

The 2015 Hasan Fehmi Erel Legacy S.T.E.M. Scholarship



United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley believes that every person in our community deserves an opportunity for a good life. In 2014, the organization announced a bold, eight-year plan to bring more results for students, seniors, and families. United Way's education goal, increasing reading proficiency for third graders, includes long-term support for students and families through high school graduation and beyond. One method of support comes in the form of this award, funded in gratitude by Fusun Bubernack, philanthropist and entrepreneur, in honor of her loving father, Hasan Fehmi Erel, and his commitment to the importance of quality education and the pursuit of excellence.

The Scholarship Opportunity

This scholarship recognizes an outstanding female high school senior who has demonstrated strong academic ability and a commitment to learning, achievement and serving others in the community. This scholarship provides both a mentorship opportunity as well as financial support of \$4000 to be used towards the cost of tuition. This scholarship will recognize a young woman who pursues post-secondary study in an area of **S**cience, **T**echnology, **E**ngineering and/or **M**ath or Finance (often referred to as **S.T.E.M.** education). It is the intent of this scholarship to positively impact a young woman who is committed to personal excellence and desires to excel in every aspect of life; personal, school, work and community.

Selection Procedure

Recipient(s) shall be selected by a committee with representatives from United Way staff and past award recipients, in collaboration with Fusun Bubernack. All applications will be reviewed by the committee and finalists will be interviewed. The final award recipient(s) may be asked to attend a community event in order to receive the award in person.

Amount of Award

The scholarship amount will be \$4,000 and will be awarded one time, in the summer of 2015. The purpose of the award is to cover tuition for the 2015-2016 academic year.

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United Way of the
Greater Lehigh Valley

UnitedWayGLV.org



General Criteria

The recipient of the scholarship must:

- Have graduated from a high school within the Lehigh Valley of PA by Spring 2015
 - Demonstrate strong academic ability and commitment to achievement with a maintained overall 3.5 GPA in a Lehigh Valley high school
 - Demonstrate a commitment to learning through successful completion of advanced placement classes
 - Have demonstrated personal excellence through volunteer service to the Lehigh Valley community
 - Have demonstrated a pattern of taking initiative to achieve stated goals; personally, academically, professionally or as a volunteer
 - Be accepted and attending an accredited post-secondary educational program during the following academic year
 - Must declare a major in a S.T.E.M. related field of study
 - Demonstrate financial need for assistance
 - Commit to engaging in mentorship opportunities during the course of the scholarship period
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How to Apply

Complete all requested information on the application form, including the essay. Applicant need not be accepted at a school before applying for the scholarship. Submit the application to Jeffrey Moyer at United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley, 1110 American Parkway NE, Suite F-120, Allentown, PA 18109 or by emailing jeffreym@unitedwayglv.org. Applications must be submitted by April 15, 2015.

Publicity

The scholarship committee reserves the right to publish the names and photos of recipients in local publications.

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APPLICATION

Please complete all information on the form and obtain all required signatures. Return the application to your Guidance Counselor. All information is confidential. Application is to be completed in blue or black ink pen.

Applicant Information

Last Name _____ First Name _____ Middle Initial _____

Home Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Date of Birth _____

High School _____ GPA _____ (based on a _____ point scale)

E-mail _____ Telephone _____

Parent or Guardian Information (1)

Last Name _____ First Name _____ Middle Initial _____

Home Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Relationship to applicant _____

E-mail _____ Telephone _____

Employer _____ Position _____

Parent or Guardian Information (2)

Last Name _____ First Name _____ Middle Initial _____

Home Mailing Address (if different) _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Relationship to applicant _____

E-mail _____ Telephone _____

Employer _____ Position _____

College Selection and Course of Study

College(s) applied to:

- (1) _____ [Please circle] Accepted Wait List Not heard at this time
- (2) _____ [Please circle] Accepted Wait List Not heard at this time
- (3) _____ [Please circle] Accepted Wait List Not heard at this time
- (4) _____ [Please circle] Accepted Wait List Not heard at this time
- (5) _____ [Please circle] Accepted Wait List Not heard at this time

[note: if accepted, please include copy of acceptance letter with this application]

Chosen course of study: _____

Extracurricular and Community Activities

To demonstrate personal excellence (see general criteria), please list all activities, awards, honors, clubs and special recognition earned through school, employment, and or other community service and volunteer activities.

School: _____

Community: _____

Employment: _____

Additional Attachments

Handwritten essay, see guidelines attached.

Please attach two letters of recommendation to this application.

Please attach an official academic transcript that includes your current GPA.

Certificate and Authorization

I/we declare the information provided above is true and accurate to the best of our knowledge.

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Financial Hardship Narrative

Please provide a brief paragraph describing your/your family's need for financial assistance.

Personal Essay (handwritten)

Why do you want to study S.T.E.M.? How would this scholarship help you achieve? In one or two pages, please explain your motivation to study in this area. Please *handwrite* your answer on a separate sheet, using blue or black ink.

In loving memory of my father



HASAN FEHMI EREL
(1914 – 2006)

My dad was born in Istanbul, Turkey in 1914. He was born to a middle income family, and second oldest amongst 8 siblings. His father was an officer in the military and mother was a housewife. Aside from his older brother who went to Military Academy, he was the only one in his family to show passion for higher education. In 1935, he received a scholarship to the Civil Engineering Department of the Istanbul Technical University. Growing up in a large family, sometimes even the bare necessities were scarce. Scholarship was his only hope for going to college. He was the first graduate of ITU in 1940 with a Master's Degree in civil engineering. Shortly after graduation he was married my mom and from this union they had three daughters and a son. He joined the Turkish State Highway Department as a Highway Construction and Maintenance Engineer. This job gave him the opportunity to travel throughout Turkey, gaining a better understanding of the infrastructure needs of the country. In 1950, he was selected by the Highway Department to do a two year Highway maintenance training program in Colorado, USA. Upon successful completion of the program, he turned his attention to construction of hydro-electric dams. Then in 1953, he was hired by Morrison Construction Company from Hammond, Indiana as the chief engineer to build two major hydro-electric dams, first of its kind in Turkey. Subsequently, he served his country for many years as assistant deputy secretary of Department of Public Works until he retired at the age of 83. He worked hard all his life, trusted God, served and loved his country and was a committed loving father and husband. He was determined to make every opportunity available to his children and made sure they had an exceptional education. He is missed.

May his legacy be an inspiration for generations to come.

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INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

- (1) Describe how you demonstrated personal excellence so far in your life?
- (2) Talk about a time when you continued working towards a goal, even though it would have been easier to just give up or change direction?
- (3) What do you think are some challenges that women may face in the S.T.E.M. field that is still predominantly male led? How might you use a mentor to help you shape your pathway into a S.T.E.M. related career?