# Arizona FFA Scholarships

| Summary of Arizona FFA Scholarships             | Quantity to be<br>Awarded | Amount per student to be<br>Awarded |
|---|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Alpha Gamma Rho Scholarship                     | 1                         | \$1,000                             |
| Arizona FFA Alumni                              | 1                         | \$1,000                             |
| Carnell Sipes Memorial Scholarship              | 1                         | \$500                               |
| Cy Henry Memorial Scholarship                   | 1                         | \$500                               |
| Duane Daley Memorial Scholarship                | 1                         | \$1,000                             |
| Emil M. Rovey Memorial Scholarship              | 3                         | \$1,000                             |
| Gary Dyer Endowed Scholarship                   | 1                         | \$1,150                             |
| Dr. Glen Miller Ag Ed Scholarship Endowment     | 1                         | \$500                               |
| James Accomazzo Memorial                        | 1                         | \$1,000                             |
| JR Cullison                                     | 4                         | \$2,000                             |
| Otto and Edna Neely Foundation                  | 16                        | \$500                               |
| Kenneth E. & Judith Williams Family Scholarship | 3                         | \$1,200                             |
| Ron Rayner Family Scholarship                   | 2                         | \$1,250                             |
| Salt River Project                              | 2                         | \$1,200                             |
| Tolleson FFA Booster Scholarship                | 1                         | \$1,000                             |
| Young Farmers and Ranchers Scholarship          | 1                         | \$500                               |
|   | 40                        | \$35,650                            |

Note: All scholarships are dependent on available funding.

### Alpha Gamma Rho

Amount to student: 1
Scholarship Committee: Alpha Gamma Rho Alumni
Required to attend AZ College: Yes

Brief Description:

At least one scholarship of at least \$1000 is sponsored by Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity at the University of Arizona. Applicant must be enrolled or planning to enroll at the University of Arizona. Applicant must also hold a 2.5 grade point average (on a 4.0 point scale) and have shown outstanding leadership as an FFA member. Preference will be given to male candidates.

Scholarship history/bio:

The Alpha Gamma Rho Scholarship is proudly sponsored by the fraternity that shares a common bond within a dynamic, global agricultural industry. Alpha Gamma Rho (AGR) is dedicated to providing each and every brother with the utmost of values, as well as encouraging superior lifelong personal development and professional success. AGR is a professional, integrity-driven, world-class organization, and its members hold themselves to the highest of standards within agriculture and their communities. This fraternity looks to inspire a pursuit of academic excellence, as well as engage all brothers in professional development to promote lifelong career success. Alpha Gamma Rho: *Nurture. Grow. Give. Repeat.* 

### Arizona FFA Alumni Scholarship

Number of Scholarships:

1

Amount to student:

\$1,000

Scholarship Committee:

Arizona FFA Alumni Council

Required to attend an AZ college: Yes

Brief Description:

The Arizona FFA Alumni sponsors on \$1,000 scholarship to a student pursuing an agricultural career who plans on attending an Arizona university or community college.

Scholarship history/bio:

One of the most important qualities of the FFA is that it is an organization supported by the community. In order to strengthen that support here in Arizona, the Arizona FFA Alumni was created. This organization is comprised of people interested in supporting the Arizona Association FFA and includes past FFA members, business men and women, community leaders, parents of FFA members and others. The mission of the Alumni Association is to secure the promise of the FFA and agricultural education by creating an environment where people and communities can develop their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success.

The Arizona FFA Alumni strives to uphold this mission by participating in various ways on the state level. They sponsor awards that recognize students' participation in agribusiness, their community, and leadership in the FFA, provide scholarships for FFA members to attend state and national activities, recruit members to help serve with commodity groups, farm organizations, advisory boards and educational associations, promote fundraisers to acquire adequate program funding, assist with the State Leadership Conference silent auction, reception and chapter basket contest, and assist with the selection of Proficiency Awards and National Chapter Awards. In addition to this support, the Arizona FFA Alumni provides college scholarships to FFA members in hopes that they will not only be successful in their educational pursuits, but they will continue to support the FFA in the future—perhaps as Alumni members themselves!

### **Carnell Sipes Memorial Scholarship**

Number of Scholarships: 1
Amount to student: \$500

Scholarship Committee: The Family of Carnell Sipes

Required to attend an AZ college: Ye

Brief Description: This scholarship is sponsored by the friends and family of Carnell Sipes. One \$500 scholarship will be given

annually to a student pursuing an agricultural career who plans on attending an Arizona university or community

college

Scholarship history/bio:

Carnell Sipes was born November 18, 1932 in Antlers, Oklahoma to Chester Randolph and Irene Cook Sipes. Carnell attended many, many elementary schools in Oklahoma, Texas, California and Arizona until his seventh grade year when he started school in Coolidge, Arizona. He graduated Coolidge High School in May, 1952. September, 1952 he joined the United States Air Force reaching the rank of Staff Sergeant as an air craft mechanic. He spent 3 years, 3 months, 3 days stationed at Hickam Air Force Base in Hawaii and was Honorably Discharged in July, 1956. Carnell returned to Coolidge to work in his dad's blacksmith and welding shop and met Ruby Wofford. They were married in October, 1956.

March, 1957 Carnell went to work in the underground mine at San Manuel, Arizona. Carnell decided to take advantage of the GI Bill and enrolled at the University of Arizona in September, 1958. Carnell graduated with a BS in Agricultural Education in May, 1962 and immediately accepted a position as agricultural education teacher and FFA advisor at San Simon, Arizona. Carnell taught at SSHS for 35 years retiring in 1997. While teaching Carnell and Ruby bought three small farms and developed a nice farming operation, raising cotton, Alfalfa, corn, milo, maize, and chill and children.

Carnell and Ruby had four children: Susan Hughes, Elizabeth Dunn, Stephanie Nilson and Steven Carnell Sipes. All four children are public school teachers in Arizona. Carnell was very proud to see his son and one of his daughters become agriculture education teachers and FFA advisors. Carnell was a tough man and after undergoing open heart surgery to replace a valve he developed an infection. He had to have open heart surgery to replace the valve four more times in the next eighteen months and passed away on May 28,2002.

The kids say he waited until after school was out for the summer to die so they would not have to miss any days teaching. The beginning of this scholarship was the money people sent in their condolence cards. This was added to by individual donations from the Wofford and Sipes families, agriculture teachers and many, many other friends. Ruby and the children held an auction to sell the farm equipment to pay off the farming debt and his first tractor and a horse trailer were auctioned off to add to the Scholarship. We hope your use of this scholarship helps produce as great a career as Carnell Sipes enjoyed.

### Cy Henry Memorial Scholarship

Number of Scholarships: Amount to student:

\$500

Scholarship Committee:

Arizona FFA Scholarship Committee Required to attend an AZ college:

Brief Description:

One \$500 one-year scholarship sponsored by the friends and family of Cy Hentry is presented to Arizona FFA members in good standing. Preference is given to students with students who have been actively engaged in all levels of FFA and who are preparing to enter agriculturally related field of study.

Scholarship history/bio:

The Cy Henry Memorial Scholarship was started by a granddaughter out of love and appreciation for her grandfather. Cy Henry was an agricultural education teacher at Coolidge High School in Coolidge, Arizona, as well as the Coolidge FFA Advisor, from 1952-1984. After his death, his granddaughter Ashley established this scholarship fund in his name. During his time in Coolidge, it was obvious that Mr. Henry had a heart for FFA members and a true passion for seeing his students succeed. Countless students were able to benefit from his instruction and leadership. Even though she never had him as a teacher in the classroom, Ashley was influenced by her grandfather's wisdom. "He always inspired me to be the best that I could be," Ashley says. "He would have loved to know that his endowment is helping someone achieve their goal of becoming an ag teacher."

Recipients of this scholarship should be intending to major in agricultural education with the intention of becoming an ag teacher. In addition, they should have an excellent record of FFA involvement and achievements.

### **Duane Daley Memorial Scholarship**

Number of Scholarships Given: Amount to student:

\$1,000

Scholarship Committee:

Arizona FFA Scholarship Committee

Required to attend an AZ college:

Brief Description:

The scholarship in the memory of Duane Daley is in the amount of \$1,000. The scholarship will be awarded annually to a member of the Superstition or San Tan Districts. The applicant must plan to pursue a four year degree in agriculture. The recipient must be an entering student at an Arizona community college or university. Priority will be given to those students who show financial need and who have been active in leadership positions and community development activities. Preference will also be given to those students who will pursue a degree in Agricultural Education or Agriculture Technology Management.

Historical Background:

The Duane B. Daley Memorial Scholarship is to honor a man who understood and appreciated the importance of leadership, service and hard work. Duane Daley was born in Mesa and was involved in the family farm and cotton ginning business. He attended Chandler High School where he participated in several sports and the FFA. During high school, Mr. Daley served as both a chapter and district officer. While attending the University of Arizona, he was drafted into the US Army to serve in WWII where he earned the rank of Captain. Upon the conclusion of the war, he returned to Arizona, served in the Arizona National Guard, and began his own farming operation in the Mesa area. He later moved his farming operation to the Maricopa area and began several businesses in the Casa Grande area. Always active in his community, Duane Daley served on several municipal, county and state boards and commissions. He also appreciated the value and significance of agricultural education and the FFA Organization. Mr. Daley was a life member of the FFA Alumni Association and one of the founding board members of the Arizona Ag Ed/FFA Foundation. His family sponsors this scholarship to continue the legacy of Duane Daley and to recognize outstanding FFA members as they continue to strive toward serving in the industry of agriculture.

### **Emil M. Rovey Scholarship**

Amount to student: Amount to student:

\$1.000

Scholarship Committee:

Family members of Emil M. Rovey

Required to attend an AZ college:

Brief Description:

The Emil M. Rovey Scholarship is \$1,000, renewable for two additional academic years. The scholarship will be presented to an FFA member who will or is enrolled at the University of Arizona to pursue a four-year degree in an Agricultural field of study. Preference will be given to students who have shown outstanding leadership and participation in FFA at the chapter, district and state levels, as well as academic achievement.

To renew this scholarship, the recipient must:

- be a continuing University of Arizona undergraduate student;
- be enrolled in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences;
- have and maintain an acceptable grade average; and
- submit a scholarship renewal request to the State FFA office by March 1st of each year of eligibility.

Scholarship history/bio:

The Emil M. Rovey Scholarship is in memory of Emil M. Rovey, a farmer, dairyman, poultry producer and cattle rancher headquartered in Glendale, Arizona. Emil Rovey was born in 1916 in Phoenix to an Arizona farming family. He graduated from the University of Arizona, College of Agriculture in 1939 and for three years was the State 4-H Extension Agent.

In 1943, he purchased a dairy farm in Glendale. For the next two decades, the size and scope of the farming operation grew to include a large poultry business and a cattle ranch in Bloody Basin. Emil was always a hands on farmer, doing whatever work that needed to be done, be it night irrigating, milking cows, driving tractors, going to town for parts, ordering water, paying employees and bills, etc.

Mr. Rovey was also known for his ongoing association with international students, which began in 1954 when two Danish brothers came to his farm in search of work. During the next 30 years, approximately 200 international students, mostly from Denmark and other Scandinavian countries, worked on Rovey Farms.

Emil was a member of the Glendale-Peoria Farm Bureau for more than 50 years, a director of the Southwest Producers and Consumers Cooperative, helped organize the Co-Op Dairy, which merged into the United Dairymen of Arizona in 1964, and served on the Council and Board of the Salt River Project. Because of his dedication and leadership to agriculture, Mr. Rovey was named "Man of the Year in Arizona Agriculture" by the state Future Farmers of America in 1958.

Many of Emil's 9 children and 24 grandchildren have continued in his footsteps in various fields of agriculture in Arizona and other states. With an engaging smile, Emil Rovey was a large man, who left a large legacy to the Arizona farming and ranching community. He died in 1998.

### Dr. Glen Miller/Ag Ed Scholarship

Number of Scholarships Given: #REF Amount to student: \$500

Scholarship Committee: UofA Department of Agricultural Education

Required to attend an AZ college: Yes

Brief Description:

One scholarship will be given to a current University of Arizona student who is entering his/her junior or senior year. Preference will be given o Agricultural Education majors with a minimum of 2.5 GPA and who has demonstrated financial need. A current FAFSA application on file with the UofA is required.

Glen M. Miller graduated from the University of Arizona in 1969 in the Department of Agricultural Education. He was hired by Mayer Public Schools to start the Vocational Agriculture Program. His wife, Elizabeth, was hired to teach 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. Mr. Miller started the Agriculture program in the rented Mayer State Bank building in downtown Mayer. He had one screw driver, one claw hammer, and all of the 4-H free materials he could obtain. The first year he taught science as well as agriculture as he built the program. By the third year all of the student body of Mayer High School enrolled in Vo. Ag. with the exception of one student. The 59 students rapidly gained a love of FFA and Vo. Ag. In the next 9 years the program produced state officers and many contest winners. Students were featured in two nationally produced films promoting FFA and Teaching. Your Land - Your Future and Hometown America featured Mr. Miller and the Mayer program. Dr. Miller's view of modern agriculture and agricultural education stands as solid now as it did when he was quoted in the 1972 Mayer High School year book. "To many people, agriculture is considered only to be the product of plants and animals to provide food and fiber for the people of the world. However, agriculture is more extensive than that. Today, agriculture encompasses all the occupations where knowledge, skills, and abilities are necessary for a person to enter into the world of agriculture work. Agriculture includes farmers, ranchers, buyers, and sellers of agricultural products, agricultural mechanics, cowboys, inspectors, salesmen, chemists, teachers, scientists, economists and many other diversified occupations. The total picture of agriculture includes the pure and applied science necessary to get the raw materials onto the supper table. " In 1981 Mr. Miller left Mayer to become the Director of the New Teacher Program for the Department of Agricultural Education at the U of A. In the next three years he helped first year teachers all over the state of Arizona and worked with Dr. Clinton O. Jacobs by assisting with laboratory instruction in agricultural mechanics.

In 1984 Mr. Miller and family left Tucson and he enrolled in the doctoral program at Mississippi State University. While there, in addition to being a full time student, Dr. Miller taught undergraduate classes in agricultural mechanics. Dr. Miller completed his doctorate in Agricultural Education in 1986 and was hired by the University of Arizona to teach agricultural mechanics and methods of agricultural education.

For the next 22 years Dr. Miller taught undergraduate and graduate classes in Agricultural Education. He developed new courses in Turf and Landscape Management and in Agricultural Power and Machinery. Dr. Miller taught numerous workshops for teachers. Dr. Miller was the superintendent of the State FFA Agricultural Mechanics Career Development event for 22 years.

### **Gary Dyer Endowed Scholarship**

Number of scholarships given

1

Amount to student: Scholarship Committee:

Arizona FFA Scholarship Committee

Required to attend an AZ college:

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Brief Description:

One \$1,000 scholarship sponsored by Farm Credit Services Southwest is presented to a Arizona FFA members in good standing. Preference is given to a high school senior at the time of application, pursuing a degree at a four year college or univeristy with a declared major in agriculturally related fields of study or business, 2.80 G.P.A. and students who have been actively engaged in all levels of

Scholarship history/bio:

Farm Credit Services Southwest is a proud sponsor of FFA based on the shared beliefs to advocate for the long-term success of our youth and agriculture. We pride ourselves on supporting the ag community not only by providing financial services to farmers and ranchers today but also by our involvement and support of the many youth programs such as FFA that solidify and ensure the future of agriculture.

As a former member of FFA, who raised steers and was also a part of the Agronomy judging team, it is a natural fit to assist with programs that promote the development of young agricultural professionals by supporting local FFA chapters through donations, sponsorships and scholarships. These programs provide youth at an early age, the foundation for leadership and communication skills in preparation for college and eventually their careers.

Because education is central to the future of agricultural professionals, Farm Credit Services Southwest provides support through our S.T.A.R.T. program (Supporting Tomorrow's Agricultural Representatives Today) and FFA Renewable Scholarships. Each year two incoming college or university freshman will receive a \$1,500 scholarship; one for Arizona FFA and one for California FFA. Thereafter, each year the scholarship is renewed assuming the student maintains certain qualifications. After its inception, beginning the fourth year of the program a total of eight students will qualify to be annually awarded this renewable scholarship. The 2013 FFA Renewable Scholarship recipients were Kayla Kerr (AZ) and Emily Herzog (CA). We are proud to participate in the development of young ag professionals and look forward to seeing what the future holds for past, current, and future scholarship recipients.

Another area of support is the FFA/Agricultural license plate which was approved last year by the Arizona legislature. The FFA license plate allows individuals to display their affinity for Arizona's agricultural youth, the FFA, and Arizona agriculture. Farm Credit Services Southwest has proudly declared, "We support Arizona FFA" by purchasing the FFA license plates for all of the company fleet vehicles.

From the past 100 years to the next 100 years, our passion for serving agriculture drives us in providing quality products and services; and helping our industry partners to ensure the legacy continues for future generations. All of us at Farm Credit are thankful for the opportunity to serve agriculture and Rural America.

Handwerker Winburne Inc.

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Amount to student:

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Amount to student: Endowment Status: \$500

Presentation Date: Scholarship Committee: This scholarship is not endowed State FFA Leadership Conference Arizona FFA Scholarship Committee

Required to attend an AZ College:

Yes

Brief Description:

Handwerker Winburne sponsors Nine \$500 scholarships to students pursuing an agricultural career and plan on attending an Arizona university or community college. Scholarships will be awarded to members of(one each) Buckeye, Coolidge, Casa Grande, Marana, Antelope, Cibola, Gila Ridge, Kofa, and Yuma FFA Chapters. If one of the nine schools does not have an applicant, that scholarship can go to a student from one of the other schools listed. If there are not nine applicants, the remainder scholarships can go to student(s) from school(s) within the Yuma, Estrella, and South Central Districts.

Scholarship history/bio:

In 1977, Winston Handwerker founded a cotton marketing firm predicated upon grower relationships developed over 30 years. The result was the formation of W.P. Handwerker & CO., Inc. in Fresno, California. Shortly thereafter, an office was opened in Phoenix to serve the desert southwest growers of Arizona.

These offices served the marketing needs for western cotton growers, gradually building a volume in excess of 400,000 bales of California and Arizona cotton. W.P. Handwerker & Co. became a major source of Western U.S. cotton for both domestic and export markets.

In 1990, upon the retirement of Mr. Handwerker, the firm continued as Handwerker-Winburne, Inc. under the direction of G.W. Winburne, previously Vice President and manager of the Arizona office. Handwerker-Winburne, Inc. is an active member of the Western Cotton Shippers Association, the American Cotton Shippers Association, and the National Cotton Council. It continues in its original objective to serve the marketing needs of progressive cotton producers throughout the west. Sound marketing strategies, professional service and a solid world-wide reputation have been the cornerstones of it's continued success.

### **James Accomazzo Memorial Scholarship**

Number of Scholarships Given: 1
Amount to student: \$1,000

Scholarship Committee: Arizona FFA Scholarship Committee

Required to attend an AZ college: Yes

**Brief Description:** 

This scholarship in the amount of \$1,000 is in memory of Tolleson farmer James Accomazzo. The scholarship will be presented to an FFA member who plans to enter an agriculturally related field of study. Student must be an entering student attending an Arizona community college or university. Preference will be given to students who show financial need and would not otherwise be able to attend college.

Historical Background:

The James Accomazzo Memorial Scholarship is dedicated to the memory of Mr. James "Jimmy" Accomazzo was a lifelong farmer. Growing up as the son and grandson of farmers, he began farming on his own in 1968. After he passed away in 1993, his wife Jacque, and sons, continued his farm operations. The Accomazzo Company and its affiliate, Legacy Farming Company currently farm almost 5,000 acres in Tolleson and Harquahala Valley. The Accomazzo Company has an excellent reputation for well-kept farms, professional management, and high-quality products- exactly the kind of legacy that Mr. Accomazzo hoped to leave. In addition to farming, Jimmy was a member of the Salt River Project Council and numerous other agricultural and community boards and committees. He is also a member of the Arizona Farming & Ranching Hall of Farme.

Mr. Accomazzo was a dedicated supporter of the FFA on both the local and state levels. Having served as a state officer himself, he recognized the valuable role that FFA could play in the lives of young people. He truly believed that FFA involvement helped young people mature into responsible citizens who were willing and able to contribute to society and to agriculture. To help young people realize their agricultural potential, he was instrumental in soliciting donations from the surrounding agricultural community to establish a thriving scholarship fund for the Tolleson FFA Chapter.

Jimmy Accomazzo was a man truly dedicated to excellence in agriculture. This scholarship is intended to assist young agriculturalists in furthering their education so that they too may contribute to the agricultural industry with their time, talents, and interests. Recipients of this scholarship should have an outstanding record of academic achievement and dedication, along with an intention to pursue a career in the agricultural industry.

### JR Cullison Memorial Scholarship

Number of Scholarships Given:

Several

Scholarship Committee:

University of Arizona Department of Agricultural Education

Required to attend an AZ college: Ye

Brief Description:

The JR Cullison memorial scholarship is awarded annually to students who are pursuing degrees in

Agricultural Education at the University of Arizona.

#### Scholarship history/bio:

Joseph Ralph "JR" Cullison was born on May 9, 1909 in Illinois, he died May 8, 1998 in Phoenix. A longtime Arizona resident, he was one of the first farmers to receive water from the Wellton Mohawk Irrigation and Drainage District in 1952. He was on the board of directors that founded the Growers Mohawk Gin in Roll. He was a deacon in the Westminster Presbyterian Church in Phoenix. He was a graduate of the University of Illinois and did graduate work at Colorado State College in Fort Collins, CO.

He taught vocational agriculture in Arthur, IL, Gibson City, IL and Tolleson, AZ and was assistant professor of agricultural education at the University of Arizona. He was listed in the Biographical Directory of Leaders in Education.

Active in community and state affairs, he served as state executive secretary of the Arizona Association of Future Farmers of America and state supervisor of agricultural education and was serving as state director of vocational education at the time of his death. In addition, he was an honorary member of Future Homemakers of America, held an honorary State Farmer Degree and was honorary member of DECA where he received the Outstanding Service Award from the national organization.

He sponsored legislation that set up a guaranteed Farm Youth Loan Fund, which guarantees loans to Future Farmers and young farmers up to 25 years old. He also organized and incorporated the Agricultural Leaders Foundation to provide vocational agriculture teachers an opportunity to pool their resources and invest them in agriculture.

He was a member of the committee appointed to counsel the U.S. Office of Education in revising the National Policy Bulletin for Vocational Education.

He also wrote several articles for professional magazines.

He was a member of Phi Delta Kappa, Alpha Tau Alpha, Arizona Junior College Board, the board of governors of the Agricultural Hall of Fame, board of directors of the National Association of State Directors of Vocational Education, superintendent of the vocational division of the Arizona State Fair, member of the advisory committee of the board of directors of the Arizona National Livestock Show and Masonic Lodge.

### Otto and Edna Neely

Amount to student: Amount to student:

\$500

Arizona FFA Scholarship Committee Scholarship Committee:

Required to attend an AZ college:

Brief Description:

\$500 scholarships are available to the members of the San Tan and Superstition districts each year (one per chapter). These scholarships will be awarded with preference given to (in order of importance) financial need, FFA activity, and scholarship.

Scholarship history/bio:

The Otto and Edna Neely Foundation Scholarship commemorates the generosity of two beloved individuals. Otto B. Neely was born in 1900 and soon after moved to Gilbert, Arizona with his family. In 1928, he married Edna Trout, a teacher. Throughout their lives, Otto and Edna Neely were deeply committed to honoring their beliefs in hard work, frugal living, Christian principles, and caring for those in need. Mr. and Mrs. Neely prospered as farmers, and they never failed shared their good fortune with others. The couple had no children of their own, but were still known and loved by all and became "Aunt Edna" and "Uncle Otto" to generations of Arizonans. Otto passed away in 1987, and Edna followed him in 1993. However, their care and commitment to the lives of others continues through the outreach of the Otto & Edna Neely Foundation, a non-profit corporation dedicated to those who need assistance. Their gifts have provided scholarships and grants for young people to obtain an education, provided homes for children, and offered a helping hand to the ill or infirmed. The legacy of Mr. and Mrs. Neely lives on today as the Foundation continues to improve and enrich the lives of Arizona's citizens.

### The Kenneth E. & Judith Williams Family Scholarship

Number of Scholarships Given: 3 Amount to student: \$1,200

Scholarship Committee: Williams Family Members

Required to attend an AZ college: Yes

Brief Description:

\$1200 scholarships will be awarded to an FFA member who is pursuing a four year degree in Agriculture. The recipient must be a student at an Arizona community college or university. Preference will be given to a student who have shown outstanding leadership and participation in the FFA at the chapter, district and state levels, good academic achievement and plans to enter the Horticulture or Agribusiness Industry.

Historical Background:

The Williams Family has a deep respect for the industry of agriculture. This family has been extensively involved in the Arizona Nursery Industry for many years. Mr. Ken Williams, in addition to owning and operating his own greenhouse in Mesa, Arizona, also served as the president of the Arizona Nursery Association from 1988 to 1989. Mr. Williams was also the Arizona State FFA President for the 1958-1959 school year. The Williams Family has been an active member of the Arizona Farm Bureau, the Ohio Florist Association, and the Alpha Zeta Alumni Association. Their rich history of excellence in agriculture and agribusiness has served as an inspiration for many.

This scholarship was begun by the Williams family as a way to encourage FFA members who wish to continue their agricultural education at an Arizona university. The family hopes to offer financial support to young people who have been inspired by the FFA to pursue their unique interests in agriculture. It is the ideal award for students with an interest in horticulture or agribusiness who have shown exceptional leadership in all aspects of their FFA career. The Williams Family hopes that their legacy of agricultural excellence will be perpetuated for years to come through the academic and professional careers of outstanding FFA members.

### Ron Rayner Family Scholarship

Number of Scholarships Given: 2 Amount to student: \$1,250

Scholarship Committee: Rayner Family Members

Required to attend an AZ college: Yes

### **Brief Description:**

Two \$1,250 one-year scholarships sponsored by Ron and Heather Rayner are presented to Arizona FFA members in good standing and have shown a high degree of activity. Preference is given to students who will attend the University of Arizona in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. Students may receive this award multple years. This scholarship may be awarded to students who are currently attending college.

#### Scholarship history/bio:

Ron Rayner is a third-generation Arizona farmer. A partner in A Tumbling T Ranches with his two brothers, Earle and Robert, and his nephews John and Perry, they grow cotton, alfalfa and grains in the Goodyear and Gila Bend areas.

Ron also is an organizing director, stockholder and president of Farmer's Gin, Inc., in Buckeye, and serves as Chairman of the Board of Electrical District No. 8. Since 1999 he has served as a director of Calcot Ltd., a cotton-marketing cooperative for Arizona and California growers. He also currently serves as a director and is a past president of the Arizona Cotton Growers Association.

A leader in the cotton industry, Ron served as president of the National Cotton Council in 1999. Ron is only the fourth Arizonan to serve as president of the NCC, an organization that encompasses all seven segments of the industry - from production to shipping to manufacturing.

Ron graduated with high distinction from the University of Arizona in 1964 with a bachelor of science degree in Agricultural Education. His affiliations at the UofA included Alpha Gamma Rho fraternity, Alpha Zeta, Alpha Tau Alpha and Phi Kappa Phi national honorary.

He was a charter member of the Agua Fria FFA chapter and served in several leadership positions. He graduated from Agua Fria Union High School in 1959. His senior year of high school he served as State FFA Secretary, then after graduation served as State FFA President for the 1959-60 term. He earned his American Farmer degree in 1961 and was awarded the state FFA Alumni award in 1966. Later he also received the honorary State Farmer degree and the honorary American Farmer degree. The family's FFA tradition continued with Ron's daughters, Laura and Ronda, both participating in FFA. Laura also served as State Secretary during her senior year at Agua Fria.

#### Salt River Project

Number of Scholarships Given:

Amount to student: \$1,200

Amount to student: \$1,2 Scholarship Committee: Ros

Rosemary Gannon, SRP

Required to attend an AZ college:

Brief Description:

Two \$1,200 one-year scholarships sponsored by Salt River Project are presented to Arizona FFA members in good standing. Preference is given to students with high academic standing. Specifically, SRP will fund two \$1,200 one year scholarships to FFA students entering an Arizona college or university whose educational interests are in math, science, engineering or an agricultural-related field of study.

Historical Background:

In the early twentieth century here in Arizona the water supply proved to be a significant issue in a newly settled state. This issue fueled the beginnings of SRP (Salt River Project) in the year 1903, an organization that is now responsible for supplying water and power to over 920,000 residents of the Phoenix Metropolitan Area. SRP is responsible for successfully managing local natural resources in order to serve the needs of the local population using responsible, sustainable practices. However, over the years SRP has proved to be involved in more than just the water and power business—they are in the business of building strong communities. SRP believes in a bright future for the communities it serves and is committed to investing time, resources and energy into the programs, projects and events that make Arizona a great place to live.

Whether it means providing financial support to hundreds of nonprofit organizations and events, mobilizing its volunteer force for neighborhood projects, or leading the way in environment-friendly technologies, SRP is proud to help Arizona shine. SRP supported programs and projects can be seen in nearly every facet of the community, from the Mesa Arts Center to Chicanos por la Causa (an economic development organization) to the Arizona Association FFA. The FFA has benefited from its relationship with SRP because of their shared goals and commitment to service and leadership. One way that SRP has continued to show support for the Arizona Association FFA is by sponsoring the SRP FFA Scholarship. This scholarship ensures that FFA members have the opportunity to further their education, pursue successful careers, and continue to serve their communities.

### **Tolleson FFA Booster Scholarship**

Number of Scholarships Given: Amount to student: 1 \$1,000

Scholarship Committee:

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Required to attend an AZ college:

: No

Brief Description:

The Tolleson FFA Boosters sponsors a \$1000 scholarship to a students from the Estrella district with significant financial need unless there are no qualified candidates, then the scholarship can be awarded to any qualified

Arizona FFA member.

Historical Background:

The Tolleson FFA Chapter was one of the first Chapters in the State of Arizona. Many agricultural leaders from the west side of the Valley of the Sun in the Phoenix area attended Tolleson High School and were members of the Tolleson FFA Chapter. These leaders worked hard to achieve their education and lead successful businesses and lives. They are in key leadership positions in companies and business across Arizona and beyond. They established this scholarship with their own funds to help support other young FFA members achieve their individual dream of a college education. They want the scholarship to go to FFA members with significant financial limitations from the Estrella District unless there are no qualified candidates, then the scholarship can be awarded to any qualified Arizona FFA member. It is intended to support a low income student with significant financial need. If Tolleson Union High School re-establishes an FFA chapter, the scholarship funds will specifically be distributed to students from the Tolleson FFA Chapter.

### Young Farmers & Ranchers

Number of Scholarships Given:

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Amount to student: Scholarship Committee:

Arizona FFA Scholarship Committee

Required to attend an AZ college:

Anzona FFA Schola

Brief Description:

The Arizona Farm Bureau Young Farmers & Ranchers sponsors a \$500 scholarship to a student pursuing an agricultural career who plans on attending an Arizona university or community college. Preference will be given to students who are members of Farm Bureau or whose families are members of Farm Bureau, but it is not a requirement. The student who is selected as the recipient will be asked to attend 2 YF&R activities for the year.

Historical Background:

The average age of an American farmer is 55, and the average American is three generations removed from the farm. So what does this mean for the future of agriculture? It means young leadership is needed.

Arizona Farm Bureau's Young Farmers & Ranchers are rising to meet this challenge. YF&R develops young agriculturists who will shape the future of agriculture. The YF&R Program is designed to provide leadership and professional development opportunities for agriculturists between the ages of 18 and 35.

YF&R is an integral and valuable part of Farm Bureau's activities. The organization has realized that young people who are given opportunities and training assume responsibility early in life. Farm Bureau realizes the importance of well-trained young leaders to serve as the present and future voice of agriculture. It needs their idealism, enthusiasm and courage.

YF&R Members are actively engaged in Farm Bureau events including policy development, interacting with legislators at the Annual Legislative Ag Fest and serving as delegates to the State Annual Convention. In addition to participating in Farm Bureau activities, the YF&R Program also develops its own Program of Activities including Day at the Capitol, Conferences, Ag Tours, and Retreats.

YF&R provides this scholarship to assist young people pursuing an agriculture career through an Arizona university or community college so that they may better serve the agriculture industry.