MERLYN ANDERSON MEMORIAL 4-H SCHOLARSHIP

# THE LIFE OF MERLYN ANDERSON

Merlyn (Mrs. Charles A. Anderson) was a world traveler, a librarian, an engaging conversationalist, an active and caring community person, a devoted wife, and a beloved friend of those who knew her throughout the world. Merlyn was born in Dixon, Illinois in 1897 and moved to Beatrice to become a City Librarian in 1918. Merlyn’s husband, Dr. Charles A. Anderson was a Beatrice dentist prior to World War

II. During the war, he served his country and achieved the rank of Colonel. Colonel Anderson was a Military Governor in Korea following its liberation from the Japanese.

Colonel Anderson carried the 4-H idea to Korea as a way for young people and families to grow and learn new ideas in agriculture and positive self-concept. The Korean Conflict put a sudden stop to his first efforts to get 4-H started in Korea. As part of the reparation team in Korea following the war, his efforts were successful. A Farm Journal article heralded him “Grandfather to ½ Million Kids” which was the 4-H membership when he left Korea in the late 50’s. Thanks to those beginnings, South Korea has the largest 4-H program outside of the United States. Merlyn was a partner to these efforts both in Korea and stateside. She made three around-the-world trips to such exotic places as Cairo, Kabul, Singapore, Tahiti, Sydney, and the Galapagos Islands. Many of her trips were made alone when such travel by a woman alone was rare. Merlyn had a treasure, a story, and friends a nearly every place she visited.

Before Merlyn’s death, she established a trust through her will to support students from Southeast Nebraska schools who are interested in Agriculture Studies (broadly interpreted).

# SCHOLARSHIP ELIGIBILITY

This scholarship is open to applicants from the following area schools:

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| Beatrice High School | Norris High School |
| Diller-Odell High School | Pawnee City High School |
| Fairbury High School | Southern High School |
| Freeman High School | Sterling High School |
| Johnson County Central High School | Tri-County High School |
| Lewiston High School | Wilber-Clatonia High School |
| Meridian High School | Homeschoolers in Southeast Nebraska |

Applicants should have a GPA of 2.5 or higher. Preference is given to students who have been involved in 4-H.

The Merlyn Anderson Memorial 4-H Scholarship will be awarded to 6-9 students and range in value from

$1000 - $2500. The scholarships are available to all colleges, universities, technical schools, community colleges or trade schools **for students majoring in agricultural studies.**

The scholarship funds will be paid directly to the school and can be used for all school-related expenses, including tuition, room and board, fees, and textbooks.

# SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

The application deadline is March 15. The application will be completed via the online form accessed at:

[**https://go.unl.edu/25anderson\_scholarship**](https://go.unl.edu/25anderson_scholarship)

*\*\*\* We use JotForm for this application – it will let you save your form and come back. However, we recommend having all of the components (i.e. Essay & Letter of Recommendation) ready when you begin the application process.*

The application consists of three parts:

* General Applicant Information:
  + Basic Contact Information
  + Academics (i.e., GPA, Schools you’re applying, Majors you’re considering, need for scholarship)
  + 4-H Experiences (i.e.,
  + School/Community Activities/Work Experience/Spors/Awards/Etc.
* Essay:
  + Not more than 2 pages, double spaced, 12 pt. font
  + Must be saved as a word document or .pdf – will be uploaded onto the online form
  + Save the file in the following format: 25-Last First Merlyn Anderson Scholarship Essay (for example: 25-Washington George Merlyn Anderson Scholarship Essay)
  + The essay should deal with your personal and academic goals.
  + Note: make sure to include a clear path from your intended major to the agriculture field – this is what the scholarship committee uses to determine your eligibility
* Letter of Recommendation:
  + From a person of your choice
  + Must be saved as a word document or .pdf – will be uploaded onto the online form
  + Save the file in the following format: 25-Last First Merlyn Anderson Scholarship LOR (for example: 25-Washington George Merlyn Anderson Scholarship LOR).

# CONTACT INFORMATION

You may direct questions to:

**Jacie Milius**

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