

# ANNOUNCEMENT

**The R. Robert Dale Scholarship is now the “Heart of the Community Scholarship.”**

Effective with all new applications received for the 2017-18 school year, from applicants graduating in 2018, the R. Robert Dale Scholarship program has been modified and renamed as the new “*Heart of the Community Scholarship Program*”. Because R. Robert Dale funds were expended years ago, and the program is now being supported solely by the Moose Fraternity. We believe this more accurately reflects the fraternity’s commitment to supporting youth in the community.

Another modification to the program relates to adjusting the distribution of the scholarship funds in a way that is more relevant to the needs of today’s students. Under the R. Robert Dale Scholarship Program, funds were provided for higher education to students with Moose affiliation. Students who satisfied requirements were entered into random drawings for the chance to receive a \$1,000 award and several students received scholarships. But, as the cost of higher education has steadily increased over the years, the need for more substantial financial aid has increased as well. This trend indicates a very present need for us to adapt accordingly, if we are to continue to attract young people to our organization through this program. Therefore, under the new “Heart of the Community Scholarship” program, **the pool of funds will remain the same but we will be reducing the total number of scholarships given, and raising the award amount for each recipient.** Yet, please note that special consideration will still be given for Lodges and Associations that exceed the program requirements.

The third component of the program that was in need of adjustment was the applicant criteria, as these were minimal under the R. Robert Dale program, requiring just a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale. Applicants also were required to be a Junior in High School, and be sponsored by an active Moose member who was an immediate family member. Under the new Heart of the Community Scholarship program, students will still need to be a Junior in high school during the year of application, and will still need to be sponsored by an active Moose Member and immediate family member, but will be required to have earned **a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale instead of a 2.5.** Additionally, new in the Heart of the Community Scholarship program, students must also have participated in both **in-school/ extra-curricular** and **out-of-school activities**, to be verified by school staff and/or employers.

Applicants must also engage in **volunteer activities on behalf of the Loyal Order of the Moose.** This requirement assures that they have some connection to the fraternity and more appropriately embodies the spirit of volunteerism which is so foundational to our fraternity.

The recipient selection process will remain exactly the same which takes into consideration an association or province’s total active membership as well as the number of applications received. The refined Heart of the Community Scholarship program will commence in the 2017-18 academic year. **Applications for the Class of 2018 will be due no later than June 30, 2017.** We are confident that, by implementing these changes, we will be better able to serve the applicants, increase the integrity of the program, and better emphasize the high value our fraternity places on both activities and community service.