

Local Student Receives Ford Family Foundation and Kaiser Scholarships

Vernonia High School graduate Deziree Skye Roberts has received college scholarships from The Ford Family Foundation and Kaiser Permanente.

The Ford Family Foundation has selected 106 students from Oregon as new Ford Scholars. This year's Oregon Ford Scholars were chosen from 4,026 applicants.

Kaiser Permanente is awarding \$2,000 grants to 108 graduating high school seniors who plan to pursue careers in health care through their Health Care Career Scholarship Program.

Roberts will attend Linfield College where she plans to major in Biology with the hope of becoming an orthodontist.

Kenneth Ford built his business, Roseburg Forest Products C. from a one-man operation in the 1930's into one of the west coast's largest wood products manufacturers. He established The Ford Family Foundation after the business had experienced several decades of growth. Mr. Ford created the scholarship program to help students who would find it difficult to obtain a college degree without financial assistance. Other scholarship programs supported by the Foundation include the Ford Opportunity Scholarship Program, and the Ford Restart Scholarship Program. Since 1994 the Foundation's scholarship programs have awarded students more than \$124 million.

Eligibility criteria include financial need and merit qualifications. In addition, Scholars must attend an accredited, nonprofit college in Oregon and be pursuing a bachelor's degree full-time. The renewable scholarship covers 90 percent of each student's unmet financial need for college (\$1,000 minimum/\$25,000 maximum) each academic year, with first-year awards averaging \$8,448 per year.

Kaiser Permanente has awarded almost \$1.25



Deziree Skye Roberts

million to 566 students in the service area stretching from Longview, WA, to Salem, OR.

Roberts was awarded her scholarship during a presentation on May 18th at the Performing Arts Center on PCC's Sylvania Campus.

"We at Kaiser Permanente are proud to support these outstanding young people as they pursue their dreams of a career in health care," said Sue Hennessy, vice president, Strategic Planning & Health Plan Services for Kaiser Permanente. "Each year, I am inspired by the intelligence, determination and compassion shown by the scholarship recipients."

The Kaiser Permanente Health Care Career Scholarship Program seeks to increase and diversify the region's health care workforce by investing in the professional and personal health of youths. The scholarships are administered by the Oregon Area Health Education Center at OHSU.

Preference is given to students whose parents did not go to college, who show a demonstrated financial need, who are members of an ethnic or racial group underrepresented in a health care profession, and who speak English plus a second language.



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