

We are honored to announce the

JOHN & KATHY TRAUTNER SCHOLARSHIP



**Girdwood Lions
Club**

**John and Kathy Trautner
Scholarship Fund**



**Four Valleys
Community
School**

John and Kathy Trautner have been fundamental to the Girdwood community, demonstrating generosity, service, and kindness. Their commitment is exemplified by the John and Kathy Trautner Scholarship Fund, which will benefit Four Valleys youth for years to come.

To John and Kathy, community health is more valuable than money. They have dedicated time and resources to organizations like The Lions Club and The Girdwood Clinic, focusing on the betterment of youth. John was particularly known for helping young students and entrepreneurs, believing that supporting the youngest members ensured the community's overall success. A versatile individual, John excelled as a businessman, photographer, Girdwood Fire Chief, musician, and family man.

During his life, many of his contributions in Girdwood were anonymous. In line with John's Trust, Kathy is continuing this spirit of community service by establishing a scholarship fund. The "Pioneer Spirit" and the Trautners' legacy will thrive through this scholarship fund, which will be awarded annually by a partnership between the Girdwood Lions Club and Four Valleys Community School.

Kathy remains an active member of the Girdwood community, Lions Club, and supporter of Four Valleys Community School. John J. Trautner passed away on September 19, 2022, at the age of 86 and is laid to rest with full honors at Fort Richardson.

GIRDWOOD LIONS CLUB:

The Girdwood Turnagain Arm Lions Club is a part of the International Association of Lions. They are dedicated to serving the needs of the community through volunteer projects such as the Lions Day Park, eyeglass recycling, the Adopt-a-Highway program, Christmas baskets, and other community service activities.

FOUR VALLEYS COMMUNITY SCHOOL:

The Four Valleys Community School, Inc. program provides high-quality cultural, recreational, and educational activities for the communities of Girdwood, Bird, Indian, and Portage. This is accomplished through dedicated volunteers meeting the multiple needs of our residents. Community development, interagency cooperation, K-12 enrichment, and life-long learning are the foundations of the organization.

JOHN & KATHY TRAUTNER SCHOLARSHIP

Requirements and Information

Applications Due
Thursday
March 20,
2025

The John & Kathy Trautner Scholarship recognizes graduating high school seniors and non-traditional graduates from the Four Valleys area (Girdwood, Bird, Indian, and Portage) for their community service impact.

For 2025, there will be (3) scholarships available: (1) \$10,000 award and (2) \$5000 awards.



Girdwood Lions Club



Four Valleys Community School

ELIGIBLE POST HIGH SCHOOL INSTITUTIONS:

- Applicant will be enrolled in a post-high school institution.
- Post-high school institutions include four year universities, two-year colleges and vocational-technical schools in fields like construction, mechanics, welding, flight school, culinary arts, etc.

EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

- Applicant must be a graduating senior or have achieved a GED at an accredited institution. This includes Anchorage School District high schools, as well as the State of Alaska/Municipality of Anchorage charter and home schools.
- A GED qualifies as graduating. Students who have taken a gap year and are returning to higher education (20 years of age or under) are encouraged to apply.
- Applicant must have attended the Girdwood K-8 School (or elementary grade and middle school home school equivalent) and been based full time in the Four Valleys for the last 5 years.

COMMUNITY SERVICE:

- Applicant must demonstrate prior involvement in community service activities and projects through helping individuals and community groups in the Four Valley's and Anchorage.
- It is helpful to have volunteered regularly for FVCS and Lions Club events, as well as other community events and services such as Forest Fair, Community Thanksgiving, Food Pantry, etc.

APPLICATION:

Applicants must submit a scholarship folder containing:

- Completed application form.
- Biographical sketch including personal history, special interests, description of community involvement and volunteer service, plus ambitions and future educational plans (approx. 450-500 words).
- Evidence of involvement in community service activities by including signed volunteer hours letters signed by the community organizations, and a short explanation of project(s). Photo's can also help demonstrate this.
- Two (2) letters of recommendation written and signed. Acceptable sources include teachers, guidance counselors, project leaders and other adults.
- Current high school transcript as evidence of tracking to complete high school program (GED and home school students included).

FOUR VALLEYS RESIDENCY:

- Applicant must be a **full-time resident** of the Four Valleys area (Bird Creek, Girdwood, Indian or Portage) for the last 5 years.
- Applicant must be able to demonstrate full time residency in Bird Creek, Indian, Girdwood, or Portage for the past 5 years.
- Applicant must be a United States citizen.

JOHN & KATHY TRAUTNER SCHOLARSHIP

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Due 5pm
Thursday
March 20,
2025

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RETURN APPLICATION TO:

Four Valleys Community School
PO Box 790, Girdwood, Alaska 99587

- or hand deliver to the FVCS office at the Girdwood K-8 School (Mon-Th between 3-7pm).

BASIS FOR INTERVIEW & FINAL SELECTION:

- Community volunteerism
- Demonstrated service values
- Leadership qualities
- Evidence of personal growth through service

IN-PERSON INTERVIEW:

- The scholarship committee will select candidates for individual in-person interviews.
- Interviews will be held between April 1-18, 2025.

SELECTION COMMITTEE:

The committee will be composed of three to four (3-4) members from the FVCS Board, the Lions Club one (1) other interested community adult (without conflict of interest).

SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNTS:

- (1) scholarship will be awarded in the amount of \$10,000.00.
- (2) scholarships will be awarded in the amount of \$5,000.00 each.

AWARD NOTIFICATION & PAYMENT:

- All applicants will be notified of award or non-award by telephone call or with a letter follow-up by May 1, 2025.
- The applicant agrees that FVCS and Lions Club will be allowed to photograph the recipients and publish the same for use on social media and websites.
- Upon verification of enrollment status of the applicant by the institution, the check will be mailed to the Financial Aid Office of the higher education institution.

John & Kathy Trautner Scholarship Application Form

Four Valleys Community
School and
Girdwood Lions Club

Personal Information

Full Name:	
Home Address:	Mailing Address:
Phone:	Date of Birth:
Parent/s Name/s:	Parent phone:
Parent/s address:	

Educational Background

Schools Attended	City and State	Years attended

Have you been a full-time resident of the Four Valleys area (Bird Creek, Girdwood, Indian, or Portage) for the past 5 years?

YES NO

I certify that the information in this application is true and correct.

Student Signature or Parent Signature (if applicant is under age 18 at time of submission).

Signature and Date:

Media Release:

I authorize FVCS to use my name, photo and a few details from my biographical sketch to announce this scholarship award on their website, local news, and social media.

Signature and Date:

Application Checklist:

- This form is complete
- Biographical Sketch (essay) is attached
- Two (2) Letters of Recommendation are attached
- Letters, along with dates, and evidence of volunteer service are attached
- Documentation of proof of residency: (examples include: utility bills, mortgage, rental, voter registration, school registration)
- Documentation of both your current and future educational institutions are attached (copy of diploma, transcript, acceptance letter, letter of intent, class schedule, final grade report, or letter from a counselor or admissions office)

Application received: (office use only)

Signature and Date: