Mid-Michigan United Sportsmen’s Alliance

DONALD VANDENBOS SR. MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

FOR CONSERVATION, WILDLIFE, FISHERIES, OR NATURAL RESOURCES STUDIES

March 6, 2019

Greater Montcalm Area High School & Middle School Counselors

RE: **Donald Vandenbos Sr. Memorial Scholarships / MUCC Summer Youth Camp Scholarships**

Attention Counselors:

Allow me to introduce myself. I am Joe Velchansky, a member of the Mid-Michigan United Sportsmen’s Alliance (MMUSA) which is organized locally as a volunteer, nonprofit, 501(C)3, charitable organization whose purpose is to educate both sportsmen and the community about wildlife and conservation related issues affecting them in the greater Mid-Michigan area while working for improvement and unification. MMUSA accomplishes this purpose through a multi-organizational task force comprised of individual members and representative members from other area outdoor, wildlife, and conservation oriented organizations such as Ducks Unlimited, the Quality Deer Management Association, the Michigan Trapper’s and Predator Association, the Montcalm Conservation District, the Flat River Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation, the Belding Sportsman’s Club, and the Flat River Conservation Club to name a few. We are a Michigan United Conservation Clubs affiliate and meet monthly at Twin Ponds Sports Shop in Stanton.

A major focus of MMUSA is striving to teach youth and our communities about the out of doors and our natural resources. To compliment this effort, we have established two (2) annual $1,000.00 scholarships, and this will our 8th year of making them available, to this year’s graduating seniors among other eligible candidates as described in the scholarship criteria attached. The scholarship is to assist student recipients in defraying their tuition and fee expenses in pursuit of education in the areas of conservation, wildlife, fisheries or natural resources studies. Consequently, we are contacting you, as counselors from the high schools in the greater Montcalm/Ionia County area in hopes you will help us market these scholarships to your eligible and interested students. Two recipients have been awarded in each of the past seven years. Also attached is the scholarship application and instructions. We would appreciate your posting of this information and ask that you contact me with any questions or concerns you may have. Due date and submittal instructions can be found on the attached documents.

Thank you,

Joe Velchansky, MMUSA Scholarship Chairman

5116 W. Briggs rd.

Stanton, Mi. 48888

Home phone: (989) 831-8698

Cell phone: (616) 894-6214

Email: Josephv@frontier.com

**Attachment: MMUSA Scholarship Application, MMUSA Scholarship Criteria**

**MID-MICHIGAN UNITED SPORTMEN’S ALLIANCE (MMUSA)**

**Donald Vandenbos Sr. Memorial Scholarship**

The **purpose** of MMUSA’s Donald Vandenbos Sr. Memorial Scholarship(s) is to assist student recipients in defraying their tuition and fee expenses in pursuit of education in the areas of conservation, wildlife, fisheries or natural resources studies. It will also promote community awareness of the mission of MMUSA, the importance of career opportunities in these fields, and retention of our area youth.

MMUSA will offer two (2) scholarships in May or June, 2019 in the amount of **$1,000.00 each**.

Applicants must be a 2019 **graduating high school senior or a high school graduate.**

Preference will be given to graduates from educational institutions in the **greater Montcalm County area**.

Applicants must be in or entering a field of study of **conservation, wildlife, fisheries, or natural resources.**

**Grade Point Average** will be a consideration and a **transcript is required**.

Financial need will not be a selection criteria.

Required **Letters of Recommendation** should attest to the applicant’s character and abilities to succeed.

**Community service** experience related to conservation, wildlife, fisheries, natural resources, or the environment will be a consideration.

Applicants must complete the **Scholarship Application form** and an essay describing their career and professional goals and why they would like to receive this scholarship and file with MMUSA **by April 12, 2019**.

The scholarship is **not automatically renewable**. However, both unsuccessful scholarship applicants and successful scholarship recipients **may reapply** for the scholarship again during the next Scholarship Application Cycle which will typically be one year. These applications will then be considered and evaluated along with those of new applicants for any available scholarships.

**MMUSA is organized as a volunteer, nonprofit, 501(C)3, charitable organization whose purpose is to educate both sportsmen and the community about wildlife and conservation related issues affecting them in the greater Mid-Michigan area while working for improvement and unification. MMUSA will accomplish this purpose through a multi-organizational task force comprised of individual members and representative members from other area outdoor, wildlife, and conservation oriented organizations. While doing so, it shall be MMUSA’s policy to conduct its actions in compliance with all aspects of the Internal Revenue Service rules and regulations related to 501(C)3 nonprofit status.**

**MMUSA, c/o Twin Ponds Sports Shop, 650 S. State St., Stanton, MI 48888, (989) 831-4890**

**Mid-Michigan United Sportmen’s Alliance**

**DONALD VANDENBOS SR. MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FOR CONSERVATION, WILDLIFE, FISHERIES, OR NATURAL RESOURCES STUDIES**

MMUSA, C/O Twin Ponds Sports Shop**,** 650 S State St., Stanton**,** MI48888

(989)-831-4890 www.midmiusa.com

**\*\*DUE NO LATER THAN APRIL 12, 2019** (Use Back Of Application Or Attach Another Sheet Of Paper If Necessary)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Your Name: |  | Cumulative GPA: |  |
| Address: |  | Phone #: |  |
|  |
| Name of High School or College: Expected Graduation Date:  |  | Email Address |  |
|  |
| **Your Plans** |
| Career Plans/Goals: |  |
| College You Plan To Attend: |  | Have you been accepted? |  |
| **Your Education**  |
| What Math Courses Have You Taken? |  |
| What Science, Biology, or Natural Resources Related Courses Have You Taken? |  |
|  |
| What Lab, Shop or Voc. Tech. Courses Have You Taken? |  |
| **Your Experience** |
| List Any Work Experiences You Have Had. *(Date, Title, Responsibilities)(Use back if needed)* |  |
|  |
|  |
| List your Extra-Curricular Activities & Community Service Involvement: |  |
| Do You Have Any Special Abilities, Skills, or Knowledge We Should Know About You? |  |
| **Your Goals** |
| Explain Your Career Plans? |  |
|  |
| **Please attach a 1-page essay describing your goals and why you would like to receive this scholarship, a transcript(s) of your grades, and one or more letters of recommendation attesting to your character and abilities to succeed.** |

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 **(Scholarship Applicant Signature) (Date)**

**\*\*Send Application To:** MMUSA Scholarship, C/O Twin Ponds Sports Shop, 650 S State St., Stanton, MI 48888