

**SLP 2011
grads attend:**

Art Institute International MM
Augsburg College
Augustana College
Aveda Institute
Barnard College
Baylor University
Bethel University
Biola University
Boston College
Butler University
Carlton College
Carthage College
Coe College
Concordia College
College of St. Benedict
College of Wooster
Drake University
Duke University
Gonzaga University
Grinnell College
Gustavus Adolphus College
Hamline University
Hibbing Community College
Kalamazoo College
Loyola University
Luther College
Macalester College
Middlebury College
Mpls College of Art and Design
Mpls Community and Technical
Moody Bible Institute
Minn. State Univ. – Mankato
Minn. State Univ. -- Moorhead
Normandale Comm. College
North Dakota State Univ.
Princeton University
St. Cloud State University
Saint John's University
St. Olaf College
Stonehill College
Tufts University
University of Chicago
University of Denver
University of Maryland
University of Michigan
Univ. of Minn. – Duluth
Univ. of Minn. – Morris
Univ. of Minn. – Twin Cities
University of New Mexico
Univ. of N. Carolina, Chapel Hill
University of Northern Iowa
University of St. Andrews
University of St. Thomas
Univ. of Washington – Seattle
Univ. of Wisconsin – Eau Claire
Univ. of Wisconsin -- Madison
Univ. of Wisconsin – River Falls
Univ. of Wisconsin -- Stout
Wartburg College
William Smith College
Winona State University

108 scholarships from:

Neighborhoods
Families and 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®

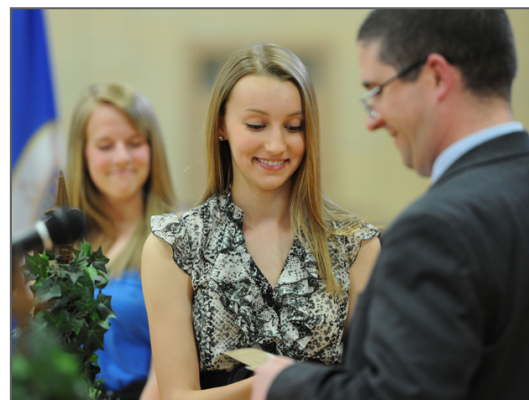
Winter 2012

Volume 15

Providing Post-Secondary Scholarships for Local Students

Awards Night 2011 brings out the champions

St. Louis Park High School's annual Academic Awards Night, held last May 25, marked a night of champions within the community. Nearly \$80,000 in Dollars for Scholars scholarship money was awarded to 108 graduating seniors. Each in his or her own right was a champion graduate, selected on merit for a variety of scholarships funded by the strong support of the St. Louis Park community. Neighborhood scholarships made up the bulk of these community-based awards. Many were presented by student volunteers who distributed newsletters and solicited donations within SLP neighborhoods. Other scholarships were funded by diverse sources; a variety of individuals and associations that make our city a shining example of how working together builds a better community.



SLP High School staff member Andy Wilkes presents scholarships to two deserving members of the Class of 2011. Look out world!

All the scholarship donors hold one common thread – they are committed stakeholders in the future of our young people. The scholarships awarded to graduating seniors represent the promise DFS donors recognize in the power of education to improve people and the future. DFS donors offer congratulations to seniors for a job well done. Each donation underscores the belief that with education and community support, the future belongs to our scholars.

DFS Scholarships needed more than ever

Dollars for Scholars is one part of the solution to the tuition woes that haunt post secondary students. As tuition increases well beyond the rate of inflation, students and parents share greater worries about paying for post secondary school. Lauren Segal, president and CEO of the national Dollars for Scholars organization, predicts that this year's student loan debt will hit one trillion dollars. Government and private loans put college within reach of many but scholarship money can ease the pain of repayment and give students a leg up on managing their finances.

The U.S. has dropped from first to twelfth in the percentage of adults with college degrees. Segal claims it would take 20 million workers with postsecondary degrees to regain our former top position by 2025. That's a bold undertaking; the kind of challenge SLP DFS wants to contribute to by awarding scholarship money to our community's promising new graduates.

Neighborhood scholarships on the rise

Each year, student volunteers canvas Park neighborhoods to distribute DFS newsletters and donation requests. They cover a lot of territory and it's paying off in increased scholarship donations. Last year, over 100 volunteers covered 18 neighborhoods. The result? Over \$18,800 was collected through volunteer efforts and neighborhood association newsletters for an increase of \$3,000 over 2010's neighborhood total.

Neighborhoods are strong supporters of DFS. Many residents take pride knowing they contribute to a scholarship for one of the community's own. Many want to give back because their child was recognized with a DFS scholarship. They have first-hand knowledge of the honor and usefulness such scholarships bring to new graduates.

Please share Park Pride this year and donate generously to your neighborhood scholarship. Use the envelope provided or donate online at GiveMN.org under St. Louis Park Dollars for Scholars.

"The only thing more expensive than education is ignorance."

Benjamin Franklin

Students express thanks for scholarship help

"I feel so fortunate to be chosen as a recipient of the St. Louis Park Class of 1960 Scholarship," writes Amadin Omer. "Your generous support is helping me to fulfill a lifelong dream of going to college."

His is just one of last year's thank you notes to Dollars for Scholars. This particular scholarship recipient spent eleven years in Kenya as an Oromo refugee from Ethiopia before coming to the United States and attending St. Louis Park Senior High School. He has faced extreme poverty and knows the value of education. He now attends the University of Minnesota in Duluth and plans on graduating in 2015. Biology is the major he hopes to pursue.

"It is not always easy to juggle work and school," adds Amadin. "I am truly grateful for the assistance I am receiving."

This thank you note shows the impact a DFS scholarship can have in helping young people receive a post secondary education. Your contribution to Dollars for Scholars can truly help improve a student's life. Thank you for your generosity.

How can you be part of Dollars for Scholars?

Please contribute to a scholarship online at GiveMN.org or by mail to SLP DFS at P.O. Box 16403, St. Louis Park, MN 55416. Or volunteer with DFS to support and solicit scholarship donations. Visit us at slpschools.org/sh under the Parent/Community heading. Contact any board member with questions.

Current Board Members: Judy Romlin, chair; Cheryl Broady, Carol Clay, Kari Conroy, Dan Feder, Melanie Heuiser Hill, Andi Larsen, Tammy McCanna, Rob Metz, Barb Nelson, Jill Olson, Nancy Ostrom, Renee Retka, Jim Romlin, Dave Rotert, Sue Rotert, Jerry Rotman, Lou Rotman, Sylvia Timian and Diane Vig.