



Gretna Public Schools Foundation 4-Year College Scholarship

The Gretna Public Schools Foundation has as one of its purposes the establishment of scholarships to assist Gretna students in obtaining a post high school education. This scholarship will be given to a graduate of Gretna High School seeking post high school education leading to a Bachelor's Degree.

Gretna Public Schools Foundation Vocational/Tech Scholarship

The Gretna Public Schools Foundation has as one of its purposes the establishment of scholarships to assist Gretna students in obtaining a post high school education. This scholarship will be given to a graduate of Gretna High School seeking post high school training in preparation for a vocational career.

Gretna Kids Connection Scholarship

This scholarship is awarded to a Gretna High School graduating senior that has worked for Gretna Kids Connection for at least 2 years and has worked a minimum of 500 total work hours.

4the4 Scholarship

The families of Alex Minardi, Abby Barth, Kloe Odermatt and Addisyn Pfeifer honor their daughters' memory and set a legacy for the girls through the 4the4 Scholarship. This scholarship is open to all graduating seniors of Gretna High School who have maintained a 3.0 or higher GPA. All four girls were so full of life and had such bright futures ahead of them. They were just beginning to forge their paths in the world and we will never be able to see where their paths may have taken them. It is our hope that this memorial scholarship will help the recipients to realize their potential of their own dreams.

Abby Barth Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship honors the legacy of Abby Barth, a student at GHS and member of the Gretna High School Dance Team. Abby was known for being a talented, competitive dancer, for being confident, smart, funny, and fun-loving, and for being supportive and loyal to her many friends. Dance was a big part of Abby's life, helping to forge who she was, and creating priceless memories along the way. Two scholarships are awarded annually and are open to seniors on the Gretna High School Dance Team with a minimum GPA of 3.0.

Addisyn Pfeifer Scholarship

This scholarship is awarded to a Gretna High School graduating senior who has been a NSAA recognized student athlete for 2 years.



Adolph and Eva Dietze Memorial Scholarship

Adolph, a local businessman and former Gretna mayor, and Eva, a former school teacher, were longtime residents of Gretna. Their 3 children all graduated from Gretna Public Schools. Education was very important to the Dietze family, but their children were limited in their options for higher education due to lack of funds from the long depression and WWII. Understanding that education costs money, their son Dwayne and his wife Sally put together this scholarship to honor their parents. Any student seeking post high school education is encouraged to apply for this scholarship.

Alex Minardi Memorial Scholarship

Alex Minardi had a passion for living life on her own terms. She was determined, independent and ultimately accomplished whatever she set her mind to despite any obstacles that came her way. She was known for being protective and loving of her family and friends and was determined to succeed in all aspects of her life. Alex was a competitive dancer from a young age which instilled in her a confidence and a healthy competitiveness that carried over into other aspects of her life. Alex had a strong desire to become a Pediatric Surgeon and through her determination and perseverance, she was on a successful trajectory to reaching that very lofty goal. Those goals -- and her life -- were cut way too short along with her best friends on June 17, 2019. Some of Alex's best qualities were her loyalty and supportive personality as well as her drive to achieve the goals she set for herself. This scholarship is meant to represent some of who Alex was and will be awarded to an individual that aspires to do better, be better and live better.

Arlisse Barkley Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship is established in memory of Arlisse Barkley by her family and friends. It will be given to a Gretna High School graduate seeking post high school education. Selection of the recipient will be based upon financial need and educational goals.

Colin Janssen Memorial Scholarship

Colin Janssen was a 2006 graduate of Gretna High School. Colin tragically passed away from a rare neurological condition in August of 2010. Colin's first brush with this disease occurred when he was a sophomore in high school. Colin loved sports and participated in them to the greatest extent that his doctors would allow. Colin overcame great difficulty to become a varsity basketball player and baseball player. Even though he was never supposed to receive a blow to the head, he participated in football as an extra point holder and non-contact scout team quarterback. Colin started his college career at Midland Lutheran College on a baseball scholarship and set his sights on becoming an elementary school teacher and coach. Unfortunately, the tumor on his cerebellum came back and several more tumors started appearing along his spinal cord and throughout his brain. He endured two brain surgeries and four spinal surgeries but never gave up on his dream of being a teacher. In his honor, we have established the Colin Janssen Memorial Scholarship. Applicants for this scholarship need to be individuals who have been involved in extracurricular activities while attending Gretna Senior High School and plan on pursuing a career in education.



Darrel Jahn Memorial Scholarship

Darrel was the youngest child of Oscar and Emma Jahn. He was diagnosed with Muscular Dystrophy as a small child. Darrel attended the country school that his father had attended until the school closed. He then transferred to Gretna Public Schools where he attended until his senior year. He passed away during his senior year at the age of 17. Any student seeking post high school education is encouraged to apply for this scholarship.

Dr. Joseph Pinkall Memorial Scholarship

Joseph Pinkall, Ed.D. was a long time Gretna resident. He taught science at Gretna High School from 1960-1972. He was an active member of the Gretna community, serving in multiple ways including Gretna City Council and various roles at Resurrection Lutheran Church. His three children were graduates of Gretna High School and have all obtained graduate degrees in the sciences. This scholarship was established in memory of Dr. Pinkall by his family. Scholarship preference may be given to a student pursuing a degree in a science or education related field.

Gage Nech Memorial Scholarship

Gage graduated from GHS in May of 2021. Gage touched many lives with his big heart and serving hands while he was with us. He was an amazing son, brother, and loyal friend. At an early age, he showed self-confidence and had the determination to figure things out on his own. He loved life, the great outdoors, was an avid hunter, fisher, and entrepreneur. After working in many aspects of the lawn care industry throughout high school, Gage founded and was the sole owner of Platinum Lawn and Landscape. He was adamant about doing the best job he could offer his clients, big or small. Gage was always buying, selling, trading, serving and giving to others, and having the time of his life doing it. Gage studied HVAC in the Metro Career Academy during his junior and senior years. This scholarship is meant to recognize the hard work, determination and entrepreneurial spirit of a candidate interested in a trade.

Hazel Lyn Kolbo Memorial Scholarship

Hazel Lyn Kolbo was a dedicated teacher and mother. She sought the best of educational opportunities for her children and children everywhere. She believed that being a teacher and serving children was a great and rewarding calling. In her honor, the Hazel Lyn Kolbo Memorial Scholarship has been established with contributions by her husband, family, and friends. This scholarship will be given to a graduate of Gretna High School who is planning to become a teacher.

Herman A. Schnack Trades Scholarship

Herman was a 1940 Gretna High graduate who spent his entire life farming on the family homestead. Herman took great pride in his work and expected the same work ethic and devotion from those who worked with him. This scholarship will be given to a student with a demonstrated interest in and talent for construction and technical trades. Student must have completed at least three CTE classes.



John J. and Doris M. Buford Legacy Fund Scholarship

This scholarship will be awarded to a graduate of Gretna High School who is pursuing a degree in nursing or pre-law.

Kay Kolbo Russell Memorial Scholarship

Kay Kolbo Russell was a dedicated nurse and mother. She was a 1981 Gretna High School graduate. Kay was very athletic and also had a nursing and military background. In honor of Kay, family and friends have established this scholarship to be given to a female athlete who is planning on going into the nursing or medical field.

Kloe Odermatt Memorial Scholarship

Kloe Odermatt, a student of the Gretna High School class of 2021, was known for her infectious smile, fierce determination and love for her family and friends. Kloe left this earth on June 17, 2019 and joined her dad, who passed away in October 2011, when Kloe was only 8 years old. Kloe's life was forever changed after the loss of her father, but she didn't let those struggles hold her back. Instead, she courageously lived every day as if it was a gift, loving with all her heart and laughing with all of her soul; every day keeping her dad's memory alive. In Kloe's name, the Odermatt family would like to honor a senior who has experienced a loss of a parent or guardian, has demonstrated leadership, and is active in the community.

Joseph Koke Memorial Firefighter's Scholarship

This scholarship is funded on behalf of the Koke & Meyer families. Their goal is to support a Gretna High School Senior or Seniors going to a 2-year or 4-year college or university. The student MUST have an active family member in the Gretna Fire Department to qualify.

Kristen Kuhn Memorial Scholarship

Kristen Kuhn was a 2014 graduate of Gretna High School. While attending GHS, she was a member of the National Honor Society, played softball for 3 years, volleyball for 1 year, participated in One Act, was a member of various clubs and was selected for both prom and homecoming courts. Academics were a high priority for Kristen, both in high school and college. She was honored to be a Regents Scholar at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln where she was a biological sciences major. Kristen had an innate love for all animals and hoped to one day attend Iowa State and become a veterinarian. She was also a member of Kappa Alpha Theta sorority. In 2016, Kristen was diagnosed with a rare form of bone cancer called Ewing's Sarcoma. She battled courageously for nearly 3 years with an unwavering faith surrounded by an army of family, friends, and her fiancé, Connor Shedeed (GHS 2014 grad) throughout her illness and until in passing in November of 2018. In Kristen's honor, her family has created the Kristen Kuhn Memorial Scholarship. Applicants for this scholarship need to be individuals who have been involved in extracurricular activities while attending Gretna Senior High School, and who have a GPA of 3.5 or better. Applicants should complete the application form and share a story of how cancer has impacted their life.



Lyle Allbery Memorial Scholarship, sponsored by Gretna United Methodist Church

This scholarship honors the late Lyle Allbery, who was a 1949 Gretna High School graduate and was a member of the Gretna United Methodist Church for over 50 years. Lyle worked for Union Pacific Railroad and was General Chairman of the Machinists Union, a former Mayor and City Councilman for the city of Gretna, coached little league softball for many years, and was an active member of the American Legion Post #216, where he served as Commander several times. This scholarship will be given to a senior who is a member of Gretna United Methodist Church and is planning to attend an accredited college, university, or tech school.

Melissa Broz Memorial Scholarship

Melissa Broz was a dedicated educator, wife, and mother. She was a 1998 Gretna High School graduate. Melissa worked as a Speech Language Pathologist for Gretna Public Schools. In honor of Melissa, her family and friends have established this scholarship in her name. This scholarship will be given to any Gretna High School Senior who displays an interest in continuing education in the speech pathology or associated field. This applicant will also need to show a dedicated role to the Gretna school district and/or community.

Oscar and Emma Jahn Memorial Scholarship

Oscar Jahn grew up on a farm in Gretna. He attended elementary country school District 14 and went on to Gretna High School for his freshman year. He quit school after that school year to work on the farm with his father. He served on the Country School Board for many years. Oscar passed away in August 1977. Emma Jahn grew up on a farm near Lake Andes, South Dakota. She moved to Omaha where she worked for several years and met Oscar. They married and raised 3 children who all attended Gretna Public Schools. Emma passed away in March 1979. Any student seeking post high school education is encouraged to apply for this scholarship. Financial need and future goals will be considered.

Robert A. Schnack Memorial Scholarship

Bob was a 1966 Gretna High graduate with a love for landscaping and a passion for cooking – specifically making hot sauce! He was a hardworking and fun-loving family man. This scholarship will be given to a student with a demonstrated interest in and talent for the construction/technical trades or the culinary arts. Student must have completed at least three CTE classes.

Russell Snodgrass Memorial Scholarship

Russell Snodgrass moved to Gretna with his Dad when he was in elementary school. He graduated from Gretna High School in 1957 and joined the US Navy. He was stationed in the Philippine Islands until December of 1959. He returned and began working for Continental Can Co. Russ married Oscar and Emma Jahn's only daughter, Delores, in 1964. They had 3 daughters, Rhonda, Becki, & Vicki who all attended and graduated from Gretna High School. Russ passed away in 1975 when his daughters were still very small. Any student seeking post high school education is encouraged to apply for this scholarship. Financial need and future goals will be considered.



Samantha Jo Walters Memorial Scholarship

Samantha Walters was a 2011 graduate of Gretna High School. Samantha struggled with ADHD her whole life and with persistence and the help of her family, friends, and teachers, she overcame many obstacles. Not only did she achieve excellent grades, but she graduated with honors. Samantha went through life with a smile on her face, and eye on the future and a love of taking care of the children at the daycare in which she worked. In April of 2012, Samantha passed away from injuries sustained in a car accident. This scholarship was established in memory of Samantha Walters by her mother, Darcy Iske. Additional contributions were made by John K. Green. The purpose of this scholarship is to assist students who struggle with learning disabilities or behavior/mental issues. The scholarship candidate must be pursuing a degree in Special Education OR must be a special education student. Financial need and future goals will be considered.

Seth Feyerherm Memorial Scholarship

Seth graduated from Gretna High School in December 2023. Seth approached life with passion, hard work, and humor. He was very active in the Gretna One Act theatre program. He was also enrolled in the Metro Community College Welding Career Academy where he planned to obtain his Associates degree and advance into the welding trade. Seth enjoyed fishing, hiking, gaming and just spending time with friends being goofy. He was always ready with a good pun or dad joke to make you laugh. He enjoyed longboarding and catching a great sunset. He also had a passion for good music. Seth had a heart for God and doing good for others. In a short time, Seth had an amazing impact on this world. His impact lives on with the gift of life that he shared through organ and tissue donation. Seth aspired to have a career in the trades built upon his passion for welding. This scholarship is intended to recognize the hard work, talent, and determination of a candidate interested in a trade.

Steven J. Schnack Trades Scholarship

Steve was a 1970 Gretna High graduate who worked the family farm and was a highly skilled Komatsu back-hoe operator who competed at statewide back-hoe rodeos. His passion was running equipment and restoring his 1970 Mustang Mach I. This scholarship will be awarded to a student with a demonstrated interest in and talent for the construction and technical trades. Student must have completed at least three CTE classes.

Susann Ashley Zona Memorial Scholarship

Susann Ashley Zona graduated from Gretna High School in 2007. Susann had a great sense of humor, a giving heart, and was an inspiration to many. In her honor, her family, and the many people she touched have established this scholarship. The scholarship candidate must be pursuing a degree in Special Education OR must be a special education student.

*****Over 40 additional Community, Business, PTO, and Booster Club scholarships are available on the scholarship portal to be awarded to Gretna High School Seniors.**