



HoWL Inc.
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Jan O'Meara, President-elect
Rotary Club of Homer Downtown
PO Box 57 Homer, AK 99603

November 19, 2013

Dear Ms. O'Meara,

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to you and to all members of the Rotary Club of Homer Downtown, extending to all of Rotary District 5010, for your generous allocation of funds to HoWL's pilot "Volunteer Merit Scholarships" program.

Upon news mid-summer that we would be receiving a grant of \$2000 to support late-awarded scholarships, HoWL immediately began allowing students to volunteer in exchange for money deducted from their Day Trip and Expeditions expense. This "Volunteer Merit Scholarship" program was a highly sought-after opportunity, with 50 students participating, thanks to you. Of the 50 students who received these merit-based scholarships, 41 of them had not had the opportunity to participate in HoWL's Clean-Up Week in April, which was previously the only way for students to receive any form of scholarship to attend HoWL Expeditions and Day Trips.

The students who received these late-awarded scholarships for their expeditions worked off their hours through a variety of volunteer tasks, all of which helped HoWL achieve its mission this summer. These students made films that showcased HoWL activities, they gathered auction items for our fundraiser, they helped maintain HoWL Headquarters, and they led trips as peer leaders.

Building upon the success of 2013, next year's program will be even better. We plan on hiring additional staff to manage crews of our Day Trip students as they perform volunteer tasks throughout the community once or twice a week in exchange for their Merit Scholarships. Our vision is to have a community-funded program through which kids volunteer for HoWL *and other organizations* doing work outdoors in exchange for their HoWL Day Trips and Expeditions.

In 2013, we were able to expect the award recipients to volunteer for HoWL, but by summer 2014, we should be able to implement a much richer web of service throughout Homer and the lower Kenai Peninsula. This program, with the generous support of the Rotary Club of Homer Downtown and the Rotary District 5010 Grants Committee, will impart a spirit of service to our students through rewarding their hard work in our community with the experience of wilderness and camaraderie within HoWL's programs, and through knowing that they have earned that opportunity themselves.

Thank you for supporting HoWL and our Volunteer Merit Scholarship Program. Please see attached page for specific funding allocation from our 2013 programs.

Sincerely,

Libby Veasey, HoWL Executive and Programs Director

www.howlalaska.org

HoWL Volunteer Merit Scholarships 2013 Funding Allocation

| | Student Name | Scholarship Amount | Type of Trip | Income Source |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 | H. Wilkens | \$175 | Day Trips | Unrestricted Funds |
| 2 | W. Coleman | \$25 | Day Trips | Unrestricted Funds |
| 3 | S. Blackmon | \$175 | Day Trips | Unrestricted Funds |
| 4 | H. Miller | \$20 | Day Trips | Unrestricted Funds |
| 5 | C. Lush | \$60 | Day Trips | Unrestricted Funds |
| 6 | T. Etzwiler | \$30 | Day Trips | Unrestricted Funds |
| 7 | W. Vogl | \$20 | Day Trips | Unrestricted Funds |
| 8 | K. Vogl | \$20 | Day Trips | Unrestricted Funds |
| 9 | B. Merrow | \$25 | Day Trips | Unrestricted Funds |
| 10 | B. Merrow | \$45 | Day Trips | Unrestricted Funds |
| 11 | K. Krautler | \$10 | Day Trips | Unrestricted Funds |
| 12 | R. Brittingham | \$150 | Day Trips | Wells Fargo Grant |
| 13 | N. Kinneavuk | \$25 | Day Trips | Wells Fargo Grant |
| 14 | M. Martin | \$45 | Day Trips | Wells Fargo Grant |
| 15 | B. Bordner | \$25 | Day Trips | Wells Fargo Grant |
| 16 | B. Bordner | \$25 | Day Trips | Wells Fargo Grant |
| 17 | A. Franklin | \$125 | Day Trips | Wells Fargo Grant |
| 18 | A. Franklin | \$125 | Day Trips | Wells Fargo Grant |
| 19 | I. Kuzmin | \$60 | Day Trips | Wells Fargo Grant |
| 20 | R. McGinnis | \$30 | Day Trips | Wells Fargo Grant |
| 21 | Z. Holschen | \$30 | Day Trips | Wells Fargo Grant |
| 22 | J. Elias | \$70 | Day Trips | Wells Fargo Grant |
| 23 | T. Gorman | \$20 | Day Trips | Wells Fargo Grant |
| 24 | T. Fell | \$20 | Day Trips | Wells Fargo Grant |
| 25 | B. Gregory | \$90 | Day Trips | Wells Fargo Grant |
| 26 | L. James | \$55 | Day Trips | Wells Fargo Grant |
| 27 | J. Sarber | \$10 | Day Trips | Wells Fargo Grant |
| 28 | V. Sarber | \$20 | Day Trips | Wells Fargo Grant |
| 29 | L. Coleman | \$75 | Day Trips | Wells Fargo Grant |
| 30 | Z. Iida | \$30 | Day Trips | Rotary District 5010 Grant |
| 31 | S. Kraszewski | \$50 | Day Trips | Rotary District 5010 Grant |
| 32 | S. Bernitz | \$20 | Day Trips | Rotary District 5010 Grant |
| 33 | A. Schneider | \$30 | Day Trips | Rotary District 5010 Grant |
| 34 | J. Pontiousf | \$15 | Day Trips | Rotary District 5010 Grant |
| 35 | T. Pontiousf | \$15 | Day Trips | Rotary District 5010 Grant |
| 36 | J. Yang | \$10 | Day Trips | Rotary District 5010 Grant |
| 37 | L. Jacobsen | \$10 | Day Trips | Rotary District 5010 Grant |
| 38 | F. Gibson | \$10 | Day Trips | Rotary District 5010 Grant |
| 39 | J. Gibson | \$10 | Day Trips | Rotary District 5010 Grant |
| 40 | S. Walker | \$20 | Day Trips | Rotary District 5010 Grant |
| 41 | S. Gillilan | \$295 | Day Trips | Rotary District 5010 Grant |
| 42 | G. Lyon | \$40 | Expeditions | Rotary District 5010 Grant |
| 43 | C. Roberts | \$200 | Expeditions | Rotary District 5010 Grant |
| 44 | M. Gherman | \$350 | Expeditions | Rotary District 5010 Grant |
| 45 | G Sasakura | \$75 | Expeditions | Rotary District 5010 Grant |
| 46 | B. Westphal | \$375 | Expeditions | Rotary District 5010 Grant |
| 47 | T. Scholz | \$90 | Expeditions | Rotary District 5010 Grant |
| 48 | Q. Alward | \$230 | Expeditions | Rotary District 5010 Grant |
| 49 | B. Hirsch | \$25 | Expeditions | Rotary District 5010 Grant |
| 50 | C. Wylde | \$100 | Expeditions | Rotary District 5010 Grant |
| Total Funds Allocated: | | \$3605 | | |

Dear Editor,

On behalf of HoWL and all the students who volunteered in order to earn scholarships for their expeditions this summer, I would like to thank the Rotary Club of Homer Downtown and the Rotary District 5010 Grants Committee for their grant that funded \$2000 of additional scholarships, awarded mid-summer to our local youth.

50 students earned *Volunteer Merit Scholarships* thanks in part to this grant. 41 of those students had not had the opportunity to participate in HoWL's Clean-Up Week in April. With the additional funding available, HoWL was able to award scholarships to a total of 75 students in 2013, to over 30% of our local participants.

Building upon the success of 2013, next year's *Volunteer Merit Scholarships* program will be even better. HoWL's vision is to have a community-funded program through which kids volunteer for HoWL *and other organizations* doing work outdoors once or twice a week in exchange for their HoWL Day Trips and Expeditions.

In 2013, we were able to expect award recipients to volunteer for HoWL, but by summer 2014, we should be able to implement a much richer web of service throughout Homer and the lower Kenai Peninsula.

This program, with the generous support of the Rotary Club of Homer Downtown and the Rotary District 5010 Grants Committee, imparts a spirit of service to our students through rewarding their hard work in our community with the experience of wilderness and camaraderie within HoWL's programs, and through knowing that they have earned that opportunity themselves. Thanks again to the Rotary Club of Homer Downtown for making this possible.

If you have a volunteer opportunity that is based outside and would be appropriate for youth laborers, contact HoWL to become a partner in 2014.

Sincerely,

Libby Veasey, HoWL Executive and Programs Director