarship Award Grant

Two grants of \$200 each will be awarded to graduating seniors who attended Heritage Heights Elementary School. The Heritage Heights Scholarship Committee will select the award winner. **A typed or word processed one-page essay on the topic of “What experiences at Heritage Heights will you carry with you in your adult life?” is required.** Do not put your name on or in the essay. The essay will be graded 50% on content and 50% on cohesiveness.

Maplemere Scholarship Award Grant

A grant of \$250 will be awarded to a graduating senior who attended Maplemere Elementary School. The Maplemere PTA Scholarship Committee will select the award winners. **A one-page essay is required on the topic “Describe an experience or experiences you had at Maplemere that have helped you become the student you are.”** Please do not put your name anywhere on the essay.

Willow Ridge Scholarship Award Grant

Two grants of \$250 each will be awarded to graduating seniors who attended Willow Ridge Elementary School. The Willow Ridge PTO Scholarship Committee will select the award winners. **A one-page essay is required on the topic “Describe an experience or experiences you had at Willow Ridge that have helped you become the student you are.”** Please do not put your name anywhere on the essay.

Middle School Scholarship Award Grant

Two grants of \$250 will be awarded to two graduating seniors who have attended Sweet Home Middle School. The Sweet Home Middle School PTA Scholarship Committee will select the two award winners. The selection will be based on the following criteria: **A one-page essay is required on the topic of “What person, event, or experience from Sweet Home Middle School has made a significant impact on your life.”** Please do not put your name anywhere on the essay. Spelling, grammar, punctuation, creativity, and depth of thought are major considerations.

National Honor Society Scholarship Grant

One \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded to a senior NHS member in good standing who has demonstrated the ideals of the organization. **A one-page essay on the topic “How I have contributed the ideals of Scholarship, Character, Leadership and Service to the Sweet Home Chapter” is also required.** Do not put your name on or in the essay. The award winner will be selected by the Chapter Advisor and Faculty Council.

All Class Leadership Council Scholarship Grant

A grant up to \$200 will be awarded to a senior class member of the A.C.L.C. who has demonstrated the ideals of leadership, character and service. **A one-page essay on the topic “How I have contributed leadership, character, and service to the A.C.L.C.” is also required.** Do not put your name on or in the essay. Selection of award winners will be made by the A.C.L.C. Advisors and other high school faculty members involved in student activities.

Sweet Home High School PTSA Educational Grant Award

The Parent Teacher Student Association of the high school has established three grants for \$1,000 which will be awarded to Sweet Home graduating seniors. As in the past years, our essay will be judged by parents who do not have a senior. We will base our decision upon the following criteria: (1) Did you answer the question? (2) Did you express yourself well? (3) Did you follow directions? (4) Did you have someone proofread your work and eliminate errors? (5) The student must be a PTSA member or must have a parent or guardian as a member to apply. Your name is **NOT** to appear anywhere in the answer and please do not use names of family or friends within the body of your essay. **Your essay will either be typed or word processed. Limit your response to between 75 and 150 words.** Spelling, grammar, punctuation, creativity, and depth of thought are major considerations. Judges will have a copy of these directions. Write your essay on the following theme: **“What did you find to be the most positive aspect of your Sweet Home High School experience?”**

Sweet Home Athletics Hall of Fame Scholarships

Two \$200 scholarships will be awarded to a male and female senior athlete. The athlete must have participated in a varsity sport for at least 2 years. The selection will be based on a one-page essay between 75 – 100 words. The criteria is to describe how Sweet Home athletics or a particular coach has influenced your life. Also, briefly explain how your time at Sweet Home will benefit your future endeavors. The awards will be determined by the Hall of Fame Committee.

The Steve Hylkema Memorial Scholarship

The Steve Hylkema Memorial Scholarship is sponsored by CHAT of WNY. This award is in memory of Steve Hylkema, a 1977 graduate of Sweet Home High School. Steve graduated from the University of Buffalo Chemical Engineering program. Steve was one of the founders of CHAT of WNY, which stands for Community Helping Around Town. It is a social club that generates funds to donate to local charities. The scholarship of \$1000 will be awarded to a college bound individual who has been involved in some kind of community service. In addition to completing the Dollars for Scholars application, candidates

must write an essay of at least 500 words on “How my community service impacted the community and my life.” Chat of WNY believes that giving back to your community is a very important and rewarding way of life.

Michael Aronica Memorial Scholarship

This \$500 award is given in memory of Mike Aronica, beloved science teacher and coach at Sweet Home High School. To be considered the student must have received a varsity letter in cross country, indoor track, or track and field, as well as maintain a cumulative grade point average of 90 or above. A one-page typed essay must be submitted on “Why this student desires to pursue a career in the sciences.” The winner will be selected by the scholarship committee.

Sweet Home Board of Education Scholarship

The Sweet Home Board of Education will award a \$400 scholarship to a senior intending to pursue a four-year degree in Political Science, Social Services or Government. The scholarship will be awarded to a senior in good standing who has participated in school government or volunteered at a local agency. The Board of Education takes seriously its responsibility to ensure that all students experience excellence in education from the start of their Sweet Home careers to the finish. Toward meeting this responsibility, its primary goal is to see that all students graduate in four years prepared to successfully face the educational challenges of whatever path of life they next choose to pursue. **Our question to you is this: How are we doing? In your considered opinion, how well do you think that Sweet Home has prepared you and/or your fellow students in ways that are important for your next phase of life-long learning? What do we do well, and what can we do better? To answer this, please write a one page essay, double-spaced in 12-pt. Times New Roman font. Your essay will be judged not only on the quality of its content, but on how well you follow directions, the correctness of your spelling and grammar, and the appropriateness of the language you use.**

Dollars for Scholars Multi-Year Scholarship Award Grants

Approximately 5 grants valued at \$500 per year will be awarded. Three awards will be given to students planning on attending a four-year college or university and two awards will be given students planning on attending a 2-year college. Four year awards total \$2000 and two year awards total \$1000. All students who complete the Dollars for Scholars application will be given equal consideration. Selection of award winners will not be determined solely on the basis of academic achievement. Although this is considered, other criteria such as program of study, extra curricular activities and school and community involvement are used to determine award winners. **Students must answer the following essay question: Discuss a special attribute or accomplishment that sets you apart and how it might relate to your intended field of study.**

Sweet Home and Scholarship America Legacy Award

Two grants totaling \$5000 will be awarded. The student who receives this award will receive \$500 in year one, \$1000 in year two, \$1500 in year three and \$2000 in year four. Winner must show proof of enrollment each year to receive grant. All students who complete the Dollars for Scholars application will be given equal consideration. Selection of award winners will not be determined solely on the basis of academic achievement. Although this is considered, other criteria such as program of study, extra curricular activities and school and community involvement are used to determine award winners. Students must also be able to demonstrate leadership and/or service that benefits others. Student must be a full-time college student throughout the duration of the award, maintain an academic average of 3.0 during the college career and demonstrate financial need. **Students must answer the following essay question: From a financial standpoint, what impact would this scholarship have on your education?** This scholarship is made possible through a matching grant supplied by Scholarship America.

Philip D. Russell Memorial Scholarship

In memory of Mr. Russell, a teacher of English for 30 years at Sweet Home, the English Department, in conjunction with the High School PTSA and Dollars for Scholars, is sponsoring a scholarship for college bound seniors. The Philip D. Russell Memorial Scholarship includes a cash award of \$400 for a selected senior. To qualify for this award, applicants must complete a Dollars for Scholars application and write an essay on the following prompt: **The Eighteenth Century satirist**

Jonathan Swift once wrote, "Falsehood flies, and the Truth comes limping after it; so that when Men come to be undeceiv'd, it is too late; the Jest is over, and the Tale has had its Effect... "

Swift's musing about the power of lies over truth seems especially relevant in our own times. In an essay of 500-750 words, comment on the impact of this observation in today's world, relating it to such issues as politics, advertising and social media. Be sure to properly cite any material taken from outside sources.

Christopher J. Hammer Memorial Scholarship

In memory of Christopher J. Hammer, Class of 2008, a \$250 scholarship will be awarded to an eligible boy or girl of the class of 2019. Christopher attended Willow Ridge Elementary. While a student at the high school, he was very involved in his school community and loved his time as a Panther. To be eligible, the student have a minimum of an 85 grade point average and lettered in one varsity sport. The winner must demonstrate strong volunteer service to his or her community and will be required to submit an additional recommendation from one of his or her teachers or coaches at Sweet Home High School. Preference will be given to those students who attended Willow Ridge Elementary School.

Christopher passed away on April 4, 2016 as a result of an opiate addiction. Candidates are asked to submit a short essay of no greater than 250 words that addresses the impact of opiate addiction on today's society and/or their lives and offer at least one possible solution to help stem the tide of this growing epidemic

The student must show proof of enrollment at a 2 or 4-year college or university. The award will be chosen by members of Christopher's family and will be awarded at Senior Awards Night in June.

Ron Young Bookworm Scholarship

A bookworm may be at or near the top, in the middle or even in the lower end of the senior class ranking. Famous bookworms in history are a diverse group; some have doctorates, others are grade school dropouts, others have little or no formal education. Bookworms may neglect schoolwork to pursue their own interests, passions and goals thru reading. Bookworms Steve Jobs, Bill Gates, Zuckenberger dropped out of College; Malcolm X dropped out of elementary school and Abe Lincoln had less than one year of school. READERS are the movers the shakers and the billionaires. Readers learn what they want to know and not what we test and measure so there may not be a correlation to class rank.

BOOKS ARE THE FOCUS but not everything. Bookworms love to read and will usually read everything in print that comes into their field of vision; newspapers, magazines, signs, labels, comics etc. Book reading is the focus but all reading matters - magazines, newspapers etc.

FICTION, NON-FICTION, GENRE: they're all good. We will not to judge reading preferences. Wide reading or a focused reading interest; any genre; fiction or non-fiction; it's all good. TIME: Time in important. The best athletes give the most time to their sport(s) and the best musicians practice thousands of hours. We each get exactly 24 hours every day and we use that time differently. When we give our time to one activity it is not available for the other things in life. Bookworms give time reading at the expense of other activities.

**THE FOLLOWING AWARDS REQUIRE NOMINATIONS/REFERENCES
IN ADDITION TO THE DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARS APPLICATION**

Music Department Scholarship Award Grant

Scholarship grants will be awarded to seniors who demonstrate positive social interaction with fellow students, teachers, and community members and demonstrate positive influence on other students, and be an active member of the Music Department through participation in band, chorus, orchestra, or jazz ensemble and extra curricular activities, (i.e.: pep band, musical, etc.) **Members of the high school music faculty will nominate candidates to the Dollars for Scholars Awards Committee.**

Linda L. Edwards Memorial Scholarship

In memory of Linda L. Edwards, a teacher at Sweet Home for 21 years, a grant of \$1,000 will be awarded to a senior who attended Willow Ridge Elementary School and who will be furthering his/her education. **Three letters of nomination are required**, indicating that he/she exemplifies the following criteria: (1) He/she has a sense of humor/cheerful. (2) He/she has a compassionate nature. (3) He/she has a positive nature. (4) He/she is a good friend (helpful to others). (5) He/she is generous. (6) He/she has perseverance. One letter of nomination should be from a teacher/coach, one from a peer, and the third from another adult other than a parent. Selection of the award winner will be made by the Linda L. Edwards Memorial Scholarship Committee.

Richard and Nora McLaughlin Scholarship Award

One scholarship of \$500 will be awarded to a Sweet Home High School senior who attended Willow Ridge Elementary School and will be furthering his/her education in either a 2-year or 4-year college or university. To be considered for this \$500 award the student must demonstrate a commitment to their education by: ●providing evidence of strong classroom attendance and cooperation ●having a positive and respectful attitude toward teachers and peers ●participating in a minimum of two school activities/clubs/or sports ●maintaining a minimum academic cumulative average of 85%. Student attributes/requirements to be verified through at least one letter of reference from a member of the Sweet Home High School faculty or staff. A one page essay is required in response to the following statement: **Sweet Home has provided you with countless opportunities to grow and succeed as a student and as a member of your school community. Talk about your goals as you look forward to college and how your education, beginning at Willow Ridge and continuing on through Sweet Home, has helped you become the student you are.** Do not put your name on or in the essay.

The Sweet Home Band Parent's Organization Awards

Scholarships are awarded to senior members of the Sweet Home Bands (Symphonic Band and Wind Ensemble). They should possess a passion for music even though they may not necessarily be the premier player in the bands. They must also demonstrate a positive attitude, dedication, and good conduct during class and lessons, and is evidenced by their participation in band events (pep band, musical, fund-raisers, etc.) **Awards, for the total amount of \$1,700 are the John Phillip Sousa Award, Louis Armstrong (Jazz) Award, the Director's Award, and the Unsung Hero Award.** The recipients are selected solely by the band director. These awards will be presented at the Band Banquet.

Lyman Hardy Memorial Scholarship

A four year scholarship in the amount of \$4000 will be given in memory of Mr. Lyman Hardy, long time foreign language teacher at Sweet Home High School. To be considered, a student must have excelled in foreign language, plan to attend a four year college or university majoring in an education related field. Throughout his years of teaching, Mr. Hardy was a strong supporter of Sweet Home and worked very hard to make it a better place. Students will be asked to submit one additional teacher recommendation detailing their involvement in making the school community better for their fellow students. The winner will be chosen by the Lyman Hardy Memorial Scholarship Committee. Upon proof of enrollment, the student winner will receive \$1,000 each year for four years. Financial need will be considered.

