



# ST. VINCENT DE PAUL HIGH SCHOOL

ENTER TO LEARN, LEAVE TO SERVE

## **STEPS TO APPLY FOR SCHOLARSHIPS**

1. Students will complete one (1) typed General Scholarship Application.
2. Students attach one (1) copy each of your typed Response Page(s) to your complete General Scholarship Application. Please use one Response Page per individual scholarship essay response. You may apply for as many scholarships as you qualify.
3. By 1/24/2020 students return the complete typed SVHS Scholarship Application packet to:

St. Vincent de Paul High School  
c/o Mrs. Falvey  
849 Keokuk Street  
Petaluma CA 94952

A 1/24/20 postmark will be accepted --- late or partial applications will not be considered. Completed applications are to be turned in all together and at the same time. Partial applications will not be considered. Emailed applications will not be considered.

4. Eligibility Criteria --- Where applicable all student applicants must:
  - a. Be a continuing or incoming SVHS student.
  - b. If a scholarship has a GPA requirement, earn a minimum GPA of 2.50.
  - c. Possess strong character and compassion for fellow students.
  - d. Have a current and active community service record. Current SVHS students must have a complete community service file while incoming students must provide the contact name and phone number to verify service.
  - e. Be in good overall standing at SVHS or current school.
  - f. For SVHS 9<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> grade students: Where "Sport's Team Participation" is a requirement the student must have participated in at least one SVHS sport per year and demonstrated excellent sportsmanship. Some scholarships have additional sport's participation requirements.

It is essential that students (and parents) pay close attention to the school email blasts, and the school website for scholarship updates. Incoming 9<sup>th</sup> grade students who are awarded scholarships will be notified with their acceptance letter through the Admission's Office. Current & continuing SVHS students who are awarded scholarships will be notified by way of an invitation to our annual Academic & Scholarship Ceremony. Invitations are generally sent out by the end of April.

Scholarship opportunities:

**8<sup>th</sup> through 11<sup>th</sup> grade students**

- Saint Vincent de Paul & BVM Sisters Scholarship
- Ed & Stella Cella Memorial Scholarship for Community Service
- Tom & Judy Gavin Memorial Scholarship

**9<sup>th</sup> through 11<sup>th</sup> grade students**

- PEF SVHS Guglielmetti Scholarship (graduates of St. Vincent de Paul Elementary School, Petaluma)
- Kavanaugh Scholarship (11<sup>th</sup> grade students only)
- Kiwanis Foundation Brendan Smith Memorial Scholarship
- John & Ann Broxmeyer Memorial Scholarship (SVHS sport's participation required)
- Dan Ercolini Memorial Scholarship (SVHS sport's participation required)
- Burkart-Trapani Scholarship for Community Service
- Young Maturing Student Athlete Scholarships (SVHS sport's participation required)
- Dr. Mary Abascal Hildebrand Memorial Scholarship

Students read the following prompts for each scholarship. Read instructions carefully. If you meet the criteria you may answer the essay question on the *Response Page*. Applicant should write thoughtful and informative responses to each question. Essays are weighted heavily in the scholarship selection.

## **St. Vincent de Paul & BVM Sisters Scholarship**

8th through 11th grade students

*"Strive to live content in the midst of those things that cause you discontent. Free your mind from all that troubles you, God will take care of things." --- Saint Vincent de Paul*

Among the many saints and great Christian leaders of the Church in the seventeenth century, Saint Vincent de Paul stands out pre-eminent as an apostle of charity and an educator of the clergy. His long life of devotion to the service of his neighbor is a model for our imitation. Charity was his predominant virtue. It extended to all classes of persons, from childhood to old age.

Vincent de Paul was born in 1580 in France. Although his family didn't have much, Vincent always gave whenever he could. By age 20 he was ordained a priest and began his work on his doctorate degree in theology. In 1635, Vincent found the Congregation of the Mission, known as the Vincentians. They devoted themselves to working to aid the poor. He established many hospitals and orphanages, ransomed Christian slaves in northern Africa, founded seminaries, sent priests abroad to preach missions, organized relief programs for war torn areas, and wrote on many spiritual topics. *Vincent came to believe that when you have nothing, the only help you have is God.* Vincent devoted his entire life to helping others, trying to alleviate human suffering and misery. The 80 year-old saint died in 1660.

*"Thank God often. Love Him much in return for all His gifts." --- Sister Mary Frances Clarke, BVM*

Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, known by their initials BVM, are a Roman Catholic religious order founded in the United States by Mother Mary Frances Clarke in 1833. To provide for the continuing desire for a religious co-educational high school the Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary (BVM) were the third and last order of religious women of faith to come to Petaluma arriving in 1892. Since they were able to teach both boys and girls of all ages they began a long and committed ministry in Petaluma.

The BVM Sisters of Charity taught at St. Vincent de Paul schools for more than 100 years. Over the years of their stay there were approximately 138 sisters who taught actively in the elementary school and approximately 95 who taught in the high school. Because of the strong influence of these women of faith, 20 young women of our parish have entered and served as members of the BVM order.

St. Vincent's is indebted to the work and zeal of all these religious women who came from 1867 to 1986 to minister to the St. Vincent Parish Community. They came with the love of God embedded in their hearts. For them, Christ had no hands but theirs. With Christian humility and dedication, they served us all. The women of the BVM order have served in diverse ministries in multiple states and in at least three foreign countries.

BVM Sisters uphold a mission of three basic philosophies of living. 1) By living core values of freedom, education, charity, and justice. 2) By strong public witness against oppression brought about by unjust political and social structures. 3) By solidarity with those marginalized by society, and by speaking in supportive and non-violent action.

ESSAY QUESTION | In a maximum of 400 words and in the giving and serving spirit of both Saint Vincent de Paul and the BVM nuns...

- 1) Please describe the volunteer work you have done thus far.
- 2) How has this community service affected you?
- 3) How have you made a difference to those you served?
- 4) How do you plan on continuing this service and why is it important to volunteer?

### **Ed & Stella Memorial Scholarship for Community Service**

8th through 11th grade with no GPA minimum

The Ed and Stella Cella family of 13 children are all alumni of St. Vincent de Paul High School. Established by the Cella children in memory of their parent's many years of tireless dedication to the St. Vincent Community. Ed and Stella exemplify the true meaning of volunteerism and commitment to a Catholic education.

ESSAY QUESTION | In a maximum of 400 words...

- 1) Please share details from one or two of your community service experiences.
- 2) Why did you choose these services?
- 3) What have you gained from these experiences?

*Be sure you have complete Community Service Record information listed on the Activities Record page of your General Scholarship Application.*

### **Tom & Judy Gavin Memorial Scholarship**

8th through 11th grade students with no minimum GPA requirement

The Tom Gavin Memorial Scholarship was established in 2008 by Tom's wife and daughter, an SVHS alumna. After Judy's passing in 2013 this scholarship was lovingly renamed by their daughter in both of her parents' names. Tom was the kind of guy who had an affectionate nickname for all of his friends and family.

ESSAY QUESTION | In one paragraph...

Please tell us the story behind your favorite nickname that you have been given. If you have never had a nickname, please tell us what you think it should be, based on your personality or a particularly memorable incident or story in your life that exemplifies your character.

### **Petaluma Educational Foundation SVHS Guglielmetti Scholarship**

Current 9th, 10th and 11th grade SVHS students

The Guglielmetti and Hansen families both have long histories of farming in Petaluma, west Sonoma County, and north Marin County. Established many years ago in support of and with special consideration to St. Vincent de Paul High School students living, participating and working in agriculture in this area.

#### **Eligibility and requirements**

- 1) Graduate of St. Vincent de Paul Elementary School.
- 2) Applicant and their family currently working in the field of agriculture.
- 3) Includes all varieties of farming, producing and selling home farmed products and/or 4H members.
- 3) Minimum GPA of 3.0

ESSAY QUESTION

- 1) Describe something in your life for which you are thankful;
- 2) Please detail how you meet the specific eligibility requirements #2 and #3 listed above, and;
- 3) What impact would this money would have on you?

### **Kavanaugh Scholarship**

Current 11th grade SVHS student

Established to honor the extraordinary dedication of Mr. Edward Kavanaugh to the St. Vincent de Paul High School community. Mr. Kavanaugh retired as principal of SVHS in 2004. Eligible students must have an excellent disciplinary record, and be in overall good standing with SVHS. This scholarship is intended for students who consistently demonstrate integrity, compassion, generosity, and respect for others.

#### ESSAY QUESTIONS

- 1) What has been the most meaningful and thought-provoking experience from your service efforts during high school and why? Think about your service with family, friends, church or other community volunteer areas.
- 2) As of now, what are the occupations or career areas you think might interest you for the future and why?

### **Kiwanis Foundation Brendan Smith Memorial Scholarship**

Current 9th, 10th and 11th grade SVHS students with a minimum GPA of 3.0

#### ESSAY QUESTION

Please write a 500-word essay about your volunteerism and how your volunteering made a difference to you personally, or made a difference to the recipient of your efforts.

*Be sure you have complete Community Service Record information listed on the Activities Record page of your General Scholarship Application.*

### **John & Ann Broxmeyer Memorial Scholarship**

9th, 10th and 11th grade SVHS students & SVHS sport's team participation required (at least one year varsity level required) with a minimum GPA of 3.0

John Broxmeyer was an alumnus of St. Vincent de Paul High School. Although John's passion was basketball, he had a great love for all sports and the entire St. Vincent de Paul High School community. This scholarship was established in his memory by his wife Ann several years ago. Ann passed away in 2017 at the age of 100. Her family continues to offer this scholarship in honor of both John & Ann. The purpose of this award is to recognize those students who possess strong spirit to their school, and dedication to their school sport with great sportsmanship and teamwork.

#### ESSAY QUESTION

Tell us how your experience with being a member of a high school sport's team has taught you about such things as positive school spirit, good sportsmanship, being a role model and teamwork both on and off the playing field.

### **Dan Ercolini Memorial Scholarship**

Current 9th, 10th and 11th grade SVHS students and SVHS sports team participation required

Dan Ercolini was a 1970 graduate of St. Vincent de Paul High School. He died unexpectedly at the age of 53, but is remembered strongly by his high school classmates and teammates that became lifelong friends. He had a dynamic personality, deep wisdom and strong values of commitment, friendship and integrity. He was a voracious reader. There was no genre that he did not explore for education and for fun. He spent four years in the Speech and Debate Club under the wise tutelage of Mr. Gonzales. Dan had no fear of expressing himself verbally. He had an intelligent, well-read opinion on everything. He could take either side of a debate, just for the fun of it without losing sight of his strong moral compass. He would never bore a new acquaintance with his own life story, he preferred to find out what this new friend might be interested in, and then discuss it with great gusto. Dan wasn't shy about expressing his opinions whether you wanted to hear it or not. However, he would always think carefully before speaking or making a commitment to a sports team or his friends because he believed that his word was the most important thing he had, and once he said he would do something, nothing would get in his way. This commitment to following through on his word lead him to lifelong friends, a strong family, and many leadership opportunities in career, volunteer work, and amateur sports.

ESSAY QUESTION | In a maximum of 400 words...

- 1) How has commitment, integrity and friendship impacted your life?
- 2) Why are these values important to you as they were to Dan?
- 3) Be sure to include examples of these shared values.

### **Burkart-Trapani Family Scholarship of Service**

Current & Continuing 9th, 10th and 11th grade students

The Burkart-Trapani Family has developed this scholarship to focus on community service specifically in the area of leadership and hands on work with diversity and inclusion. This could be volunteer service with any groups specific to areas such as ethnicity, sexual persuasion, age, socio-economic status, or mental or physical disabilities, but it is important to have shown some leadership involvement to help others come together. The family believes that we live in a world that is too divisive and we need more of our young people working to include others and appreciate each other's differences.

#### **Eligibility**

- 1) Be in good overall standing at SVHS with a minimum GPA 2.50;
- 2) Have a current and active community service record

ESSAY QUESTION

Exhibit experience with community service in the area of leadership, hands-on work, diversity and inclusion.

### **Young Maturing Student Athlete Scholarships**

Current 9th, 10th and 11th grade SVHS students and SVHS sports team participation required

ESSAY QUESTION | In a maximum of 400 words...

Why do you feel that positive role modeling and strong dedication to your school sport, teammates and studies are important traits for a "Young Maturing Student Athlete"? Include an example of excellent sportsmanship, strong team play, or commitment and dedication to your school sport and studies.

## **Dr. Mary Hildebrand Scholarship**

Current 9th, 10th or 11th grade female SVHS student of color

Dr. Mary Abascal-Hildebrand came from humble beginnings. The daughter of Spanish immigrants, she grew up with little academic support from her parents, since her mother only went through fourth grade and her father was ill much of her childhood and then died before she was a teenager. She and her three brothers therefore had to rely on each other to put themselves through school.

Dr. Abascal-Hildebrand was a smart, involved student in high school, but lacked confidence. She was accepted to UC Berkeley but was intimidated and did not go. She instead graduated from San Jose State University with two bachelor's degrees in Education and raised two sons. After realizing she needed more independence, she attended Dominican University for a Masters in Special Education. She quickly ascended the ranks and even oversaw the Sonoma County services for Special Education. She remarried, and became a mother to two more sons and a daughter. (Three of her children later attended St Vincent's). She also returned to school and earned a doctorate from the University of San Francisco, focusing in applied ethics and hermeneutics. Over her many years of doctoral research and teaching she dedicated herself to the study of worker owned cooperatives and other projects related to empowerment. In 1992, she decided to also reinvest in her passion for early childhood education and founded Little Oaks Preschool, which later became based in Montessori, because she found great wisdom in the process of learning by doing. Over time, she opened more locations, including a school serving through third grade, as well as a second pre-school location. She was a fierce supporter of all causes related to women, children, people with disabilities, and people of color. She served her community in many ways, including working for KQED in parent education, six years on the board of Catholic Charities in Sonoma County, and multiple other esteemed boards. Her energy was rare. Unfortunately, she was diagnosed with terminal cancer in 2014, and is expected to pass away soon. She hopes to help select the first recipient of the award.

### **Eligibility**

- 1) Minimum GPA of 3.0
- 2) Demonstrates academic excellence, leadership skills, and a commitment to serving marginalized people.

ESSAY | 500 words answering the following prompt...

Describe your background and service to marginalized people and share how your academic and career goals would honor Dr. Abascal-Hildebrand's legacy.