Patricia Nourot Memorial Scholarship

Purpose of Scholarship
Dr. Patricia Nourot (1947-2006) was a professor of Early Childhood Education at Sonoma State University from 1988 to 2004. She earned a PhD in Educational Psychology at the University of California, Berkeley in 1983. Dr. Nourot was a friend and role model to her students and a renowned scholar of early childhood education and children’s play. Throughout her career she worked closely with school districts in Sonoma, Napa, and Solano Counties toward the goal of high quality education for preschool, primary, and elementary age children.

This scholarship honors Dr. Nourot by providing funds to cover educational expenses for students in the Early Childhood Studies minor, the Early Childhood Studies major, or the Early Childhood Education master’s degree program at Sonoma State University. In each academic year, applications will be considered and one scholarship of up to $300 will be awarded. The student who is awarded the scholarship will be notified by December 15, and the funds will be available for spring semester.

Who is Eligible
To be considered for this scholarship, applicants must

- have been officially admitted to the ECS minor or major and have at least junior standing
- be a graduate student in the MA in Early Childhood Education program. Graduate students must be actively enrolled and in good standing in the program.

Application Instructions

1. Complete all parts of the attached application form.
2. Request a recommendation from a person who is knowledgeable about your academic work and/or your work with young children. Appropriate persons from whom to request a recommendation include faculty members at SSU, a faculty member at a community college you attended, a director of an early care and education program, etc. Please print the recommendation form (the last three pages of this application), fill out Part 1, and then give it to the person who will provide your recommendation. S/he should return the form directly to Ms. Elizabeth Jones at the address below by Oct 30, 2017. We recommend that you provide a stamped, addressed envelope to the person completing the form.
3. Attach copies of transcripts from all post-secondary institutions attended (transcripts do not have to be official).
4. The deadline for applications is Oct 30, 2017. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Please submit your complete application and transcripts to:
Ms. Elizabeth Jones
Stevenson 1078F
School of Education
Sonoma State University
1801 East Cotati Avenue
Rohnert Park, CA 94928
Patricia Nourot Memorial Scholarship

Application Form

I. Applicant Information

Name:

SSU ID#:

Address:

E-mail Address:

Phone number:

Program to which you are currently admitted (circle one)

- ECS Minor
- ECS Major
- M.A. Degree in ECE

Anticipated Graduation Date:

Current GPA at SSU:

Name of Person who will provide your recommendation:

II. Rationale

Please read through the following criteria for selection, and then answer the three questions on the next page.

Criteria for selection of the recipient of the Patricia Nourot Memorial Scholarship include the following:

- Scholarship must be used for educational expenses only, such as registration fees, course texts, school supplies needed for coursework, software needed for coursework, transportation to field sites, and transportation to campus to attend classes.
- Scholarship will make a difference in the candidate’s ability to complete a degree in early childhood education.
- Applicant has the skills to excel in a degree program in Early Childhood Education. These skills include the ability to complete coursework at a high level of proficiency, to understand the many different factors that influence the well-being of young children, and to critically evaluate different perspectives on the education of young children.
- Applicant demonstrates commitment to the well-being of all children.
- Applicant has the personal characteristics and dispositions necessary to successfully work with young children.
SONOMA STATE UNIVERSITY
School of Education
Department of Early Childhood Studies

• Applicant shows potential for leadership in a profession that serves young children and their families.
• Applicant is a junior or senior admitted to the ECS minor or major or is a graduate student in the ECE MA program.

Keeping these criteria in mind, please attach your answers to the following three questions. Your answers should meet the ECS Standards for Critical and Thoughtful Writing (if you need to review these standards, please see the ECS Handbook at http://www.sonoma.edu/education/handbooks/ecs-handbook.pdf).

1. Explain how you see yourself contributing to the well-being of children and families from diverse backgrounds (400 words or less).

2. Describe three of your personal characteristics that contribute to your ability to work successfully with children, families, and professional colleagues (400 words or less).

3. Consider all that you have learned about families and children in your coursework and fieldwork. Identify one significant issue that impacts early childhood care and education. Explain why this issue is important and how you might make a difference in this area (400 words or less).

If you have questions about the application process, please contact the ECS Administrative Coordinator, Ms. Elizabeth Jones, at jeloniza@sonoma.edu or 707-664-2967.
Patricia Nourot Scholarship Recommendation Form

Part 1 (to be completed by candidate)

Applicant’s Name: ____________________________________________________________

___ I voluntarily waive my right under FERPA to review this recommendation.

___ I do not waive my right under FERPA to review this recommendation.

Applicant’s Signature: ______________________________ Date: ________________

Part 2 (to be completed by the person providing the recommendation)

Thank you for your willingness to provide a recommendation for this applicant, who is applying for the Patricia Nourot Scholarship in the Early Childhood Studies Department at Sonoma State University. We appreciate your help.

Please complete all of this form and return it to the address below by Oct 24, 2016.

Ms. Elizabeth Jones
Stevenson 1078F
School of Education
Sonoma State University
1801 East Cotati Avenue
Rohnert Park, CA  94928

Your Name: ________________________________________________________________

Your Professional Title and Place of Work (e.g. SRJC professor, Director of Happy Smiles Preschool, etc.): ______________________________________________________

How long and in what capacity have you known this applicant?
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

Please continue to next page.
To the best of your ability, please rate the applicant on each of the characteristics below.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristics</th>
<th>Top 5%</th>
<th>Top 10%</th>
<th>Top 25%</th>
<th>Top 50%</th>
<th>Lower 50%</th>
<th>Unable to Judge</th>
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<tr>
<td>CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS: Ability and willingness to</td>
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<td>• comprehend, analyze, and synthesize information</td>
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<td>• connect new information to what is already known</td>
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<td>• see issues from multiple perspectives</td>
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<td>JUDGMENT: Ability to evaluate a situation or problem</td>
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<td>or problem involving people and reach a good solution</td>
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<td>CREATIVITY: Ability to generate new and novel ideas or</td>
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<td>approaches</td>
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<td>COMMUNICATION: Ability to clearly and concisely convey</td>
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<td>ideas in speech and in writing</td>
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<td>MOTIVATION: Genuineness and depth of commitment to the</td>
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<td>Early Childhood profession</td>
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<td>MATURITY: Calm approach; ability to cope with new or</td>
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<td>INTERPERSONAL RELATIONS: Ability to get along with others,</td>
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<td>including children and families; cooperation, attitude</td>
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<td>toward supervision</td>
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<td>EMPATHY: Sensitivity to the needs of others; consideration;</td>
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<td>respect towards colleagues, children, and families</td>
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<td>RELIABILITY: Dependability; conscientiousness</td>
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<td>RESOURCEFULNESS: Ability to manage existing resources</td>
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<td>and to discover new resources</td>
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<td>INTEGRITY: Honesty; trustworthiness; strong inner compass;</td>
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<td>commitment to meet the needs of ALL children and families</td>
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<td>LEADERSHIP: Initiative; ability to lead and/or supervise</td>
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<td>others; desire to improve upon status quo</td>
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*Please continue to next page.*
Overall Recommendation:

☐ This applicant receives my highest recommendation for this scholarship without reservation.
☐ I recommend this applicant for this scholarship with confidence.
☐ I recommend this applicant for this scholarship.
☐ I do not recommend this applicant for this scholarship.

Is there anything else you would like us to know about this applicant?
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Signature of Person Providing this Recommendation:

_________________________________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________ Date ________________

Please return form directly to:
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