

SCHOOL ZONE

A Monthly Newsletter for the Siuslaw and Mapleton School Districts and Community Groups

HOW TO EARN A SCHOLARSHIP



The cost of a college education continues to rise. The College Board says the average cost of tuition and fees for the 2015-2016 school year was \$32,405 at private colleges, \$9,410 for state residents at public colleges, and \$23,893 for out-of-state residents attending public universities. In 2013 and 2014, the average cost of a year's tuition at one university was \$5,772.

The high cost of education compels many students to find ways to finance their education. For many, that means exploring available scholarships. These come in different forms and are usually offered to students as a gift to be put toward college or university costs. Some schools offer scholarships, while other scholarships are sponsored by outside organizations.

Students who meet certain requirements may be eligible for scholarships. While academic or athletic skills are the first criteria associated with scholarships, they are not the only avenues by which students can pursue scholarships. Scholarships may be offered to students of certain ethnic groups; children of employees at particular companies; or to students who live in particular states. Local organizations like the Rotary Club and Kiwanis also may give out scholarships.

To improve one's odds of getting a scholarship, consider the following tips.

- Get involved with the community. Many scholarship sponsors



seek individuals who are committed to volunteerism. Plus, volunteering for various groups puts students in the path of information about scholarships from these organizations.

- Use scholarship search engines. Those who search for scholarship sponsors should find plenty of results if they peruse scholarship search engines such as Scholarships.com, CollegeBoard.com and FastWeb.com.

- Check the local newspaper and media sources. These are a great resource for finding locally based scholarships.

- Use networking contacts. Students should ask anyone they know

if they are aware of any scholarship opportunities. Students who develop a rapport with guidance counselors or the financial aid department at their prospective colleges or universities may learn about scholarship opportunities that are not highly publicized. These people may have the inside track on scholarship information.

- Apply for all available scholarships. Now is not the time for students to become lazy. Students should apply for as any scholarships for which they meet the eligibility requirements.

Scholarships can help students offset the rising costs of a college education. Those who are willing to put in the research, time and effort to apply may find a wealth of scholarship opportunities at their disposal. — *Metro*

Community 101 students bring grants to 13 area nonprofits

Community 101 at Siuslaw West Learning Center students applied for the Community 101 Foundation Grant this year and were awarded \$5,000 to distribute throughout Florence and surrounding communities.

The mission statement for this year is, "Siuslaw West High School Community 101 students, with support from The Oregon Community Foundation, will grant funds to Florence-area nonprofit organizations that focus on student services, such as housing and resource needs, poverty, mental and behavioral health."

The students selected 13 area nonprofits to encourage applications for amounts to share the \$5,000 grant award. Of the 13 sought out, seven of them requested funds, six were selected by the students, and all were interviewed to make sure that each nonprofit matched the program's mission statement.

The awards ceremony will be held at 4:30 p.m. Monday, April 30, at the Siuslaw Public Library, 1460 Ninth St.

The community is invited to come and join the fun as students give away the grant money they worked hard to achieve.

Community 101 thanks all who applied for the grant. — *Submitted by Stephanie Rogers*

MAPLETON INTERACT WORKS WITH FLORENCE ROTARY TO RAISE MONEY FOR FOOD SHARE

Rotary Club of Florence and the Mapleton High School Interact Club raised \$400 for Mapleton Food Share in April. Here, students Kaleigh Anderson and Richy Gastelum present the check to Karen Harden from the food share. Interact is a club for high school students ages 14 to 18 who want to connect with others in their community or school. There are clubs at both Siuslaw and Mapleton. Interact club members have fun while carrying out service projects and learning about the world. The Interact clubs organize at least two service projects a year: one to benefit the community and one to encourage international understanding. The clubs also plan projects that involve helping area schools. While Interact clubs receive guidance and a donation from the Rotary Club of Florence, they govern and support themselves. For more information, visit www.theflorencerotary.org.



SUBMISSIONS WELCOME

Deadline for submissions is the 15th of every month.

Be a part of School Zone, a monthly newsletter for students in the Siuslaw and Mapleton school districts.

Email Siuslaw News Features Editor Chantelle Meyer at cmeyer@thesiuslawnews.com

ARTIST OF THE MONTH – *Cinema Studies*

Olivia Olmstead

BY AUDREY LOWDER
Siuslaw High School Student

Siuslaw sophomore Olivia Olmstead was chosen by Mr. Edward Mielke as this month's Artist of the Month. Her proud parents are Noah Olmstead and Christina Doyle.

Olivia said that Cinema Studies is "really fun."

"Mr. Mielke is a great teacher," she said. "He's full of laughs, jokes and stuff, and sarcasm, so it's a really fun, feel good atmosphere. We've been studying actual movies. We've done three movies so far: 'Rebel Without a Cause,' 'Citizen Kane' and 'Run, Lola, Run.' I'm pretty sure we're going to end the quarter with one more movie."

Olivia is currently working on a short film, that will be about 3 to 5 minutes long.

"I've been working on the plot and everything for about two

months now," she said. "It's about this small group of friends and one friend disappears into the woods because they are trying to find something. I convince my two other best friends to come with me into the woods to find her and we find something that we weren't actually looking for."

She said it can be stressful, as "I have to film outside and, as you can see, it's very cloudy and windy, so I haven't been able to film. It's a class project, but Mr. Mielke has been thinking about doing a film showing, and he was going to get teachers from U of O because they have this huge unit for cinema studies."

The class went to the University of Oregon film department last year for workshops.

"The project that I'm most proud of is one from last year where you take a picture and the objects move — stop motion animation. We did that with Dori-



Sophomore Olivia Olmstead loves cinema studies and English.

PHOTO BY CAROL JOLLEY

tos, and it was an adventure to get revenge on the buyer because he ate some of the chips from the Dorito bag. That was one of my favorite ones."

Other than cinema studies, Olivia also likes creative writing and English.

"I like to write a lot," she said. "I have a huge bookshelf in my house and I love reading, too."

In college, Olivia plans to do more English, but hopes to minor in cinema studies.

"I think it's really interesting and a fun class to be in. I'm either thinking of becoming an English teacher or a publisher," she said.

As she says about her plans — "I'm not gonna spoil it, but yeah, that's the plot so far."