

THE BERYLE M. CHRISTESEN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

IN LOVING MEMORY OF BERYLE M. CHRISTESEN

APPLICATION PACKET



August 3, 1915 – March 19, 1999

**PRESENTED BY
THE HMONG AMERICAN EDUCATION FUND**

www.thehaef.org



**This scholarship was made possible and donated by Gloria & Leng Wong in
loving memory of their godmother, Beryle M. Christesen**

Beryle M. Christesen was the only child of Anna Goebel and Ferdinand Christesen. She was born on August 3, 1915, in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Her father was of Danish descent and her mother of German descent. Beryle graduated from Central High School in Minneapolis and went on to the University of Minnesota for both her bachelor's degree and Master's of Education. She taught art for 32 years in Edina, Minnesota.

Beryle was an active member of the Art Educators of Minnesota and served two terms as the group's president. In 1982, she won a National Art Education Association State award. She also belonged to the Minneapolis Women's Club, and she was an avid volunteer for Mount Olive Lutheran Church.

Beryle met several Hmong families through the Mount Olive Lutheran Church and connected with the family of Nou Houa Yang. Although she never married nor had biological children of her own, Beryle became the godmother to the four youngest children, Gloria, Liliane, Mike, and the late Emai. She helped raise them as though they were her own children.

She was a loving, caring, and supportive godmother, mentor, and friend. She used to help the children with their homework, provide them with homemade meals, took them to cultural and performing arts events and their medical appointments, and attended their parent-teacher conferences. The kids always looked forward to Christmas and birthdays with her because she made the occasions so special.

Beryle became especially close to Gloria, whom she encouraged to work hard at her education and attend college. After graduating from high school, and because of her godmother's tireless efforts, Gloria went to Mankato State University.

On March 19, 1999, Beryle passed away, but her imprint on the lives of those around her will remain forever.

Because of her godmother's love and support, Gloria is today a wife, mother, and business owner. This memorial scholarship was donated by Gloria and Leng Wong.

(Picture and biography provided by family.)

Instructions for the Beryle M. Christesen Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship is presented by the Hmong American Education Fund. The scholarship seeks to financially support one student in the pursuit of their educational goals. The successful applicant will be awarded up to \$1,000 to the choice of their college or university. Download this application packet and fill out the form below. **All application materials are due by April 30.** Late applications and materials will not be considered. Any hand-written application will be disqualified. All application materials must be e-mailed to: hmongeducationfund@gmail.com. You will be notified of your application status via email by or after June 1.

Applicants Must Meet All Criteria Listed

- A U.S. citizen or legal resident alien
- A Minnesota resident
- Any person of Hmong descent
- All current college and graduate students are eligible
- Has been accepted fulltime to a 2-year or 4-year college/university or graduate school
- Minimum GPA of 2.7 or higher
- Majoring in Education or a related field (preference will be given to students going into K – 12 art education)

Scholarship Application Packet Checklist

- A completed application
- Essay (1500 words or less)
- Copy of unofficial transcript
- One letter of recommendation
- **Submit all required application documents in PDF format to hmongeducationfund@gmail.com**

A Successful applicant must demonstrate the following

- Pursue an education to better themselves and others
- A commitment to excellent academic achievement
- A commitment to helping your community

Essay: In one essay, 1500 words or less, please answer the following questions:

- Tell us about your commitment to education
- Why did you choose to go into education or your area of study?
- Tell us some of the things you have done to help your community outside of school

Additional Requirements

- Recipient is expected to attend the Scholarship Awards Banquet on the first Saturday of August
- If selected, recipients are expected to submit the documents requested for the Scholarship Awards Banquet (ex. photo, bio, thank you letter to donors)

Successful applicants are encouraged to attend two general academic coaching and mentoring sessions with HAEF. These sessions can be done via phone, e-mail, or face to face.

(If you have any questions, please email: scholarships@thehaef.org)



Beryle Christesen Scholarship Application

(Type responses below & email back to hmongeducationfund@gmail.com along with all other required documents in PDF)

Last Name:	First Name:	Middle:
Home Phone:	Cell Phone:	E-Mail:
Gender: <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Male	Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy):	Race/Ethnicity:
Current Address:		
City:	State:	Zip Code:
Permanent Address (if different from above):		
City:	State:	Zip Code:
Check one of the following: <input type="checkbox"/> U.S Citizen <input type="checkbox"/> Legal Alien Resident of U.S. <input type="checkbox"/> None	Are you a first generation student? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Marital Status: <input type="checkbox"/> Single <input type="checkbox"/> Married <input type="checkbox"/> Divorced <input type="checkbox"/> Widowed
Number of parent(s):	Family size:	Number of dependents (if applicable):
Are you currently in high school or pursuing your GED? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
Name of your current School:		Current GPA:
School Address:		
Name of College/University you have been accepted to and/or will be attending:		
Major/Program:		
Degree you are seeking: <input type="checkbox"/> Associate <input type="checkbox"/> BA/BS <input type="checkbox"/> Masters <input type="checkbox"/> PhD/Doctorate <input type="checkbox"/> Other:		
What year of schooling are you in: <input type="checkbox"/> First Year <input type="checkbox"/> Sophomore <input type="checkbox"/> Junior <input type="checkbox"/> Senior		
Will you be a Fulltime Student: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
Have you been awarded other scholarships or financial assistance? (If yes, please list them):		
Print Name:	Signature:	Date:
Disclaimer: By signing this application I understand that the information provided is true to the best of my knowledge. HAEF reserve the right to verify information submitted on the successful candidate's application. In addition, the views and opinions expressed by individuals and/or businesses featured in our scholarships do not necessary represent the views of the Hmong American Education Fund.		