

## ROJ Traditional Scholarship Sponsor Narrative 2027

The following list provides an overview of all ROJ Traditional Scholarships, including each scholarship's name, background, and the preferences and values of its sponsor. As you prepare and submit your application materials, please review this information carefully.

The scholarship committee considers many factors when selecting recipients. One part of the process is matching applicants with the scholarship that best aligns with a donor's interests, values, and preferences. While these sponsor preferences are not the only criteria used in awarding scholarships, they are an important consideration. Applicants whose experiences, achievements, goals, or personal characteristics closely align with a sponsor's stated preferences may be considered a stronger match for that particular scholarship.

★ **Fred Fisher Memorial Scholarship (sponsored by the Long Center Foundation)** - The Fred Fisher Memorial Scholarship honors the legacy of Fred Fisher, founder of the Long Center and one of the original founders of CFY nearly 60 years ago. Throughout his life, Mr. Fisher dedicated his time, leadership, and community partnerships to expanding opportunities for the youth of Pinellas County through athletics and recreation.



A passionate advocate for underserved youth, Mr. Fisher believed every child should have access to youth sports and the opportunity to develop essential water safety and swimming skills. This scholarship reflects his commitment to creating opportunities that help young people thrive.

In selecting recipients, consideration is given to applicants who demonstrate a strong work ethic, financial need, and a commitment to making the most of the opportunities available to them. These qualities embody the values and vision that defined Mr. Fisher's lifelong service to the community.

★ **Don Zimmer Memorial Scholarship (sponsored by the Tampa Bay Rays Up Foundation)** - The Don Zimmer Scholarship honors the legacy of Don Zimmer, a longtime supporter of CFY whose generosity and commitment to youth made a lasting impact on the organization. Throughout his distinguished 65-year career in professional baseball, Don remained deeply devoted to his family, especially his wife of 63 years, Soot, and to the values that define great teammates both on and off the field. He was a familiar presence at CFY events, including the beloved annual "Zim Roast," where his passion for supporting young athletes was evident.



This scholarship is awarded to a graduating Pinellas County high school baseball player who exemplifies the qualities that Don Zimmer valued throughout his life and career. Recipients should demonstrate outstanding sportsmanship, a commitment to being an exceptional teammate, a strong work ethic, consistent effort, and a dedication to serving their community. These characteristics reflect the leadership, humility, and team-first mindset that defined Don Zimmer's remarkable legacy.

- ★ **David P. Montgomery Memorial Scholarship (sponsored by the Philadelphia Phillies)** – The David P. Montgomery Scholarship honors the legacy of Mr. Montgomery, longtime Managing General Partner of the Philadelphia Phillies, and a dedicated supporter of CFY. Through both his personal generosity and professional leadership, Mr. Montgomery demonstrated an unwavering commitment to creating opportunities for young people and strengthening the community through sports.



Known for his integrity, perseverance, and leadership, Mr. Montgomery believed in giving your best effort every day. His philosophy of "running every ball out" reflected a commitment to hard work, determination, and making the most of every opportunity.

This scholarship is awarded to a graduating Pinellas County high school student athlete who participated in a bat and ball sport and exemplifies these same qualities. Preference is given to applicants who consistently demonstrate perseverance, exceptional effort, strong character, and a commitment to giving their best both on the field and in their daily lives.

- ★ **Roy Halladay Memorial Scholarship (sponsored by the Halladay Family Foundation)** - The Roy Halladay Scholarship honors the legacy of MLB Hall of Famer Roy Halladay, whose legendary career with the Toronto Blue Jays and Philadelphia Phillies was defined by excellence, discipline, and perseverance. A dedicated supporter of CFY and its mission, Roy believed in the power of hard work, resilience, and continuous self-improvement to help young people reach their full potential.



This scholarship is awarded to a graduating Pinellas County high school student who exemplifies the qualities that defined Roy Halladay's life and career. Preference is given to applicants who have demonstrated resilience, determination, and the ability to overcome challenges while maintaining a strong commitment to their goals, personal growth, and service to others. These characteristics reflect the perseverance and unwavering dedication that made Roy Halladay an inspiration both on and off the field.

- ★ **Hulk Hogan (Terry Bollea) Memorial Scholarship (sponsored by the Hulk Hogan Foundation and the Wyndham Grand Clearwater Beach)** - The Hulk Hogan Memorial Scholarship honors WWE Hall of Famer, wrestling legend, and Clearwater resident Hulk Hogan, whose support for CFY and its mission made a lasting impact on the youth of his community. Through his time, resources, and personal commitment, Hulk Hogan demonstrated a deep dedication to helping young people succeed and providing encouragement to those working to achieve their goals.



Throughout his life and career, "The Hulkster" embodied perseverance, determination, and the ability to overcome challenges. While wrestling was a defining part of his journey, family and community remained at the heart of his values.

This scholarship is awarded to a graduating Pinellas County student who demonstrates resilience, determination, and the ability to rise above obstacles. Preference is given to applicants who have faced challenges with strength and perseverance, while remaining committed to personal growth, education, and building a successful future.



- ★ **Baystar Restaurant Group Scholarship (sponsored through the generosity of Frank Chivas, owner of Baystar Restaurant Group)** - The Baystar Restaurant Group Scholarship provides support to a graduating Pinellas County student whose pursuit of higher education would be significantly impacted by financial assistance. Through his generosity and commitment to supporting young people, Frank Chivas created this scholarship to help remove financial barriers and expand access to college opportunities.



Preference is given to students who can demonstrate how receiving this scholarship will make a meaningful difference in their ability to attend college and achieve their educational goals. This award reflects a commitment to investing in students with the drive, determination, and potential to make the most of the opportunities made possible through financial support.

- ★ **Michele Smith Female Empowerment Scholarship (sponsored by Michele Smith)** - The Michele Smith Scholarships honors two-time Olympic Gold Medalist Michele Smith, one of the most accomplished athletes in USA Softball history and a pioneering leader in women's athletics. Through her remarkable playing career and as ESPN's lead analyst for women's fast-pitch softball, Michele has inspired generations of athletes by demonstrating excellence, determination, and the courage to break barriers.



This scholarship recognizes graduating students who embody Michele Smith's relentless pursuit of excellence and willingness to forge new paths. Preference is given to applicants who have excelled in or made meaningful contributions to fields, activities, or areas in which women have been historically underrepresented. Recipients should demonstrate perseverance, leadership, and the confidence to challenge expectations while inspiring others through their achievements.

- ★ **Barris Family Scholarship (sponsored by the Barris Family)** - The Barris Family Scholarship supports an African American graduating student who demonstrates academic achievement, personal awareness, and a clear vision for their future. The ideal recipient will have a minimum 3.0 GPA and understand the transformative power of higher education in creating opportunities for personal growth, economic advancement, and lifelong success.



For the Barris family, sports represent more than competition, they are a foundation for developing discipline, perseverance, teamwork, and the confidence needed to reach one's full potential. This scholarship recognizes a student who has used those lessons to build character and pursue their goals beyond the playing field.

Preference is given to applicants who demonstrate a commitment to completing their college education, serving their community, and using their voice to make a positive impact. The ideal candidate recognizes the importance of civic engagement, including participating in our democracy and encouraging others to understand the value of active citizenship.

- ★ **Congruity HR Scholarship (sponsored by Congruity HR in partnership with CFY)** - The Congruity HR Scholarship supports a graduating Pinellas County student who demonstrates the potential to make a meaningful and lasting impact through their post-secondary educational journey.



This scholarship recognizes a student with the ambition, determination, and commitment to pursue higher education and maximize the opportunities it provides. Preference is given to applicants who demonstrate a clear vision for their future, a commitment to personal growth, and the drive to use their education as a foundation for continued success and positive contributions to their community.

- ★ **CGS Energy Scholarship (sponsored by CGS Energy)** - The CGS Energy Scholarship provides meaningful support to a graduating Pinellas County student pursuing a post-secondary education. This scholarship is designed to help a student overcome financial barriers and take an important step toward achieving their educational and personal goals.



Successful applicants should clearly articulate how receiving this award will have a transformative impact on their educational journey. Preference is given to students who demonstrate ambition, determination, and a strong commitment to making the most of the opportunity this scholarship provides.

- ★ **Pinellas County Sheriff Scholarship (sponsored by Sheriff Bob Gualtieri)** - The Pinellas County Sheriff Scholarship provides meaningful support to a graduating Pinellas County student with demonstrated financial need who is committed to pursuing a post-secondary education.



This scholarship is intended to assist students for whom financial support will make a significant difference in their ability to continue their educational journey and achieve their goals. Preference is given to applicants who demonstrate determination, personal responsibility, and a commitment to using their education as a pathway toward becoming engaged, successful, and productive members of their community.

- ★ **Art and Margaret Capogna Memorial Scholarship (sponsored by the Capogna Family)** - The Art and Margaret Capogna Scholarship supports a Clearwater area graduating high school senior in pursuit of their educational goals. This scholarship was established through the generosity of the Capogna Family and proceeds from the annual Art Capogna Memorial Golf Classic, honoring a commitment to helping students access opportunities that will shape their future.



Preference is given to students who demonstrate dedication, leadership, and a commitment to personal growth. Participation in athletics or other team-based activities is valued, particularly when it reflects qualities such as teamwork, perseverance, responsibility, and the ability to positively influence others.

- ★ **McIntyre Family Foundation Scholarship** - The McIntyre Family Foundation Scholarship reflects founder/owner of DITEK, Bob McIntyre and his family's longstanding commitment to supporting the educational goals of Pinellas County students from underserved communities. Through this scholarship, the McIntyre family seeks to provide meaningful opportunities for students who are dedicated to pursuing higher education and achieving their dreams.



Preference is given to applicants who can clearly demonstrate how receiving this scholarship will make a significant impact on their educational journey and help remove barriers to achieving their



goals. Successful recipients should show determination, ambition, and a strong commitment to making the most of the opportunity this support provides.

- ★ **Ferg's Sports Bar and Grill Scholarship (sponsored by the Ferguson Family)** – The Ferg's Sports Bar and Grill Scholarship supports a graduating Pinellas County senior from a St. Petersburg-area high school as they pursue their educational goals beyond high school.



Through their generosity and commitment to supporting local students, the Ferguson Family seeks to provide an opportunity for a deserving student to continue their educational journey and pursue future success. Preference is given to applicants who demonstrate determination, ambition, and a commitment to making the most of the opportunities provided through higher education.

- ★ **Ken Carson Scholarship** – The Ken Carson Scholarship supports a graduating Pinellas County student pursuing a career as an **Athletic Trainer** whose college goals would be significantly impacted by financial assistance.



Through their generosity and commitment to supporting young people, Ken and Lilian Carson established this scholarship to help remove financial barriers and expand access to higher education. Mr. Carson was a **longtime sports executive and trainer** who spent more than 40 years with the Toronto Blue Jays organization. He served as the team's original head athletic trainer and travel director before becoming General Manager of the Dunedin Blue Jays and Director of Florida Operations. Mr. Carson also spent twenty years in hockey including with the Pittsburgh Penguins as their first trainer. He also served as the President of the Florida State League.

Preference is given to students who can demonstrate how this scholarship will make a meaningful difference in their ability to attend college, earn their degree, and pursue a career as an Athletic Trainer. The award honors students who demonstrate **drive, determination, and the potential to make the most of the opportunities made possible through financial support.**

- ★ **Dealer's Auto Exchange Scholarship (sponsored by Gary and Amy Connors)** - The Dealer's Auto Exchange Scholarship supports a graduating Pinellas County senior who demonstrates financial need and would benefit from meaningful assistance in pursuing their educational goals.



As longtime supporters of CFY, the Connors family is committed to helping students access opportunities that will positively impact their future. This scholarship is intended to provide support to a deserving student whose educational journey will be strengthened through this investment.

Preference is given to applicants who demonstrate determination, commitment to their goals, and a clear understanding of how this scholarship assistance will help them continue their education and achieve future success.

- ★ **TAG Agency of Pinellas Scholarship (sponsored by Gary and Amy Connors)** - The TAG Agency of Pinellas Scholarship supports a graduating Pinellas County senior who demonstrates financial need and would benefit from meaningful assistance in pursuing their educational goals.



As longtime supporters of CFY, the Connors family is committed to helping students access opportunities that will positively impact their future. This scholarship is intended to provide support to a deserving student whose educational journey will be strengthened through this investment.

Preference is given to applicants who demonstrate determination, commitment to their goals, and a clear understanding of how this scholarship assistance will help them continue their education and achieve future success.

- ★ **Clearwater Bullets Scholarship (sponsored by the Bullets Fast Pitch Softball Organization in partnership with CFY)**- The Bullets Fast Pitch Softball Scholarship is awarded to a graduating Pinellas County senior who was a player in good standing with the Bullets Fast Pitch Softball Organization during their youth.



This scholarship recognizes the lasting impact of the lessons learned through participation in the Bullets program. While recipients are not required to continue playing softball at the collegiate level, they should demonstrate how their experience with the organization helped develop the character, values, and life skills that will guide them in the future.

Preference is given to students who embody the qualities fostered through the Bullets program, including teamwork, commitment, perseverance, accountability, leadership, and respect. The ideal recipient reflects the organization's belief that youth sports provide valuable experiences that extend far beyond the playing field.

- ★ **KnowBe4 Scholarship (sponsored by KnowBe4)** - The KnowBe4 Scholarship supports a graduating Pinellas County student who demonstrates the potential to make a meaningful and lasting impact through their post-secondary educational journey.



This scholarship recognizes a student with the motivation, determination, and commitment to pursue higher education and take full advantage of the opportunities it provides. Preference is given to applicants who demonstrate a clear vision for their future, a dedication to personal growth, and the drive to use their education as a foundation for success and positive contributions to their community.

- ★ **Bizco Technologies Scholarship (sponsored by Bizco Technologies)** - Through a partnership with CFY's IT provider Bizco Technologies this scholarship will go to a graduating Pinellas County student who will have a technology-based interest and receiving this award will have a defining impact on their post-secondary educational journey.



- ★ **Valley Bank Scholarship (sponsored by Valley Bank)** - The Valley Bank Scholarship provides meaningful financial support to a graduating Pinellas County student with demonstrated need as they pursue their educational goals.

This scholarship reflects Valley Bank's commitment to helping students overcome financial barriers and access opportunities that can positively shape their future. A key consideration in the





selection process will be the applicant's ability to articulate how receiving this award will impact their educational journey and help alter the trajectory of their future.

Preference is given to students who demonstrate determination, ambition, and a clear understanding of how this scholarship support will help them achieve their educational and personal goals.



**Emmanuel Torres Memorial Scholarship (sponsored by Backwaters in partnership with CFY) -**

The Emmanuel Torres Memorial Scholarship honors the legacy of Emmanuel Torres, whose dedication, leadership, and commitment to service were exemplified through his involvement in Clearwater High School's Marine JROTC program. Emmanuel's pursuit of excellence and his dream of becoming a military officer reflected his deep love for his country and his desire to make a meaningful difference through service.



This scholarship supports a deserving JROTC student who shares Emmanuel's passion for education, leadership, and military service. Preference is given to applicants who demonstrate dedication, perseverance, integrity, and a commitment to serving others.

Through this award, Emmanuel's legacy of determination, hope, and ambition will continue by empowering future leaders to pursue their goals and carry forward the values he held so deeply.