



DARING THE ODDS

Scholarships that support students who have faced personal challenges toward reaching their goals

COMPLETED APPLICATION DUE BY April 8, 2022, 5:00p.m.

The **Jim Levine Legacy Scholarship (JLLS)** honors a Youth Project leader, mentor, and friend for his lifetime commitment in making a difference in the lives of children and youth in Mendocino County. Jim Levine began his nearly 40-year career as a para-professional Youth Worker and went on to become the Executive Director of the "Youth Project." His interest in youth came from his innate kindness coupled with a deep understanding of what can make a difference in a child's life. In the development of youth intervention and prevention services at the Youth Project, Jim implemented the Positive Youth Development (PYD) approach. PYD is a prosocial approach that engages youth within their communities, schools, organizations, peer groups, and families in a manner that recognizes and enhances youth strengths and promotes positive outcomes for young people while providing opportunities and supports so they may overcome adversity and build upon leadership skills. To this day, Positive Youth Development is the foundational core of all Youth Project services.

Jim Levine was known throughout Mendocino County, the State of California, and the nation as a mentor and advocate for high-risk children, youth, and young adults. Many of the youth he directly served or who participated in Youth Project prevention activities have followed his footsteps and as adults obtained certification or college degrees and work in the human services field.

Each year, graduating seniors who attend high school in Mendocino County are awarded the Jim Levine Legacy Scholarship. The JLLS awards are stewarded and presented by the Board of Directors of the non-profit affiliate within Mendocino County Youth Project, the Mendocino Family & Youth Services. As a graduating senior we welcome your application and wish you success!

2022 JIM LEVINE LEGACY SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Name: _____

Home Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Home phone: _____ Cell phone: _____

Email address: _____

Preferred way of contact (circle one): Home phone Cell phone Mail Email

Date of Birth: _____ Birthplace _____ Sex/Gender _____

High School Attending _____

What college/trade school/university are you planning to attend? _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Field of interest: _____

When will you be starting? _____

Have you been accepted? _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

1. **Obtain application prior to deadline: submit complete application and supplemental materials on time and deliver on/or prior to APRIL 8, 2022, to:**

**Mendocino Family and Youth Services
Mendocino County Youth Project
776 S. State Street, Suite 107
Ukiah CA 95482**

2. **Applicant must be a graduating high school senior attending a high school in Mendocino County or be 16 years of age and completed the high school equivalency exam.**
3. **Applicant must be planning to pursue higher education at one of the following:**
 - **Junior College**
 - **Year College or University**
 - **Trade School**
 - **Apprentice Program**
4. **Applicant must submit a personal essay of not more than 500 words on why you should receive the Jim Levine Legacy Scholarship. The two-page essay must be typed, double spaced, with one-inch margins, and 12-point font. Submit one copy only. Criteria for successful applicants to include would be:**
 - a. **Detailing a personal, educational, or family challenge that was overcome for them to finish high school and apply to and be accepted at an accredited college, university, or vocational program/school. The Jim Levine Legacy Scholarship committee is interested in supporting students who have faced challenges in their life, prior to graduating from high school. These students did not originally intend to go to college or vocational school when they first entered high school or had difficulty achieving college prep grades throughout their high school years due to personal challenges. In your essay describe the challenges that you overcame.**
 - b. **Next, describe your involvement in school, volunteerism, or work activities.**
 - c. **State a clear vocational/educational goal you have for your future and describe why you have chosen it.**
5. **Applicant must submit all high school/college transcripts. An official high school or Jr. College transcript must be signed/notarized by school official.**
6. **Applicant must submit two letters of recommendation dated within the last three months (A parent or close relative CAN NOT be considered as a reference). One must be from a teacher or counselor and the second should be from an adult who supports your future goals and the challenges you overcame. Paper clip letters to application or have your reference email their letter to us at rsmellus@mcyp.org. Each letter must include the name of the applicant; comments on the applicant's character and abilities; an opinion of his/her ability to profit from furthering their education; and the name and occupation of person writing the letter.**

7. If you are awarded a scholarship, be prepared to provide proof of enrollment to the school of their choice with follow-up of transcripts showing completion of at least one semester/quarter. Scholarship funds will be sent directly to the school where you have been accepted and enrolled for 2022-23. If you have already been accepted, provide a copy of your acceptance in the application packet.

8. SCORING

ESSAY: 80 TOTAL POINTS

- Describe the life challenges you have faced on your path to graduating from high school. Explain how overcoming these challenges has prepared you to enter college or vocational school. (UP TO 50 POINTS)
- Describe volunteer or work activities you have performed at school, or in the community that were a part of your decision to further your education. (UP TO 10 POINTS)
- Describe a clear educational or vocational goal. (UP TO 10 POINTS)
- Essay Composition. Including correct spelling, punctuation, and grammar. (UP TO 10 POINTS)

REFERENCE LETTERS: 20 POINTS

- 2 reference letters are required, both must be from NON-RELATIVES. Your references may be attached to your application packet, mailed or hand delivered separately. Preferred references are adults who support your future goals and the challenges you overcame. At least one letter should be from a high school teacher or counselor. Paper clip letters to application or have your reference email their letter to us at rsmellus@mcyp.org.

9. PHOTO OPPORTUNITY: MCYP celebrates students who are awarded through local newspapers announcements and through posts on our website and social media. Please check your preference:

Yes, I agree to being photographed No, I do not wish to be photographed

Name, contact information of reference

#1 _____

Name, contact information of reference

#2 _____

As the parent / legal guardian or as the applicant student who is over age 18, my signature below authorizes _____(school) to release my/ student information for the purpose of verifying High School Graduation 2022, a condition of being awarded the JLLS.

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature

Date

Student Signature

Date

COMPLETED SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM

500 WORD OR LESS ESSAY (attach)

TWO NON-RELATIVE REFERENCE LETTERS (attach, mail, or email)

HIGH SCHOOL TRANSCRIPT (attach)

And any other transcripts that support your application, i.e., Mendocino College