



AS AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF HER CHURCH AND THE CO-PRESIDENT OF THE PTO AT HER CHILDREN'S SCHOOL, RITA MATTEO LED HER LIFE IN SERVICE TO OTHERS. IN HER SIX YEARS AS AN OFFICER OF THE PTO SHE ENCOURAGED ALL STUDENTS TO ENGAGE IN FUN, WORTHWHILE COMMUNITY-ORIENTED ACTIVITIES. AMONG HER ACCOMPLISHMENTS WAS BRINGING TOGETHER STUDENTS, PARENTS, AND STAFF MEMBERS TO HELP FUNDRAISE. AS A RESULT OF HER ENCOURAGEMENT AND PERSONAL EFFORTS, SHE HELPED THE SCHOOL SECURE MATERIALS, SOFTWARE, AND OTHER ITEMS THAT THE SCHOOL NEEDED.

RITA LEFT BEHIND HER LEGACY OF SERVICE AFTER SUCCUMBING TO A LENGTHY BATTLE WITH BREAST CANCER. TO HONOR HER, THE RITA MATTEO MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1988 BY THE SCHOOL PTO SHE SERVED. THE SCHOLARSHIP STRIVES TO RECOGNIZE STUDENTS WHO REFLECT THE CHARACTER AND SPIRIT OF RITA WITH THEIR DEDICATION TO COMMUNITY SERVICE. IN 2008, THE MATTEO FAMILY ASSUMED SPONSORSHIP OF THE SCHOLARSHIP AND ESTABLISHED THE RITA MATTEO MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP BOARD. TO DATE, OVER 100 STUDENTS HAVE BEEN AWARDED THIS HONOR.

APPLICANTS ARE JUDGED ON THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA: COMMITMENT AND DEDICATION TO COMMUNITY SERVICE, CHARACTER, RESPONSIBILITY, AND ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT. THE SELECTION COMMITTEE IS COMPRISED OF MEMBERS OF THE RITA MATTEO MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP BOARD. THE WINNER(S) OF THE SCHOLARSHIP WILL BE NOTIFIED BY THE COMMITTEE AND WILL BE INVITED TO RECEIVE THEIR SCHOLARSHIP ON AUGUST 3, 2025 AT THE RITA MATTEO MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP GOLF OUTING.

IN 2025, THE RITA MATTEO MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP BOARD HAS ALLOCATED FUNDS TO AWARD SCHOLARSHIPS UP TO \$28,000.00.

THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED FOR THE SCHOLARSHIP...

- THE RITA MATTEO MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP IS OPEN TO ALL GRADUATING SENIORS WHO AT MINIMUM: ATTENDED TWO YEARS AT ANY LAKE COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL, RESIDES IN LAKE COUNTY FOR TWO YEARS OR WHOSE PARENT/GUARDIAN PARTICIPATED IN THE RMMS GOLF OUTING FOR TWO YEARS.
- A MINIMUM OF 150 COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS IS REQUIRED TO BE CONSIDERED.
- THE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION IS AVAILABLE AT WWW.RITAMATTEO.ORG IN AN EDITABLE .PDF FORMAT. APPLICANTS MUST TYPE DIRECTLY ONTO THE FORM. NO HANDWRITTEN APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED – THEY ARE OFTEN UNREADABLE.
- INCOMPLETE AND UNSIGNED APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.
- THE APPLICATION MUST INCLUDE AN OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT PROVIDED BY THE GUIDANCE OFFICE THAT INCLUDES GPA, CLASS RANK, AND SAT/ACT SCORES.
- APPLICANTS MUST SUBMIT TWO LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION. EACH LETTER SHOULD ATTEST TO THE APPLICANT'S PARTICIPATION IN ACTIVITIES THAT BENEFIT THE COMMUNITY, SPECIFICALLY HIGHLIGHTING THE QUALITIES OF SERVICE TO OTHERS, CHARACTER, RESPONSIBILITY AND ACHIEVEMENT. THE SELECTION COMMITTEE RESERVES THE RIGHT TO CHECK YOUR REFERENCES. LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION MUST FOLLOW THE GUIDELINES OUTLINED BELOW.
 - A. PROVIDE ONE LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION FROM A SCHOOL STAFF MEMBER (TEACHER, GUIDANCE COUNSELOR OR PRINCIPAL) OF YOUR HIGH SCHOOL.
 - B. PROVIDE ONE LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION FROM SOMEONE AT AN ORGANIZATION YOU HAVE VOLUNTEERED WITH. THIS LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION MAY NOT BE FROM A SCHOOL STAFF MEMBER.
 - C. ALL LETTERS MUST INCLUDE CONTACT INFO FOR THE WRITER.
- COMPLETED APPLICATIONS MUST BE TURNED INTO YOUR GUIDANCE OFFICE NO LATER THAN MARCH 13, 2025
- THE RITA MATTEO MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP BOARD RESERVES THE RIGHT TO DISQUALIFY ANY APPLICANT FOR FAILING TO FOLLOW THE ABOVE GUIDELINES.
- RITA MATTEO MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS AUTHORIZE THAT THEIR NAME AND IMAGE MAY BE SHARED PUBLICLY IN RMMS COMMUNICATIONS, WHICH INCLUDE BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO SOCIAL MEDIA CONTENT, PUBLISHED LITERATURE AND INCLUSION ON WWW.RITAMATTEO.ORG.
- THE COMMITTEE WILL NOT DISCRIMINATE BASED ON A PERSON'S NATIONAL ORIGIN, RACE, COLOR, RELIGION, DISABILITY, SEX, POLITICAL AFFILIATION AND FAMILIAL STATUS.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

EMAIL: RITAMATTEOMEMORIALSCHOLARSHIP@GMAIL.COM,

VISIT: WWW.RITAMATTEO.ORG

OR FIND US ON FACEBOOK: WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/RITAMATTEOORG

CHOOSE ONE (1) OF THE SERVICES LISTED IN THE ABOVE CHART. IN THE SPACE BELOW, EXPLAIN WHY YOU CHOSE TO DONATE YOUR TIME TO THAT PARTICULAR ORGANIZATION AND HOW THIS SERVICE HAS IMPACTED YOUR LIFE AND/OR FUTURE DECISIONS.

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SCHOOL EXTRACURRICULARS:

LIST THE EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES, TEAMS, AND/OR CLUBS IN WHICH YOU PARTICIPATED IN DURING YOUR HIGH SCHOOL YEARS. INCLUDE A BRIEF DESCRIPTION AND THE LENGTH OF TIME INVOLVED.

ACTIVITIES/TEAMS/CLUBS (ETC.)	DESCRIPTION	LENGTH OF TIME

NON-SCHOOL RELATED ACTIVITIES:

LIST ANY PAID JOBS AND/OR NON- SCHOOL ACTIVITIES YOU PARTICIPATED IN DURING YOUR HIGH SCHOOL YEARS (AFTER SCHOOL / WEEKENDS /SUMMER JOBS, SCOUTS, SPORTS, ETC.)

WORK EXPERIENCE	JOB DESCRIPTION	LENGTH OF TIME

HIGHER EDUCATION:

LIST YOUR ANTICIPATED AREA OF STUDY AND THE SCHOOLS WHERE YOU APPLIED FOR CONTINUED STUDIES (IN ORDER OF PREFERENCE). PLEASE NOTE IF YOU HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED.

AREA(S) OF STUDY:

HIGHER EDUCATION SCHOOL	HAVE YOU BEEN ACCEPTED? (Y/N/ AWAITING DECISION)

WHY SHOULD YOU RECEIVE THE RITA MATTEO MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP?

TO MY KNOWLEDGE, I CONFIRM THAT THE INFORMATION I HAVE PROVIDED IS AS ACCURATE AS POSSIBLE.

APPLICANT SIGNATURE DATE PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE DATE