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## 2018 HALL OF FLOWERS SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

Future Ag Leaders Vie for Scholarships from the Sonoma County Fair

Sonoma and Marin County Ag students encouraged to apply by May 31

SANTA ROSA, CA – April 30, 2018– College-bound youth who are interested in careers in agriculture are invited to apply for scholarships offered by the Sonoma County Fair & Exposition Inc. Completed applications are due by 5:00 pm, Thursday, May 31 at the Sonoma County Fair Entry Office or [entryoffice@sonomacountyfair.com](mailto:entryoffice@sonomacountyfair.com). Proceeds from the Fair’s annual Hall of Flowers Preview Party fund the scholarship awards, which serve to encourage the North Bay’s next generation of agricultural leaders.

To apply for the scholarships, students must be interested in studying agriculture, must be high school graduates planning to attend Santa Rosa Junior College or a four-year university, and must reside in Sonoma or Marin County. Scholarship awards range between \$250 and \$2,500 per student.

In 2017, a total of 8 local Ag students received awards totaling \$10,000, including students attending Oklahoma State University; Oregon State University; University of Wyoming; California State University, Chico and Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo.

“These scholarships are an investment in our future,” says Exhibits Coordinator, Heather Borck. “The Fair is proud to assist local youth pursuing careers in agriculture and excited by what the future holds for these students. We look forward to the knowledge they will gain and to the day when they return home to begin a career in the local agricultural industry.”

The scholarship awards are funded through ticket sales from the annual Hall of Flowers Preview Party, which is scheduled for Wednesday, August 1. The business social and fundraiser offers an exclusive sneak peek at the spectacular Hall of Flowers before the building is open for public viewing. Guests are invited to peruse the garden displays themed “Seasons of Sonoma” while enjoying an evening of fine Sonoma County wines and hors d’oeuvres. Tickets (\$35) for the Hall of Flowers Preview Party are on sale April 28 beginning



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at 9:00 am at the Box Office located at 1350 Bennett Valley Road in Santa Rosa and online at [SonomaCountyFair.com](http://SonomaCountyFair.com) beginning at noon.

Applications for 2018 Hall of Flowers scholarships are available at the Sonoma County Fair Entry Office, at the Santa Rosa Junior College Agriculture Department, and online at [SonomaCountyFair.com/fair/scholarship.php](http://SonomaCountyFair.com/fair/scholarship.php). For more information or questions, call (707) 545-4203 or email [entryoffice@sonomacountyfair.com](mailto:entryoffice@sonomacountyfair.com).

Join in a "Salute to Heroes" at this summer's Sonoma County Fair from August 2 to August 12! In addition to tributes to the many heroes of Sonoma County, visitors to the Fair will find all the makings for a fun-filled family outing. A floral tribute to the beauty of Sonoma County, free entertainment and tasty fair foods are just the beginning. From the exhibit buildings filled with your neighbors' works of art to the livestock in the barns; from the cheering horse race fans to the screams of excitement in the carnival, the Fair has something for everyone. For details, visit [SonomaCountyFair.com](http://SonomaCountyFair.com) or call (707) 545-4200. Like us on Facebook, and follow us on Instagram and Twitter to keep up with the fun. See you at the Fair!

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