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SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE FOR HORTICULTURISTS IN RENSSELAER COUNTY

Van Rensselaer Garden Club announces Nina Pattison Memorial Scholarship

(Troy, New York, October 2023). The Van Rensselaer Garden Club (VRGC) has announced that it will award two (2) scholarships this year, each in the amount of \$1,000, to Rensselaer County residents.

The purpose of the scholarships is to facilitate and advance horticulture and related studies for residents of Rensselaer County.

The scholarship is named in honor of Nina Pattison, a vital member of the VRGC from 1989 to 2019 who was very involved in community life in Troy and surrounding communities. Her enthusiasm was contagious, and she served as a role model for many. Nina was a Master Gardener and one of the founders of the annual Troy Hidden Garden Tour that benefits Prospect Park. A life-long learner, Nina enriched herself continuously through new experiences and educational opportunities.

One (1) \$1,000 scholarship for educational expenses will be awarded to a graduating Rensselaer County High School student who intends to study horticulture, environmental science or a related field at an institution of higher learning. The other \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded to a Rensselaer County resident who demonstrates financial assistance need for continuing education, master gardener certification, landscape design, horticulture or any related field.

Applications are available by emailing vr'gcgrows22@gmail.com. The deadline for submission is May 31, 2024. Award recipients will be notified on June 30, 2024. Each recipient will submit a written report to VRGC detailing his/her experience and make a brief presentation to the VRGC at one of its regularly scheduled meetings.

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The Van Rensselaer Garden Club (VRGC) was formed in 1953 for the purpose of educating members and the community about all aspects of gardening. It serves the community by planting and maintaining several gardens around Rensselaer County, providing horticulture contributions to local group residences, offering educational scholarships to Rensselaer County residents, and presenting its annual Holiday Greens Show every year since 1956 in conjunction with the Hart Cluett Museum. VRGC is incorporated as a tax-exempt 501 (c)(3) organization. For further information, email them at thevanrensselaergardenclub@gmail.com or follow them on Facebook or Instagram.

**VAN RENSSELAER GARDEN CLUB (VRGC)
Nina Pattison Memorial 2024 Scholarship Application**

- Two (2) scholarships - Maximum \$1,000 each - will be available for award in 2024
 - One (1) \$1,000 scholarship for educational expenses will be awarded to a graduating Rensselaer County high school student who intends to study horticulture, environmental science or a related field at an institution of higher learning, AND,
 - One (1) \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded to a Rensselaer County resident who demonstrates financial assistance need for continuing education, master gardener certification, landscape design, horticulture, or any related field;
- Scholarships are available to Rensselaer County residents only;
- Applications will be available January 1 of each year, and the ***deadline for submission is May 31, 2024***;
- Awards will be announced June 30, 2024;
- Each recipient will be required to submit a written report to VRGC detailing their experience, AND make a brief presentation to the VRGC at a regularly scheduled monthly meeting;
- Scholarships will be open to members of VRGC, and their family members, with the exception of members of the selection committee;
- Recipients are eligible to re-apply in succeeding years;
- If possible, all awards will be paid directly to the school, organization or entity that each recipient will attend;
- The selection committee shall consist of four (4) members of the VRGC general membership and the VRGC President or his/her designee;
- The decisions of the selection committee are final.
- Please direct all questions to VRGCGROWS2022@gmail.com.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CONTACT PHONE NUMBER: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

IF HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT, NAME AND ADDRESS OF SCHOOL: _____

VAN RENSSELAER GARDEN CLUB (VRGC) CONNECTION (if any): _____
Nina Pattison Memorial Scholarship Application (page 2)

BRIEFLY EXPLAIN YOUR INTERESTS, CURRENT PROJECTS, EDUCATIONAL PLANS AND/OR IDEAS IN THE AREAS OF HORTICULTURE, LANDSCAPE DESIGN, CONSERVATION OR ANY OTHER FIELD THAT YOU ARE INTERESTED IN PURSUING:

IN WHAT WAYS ARE YOU HOPING TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE HORTICULTURE, LANDSCAPING OR CONSERVATION FIELDS WITHIN YOUR AREA OF STUDY OR CONTINUING EDUCATION (i.e., community impact, climate resiliency)?

IN WHAT WAYS WILL YOU CONTRIBUTE TO YOUR COMMUNITY POST-STUDY?

WHAT ARE YOUR FUTURE PLANS IN THE PREVIOUSLY MENTIONED AREAS, AND WHAT EFFECT WOULD THE AWARD OF THIS SCHOLARSHIP HAVE ON THESE PLANS? HOW WOULD YOUR PLANS BE AFFECTED IF YOU DO NOT RECEIVE THIS YEAR'S SCHOLARSHIP?:

BRIEFLY EXPLAIN WHY **YOU** ARE THE RIGHT APPLICANT TO RECEIVE THE NINA PATTISON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP:

Nina Pattison Memorial Scholarship Application (page 3)

- **ALL APPLICATIONS, ON-LINE OR BY MAIL, ARE DUE TO THE VRGC BY MAY 31, 2024**
- **ON-LINE APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE SENT TO: VRGCGROWS22@GMAIL.COM**
- **MAILED APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE SENT TO: VRGC, PO Box 618, Wynantskill, NY 12198**
- **RECIPIENTS WILL BE NOTIFIED ON OR ABOUT JUNE 30, 2024**