



## Bernie Reed Scholarship

The OAHU Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce the theme and criteria for the 2020 Bernie Reed Memorial Scholarship. The Scholarship Committee will award a \$1500 scholarship based on applicant's accomplishments, community service, and presentation of essay, understanding of the topic, spelling and grammar.

### **Application Criteria**

The following is a list of the required components of each submission:

- Applicants must submit a brief cover letter, outlining their educational and professional goals. Applicants should include information about community service activities with which they are involved and how they came to know about the scholarship.
- Applicants must submit an essay on this year's theme.
- The essay should be written at or above "college level". Applicants should carefully review their submissions for formatting, spelling and grammatical errors. Applicants should also take the time to review the topic and clearly state their view and explain why.

### **Submission Rules**

The guidelines below must be followed for all submissions in order to be considered for the award:

- All application materials must be received in one submission. Please do not submit materials separately. The submission packet must include:
  - Applicant's cover letter explaining the following
    - Academic Institution attending
    - Accomplishments
    - Community service
    - Education goals
    - Most recent grade point average
    - Contact information (address, phone and email)
    - Family member that is a member of OAHU
  - Essay
- The essay should be approximately 1,000 words and must be submitted in electronic format. Applicants should e-mail their essays to the OAHU Offices at [info@orahu.org](mailto:info@orahu.org).
- Applicants should be high school seniors or undergraduates.
- The essay should be written at "college level"; applicants should carefully review their submissions for spelling and grammatical errors.
- Family members of the reviewing committee are ineligible.
- Submissions will be the property of OAHU and will not be returned to the applicants and may be reprinted by the Association.
- Submission packets must be received by the deadline below in order to be considered.

## **Evaluation Process**

All Scholarship applications are reviewed by the Committee chairperson for completeness and eligibility. The chairperson then “blinds” each applicant’s essay so the applicant cannot be identified by the rest of the Committee. Next, the Scholarship Committee (excluding the chairperson) scores each essay in a number of areas, including grammar, addressing the assigned theme, presentation and overall content. The essay scores are tallied and combined with points given for their goals/community service cover letter. No applicant may have a family member on the Scholarship Committee. As a reminder, the members of the Scholarship Committee are: Jill Pedersen, Kathy Gadinas, Stacy Carmichael, Beth Black and Leo Aranda.

## **Timeline**

**July 7, 2020**

All submissions are due no later than 5:00 pm.

**July 16, 2020**

The announcement of award recipient will be sent via email.

## **2020 Scholarship Essay Topic**

*The long-term consequences of COVID-19 are still yet to be realized. It is evident that its impact will have devastating effects on our economy, health, and social lives for months if not years to come. One of the common challenges everyone seems to face, regardless if they have contracted COVID-19, are the mental health ramifications.*

*Oregon has had a shortage of providers, especially for those enrolled in Medicaid (Oregon Health Plan) for many years. With the increased demand on enrollment and the demand on care, the system is even more challenged.*

*The workplaces is being challenged as employers struggle to reopen in safe environments. Employees have differing opinions about the crisis and those can become quite polarizing. Working from home has created isolation and loneliness that is hard to rebound from some.*

*Essential workers, in many capacities, have been working harder than ever and putting their physical lives at risk from an unseen killer. They go to work to provide for themselves and their families but also to provide for us.*

*All of this has taken a toll mentally. This mental toll also affects us physically.*

*In your own words, please explain how the issues might best be resolved in today’s environment:*

*In Oregon, how do we increase our provider shortage? How do we increase access, especially for vulnerable populations, who have other social determinants of health and perhaps are at the highest risk for complications?*

*How do employers ensure a mentally safe environment for employees in this ever-changing environment? Should health insurance (as an employee benefit) be required by employers? What is the ideal coverage for mental health and what should the cost of these services be to those who seek care?*