

Westport and Beyond
The Erika Hall Memorial Fund

recognizing and rewarding the dreamer in us all

The *Erika Hall Memorial Fund*, along with its sister funds noted below, was established by family and friends in 2014 through the Community Foundation of Southeastern Mass (CFSEMA) to honor the memory of their late daughter, granddaughter, sister, and friend Erika Hall. Erika was a unique beacon of light and life to all who knew her, and her powerful influence remains active among us all to this day. All of these funds seek to provide assistance in the living out of life beyond high school, in the many various ways that suit our own personalities, as Erika would have encouraged us to. The criteria for election of recipients will be broad (see below). As such, these are neither GPA nor need based scholarships, per se, so feel free to submit an application!

Along with the more traditional *scholarships*, and as fund-raising efforts allow, *Erika Hall Memorial Grants and Awards* will be made available to recent graduates of WHS in particular, though not exclusively, to those whose high school years would have overlapped with Erika's. (Westport kids from Diman, Connolly, Aggie and Stang may also apply. See specific scholarship/grant/award instructions for full list of qualified applicants) These grants and awards are for the pursuing of whatever *other* things life brings your way (research projects, studio work, humanitarian projects, knowledge via travel and cultural immersion, artistic endeavors, musical forays...any idea is fair game if it can be considered to have "growth and educational potential".) Submit a request for these life enrichment grants and we will let you know if and when funds become available.

About Erika Hall

Erika Hall was a sophomore at WHS who died in a car accident while out with friends late April 2014. Erika was involved and interested in many things (dance, music, art, field hockey, track, international exchange, beach life, a top student at school, employed at several area locations, etc.) yet it was not so much her activities that made her a standout but her relationships. Friends. Family. Employers. Teachers. Parents. Coaches. The 2-year-olds in her Saturday morning dance class. The young ladies she babysat. International teens here for a glimpse of life in the USA.

Erika had a way of putting a smile on your face and making you feel welcome. Whole. Loved. Her zest for life was contagious and insatiable, and she definitely wanted us all to be a part of it. It is for these reasons, and many more, that the family and friends of Erika Hall strove to create these scholarships and grants to further that sense of adventure in fellow students and to give back to a community and student body that had given so much to them during those trying days.

All scholarship, grant and award applications will be made available through the WHS guidance office, The Erika Hall Memorial Fund facebook page, it's website www.westportandbeyond.org, or online at www.westporteducationfoundation.com and www.cfsema.org. Check it out!

Finally, as part of our pay it forward philosophy, we would love for you to consider the possibility of contributing to the fund in the future should you find yourself in a position to do so, so that you might be able to help others in the same way that we, through this fund, have been able to help you.

(Live On, Beautiful One!)

Erika Hall Memorial Grants and Awards Info for ALL applicants

-Category 1 - Available for graduates of WHS, associated GED holders, and Westport graduates of the above mentioned sister schools, original preference being given to those students in attendance during the 2013-2020 time block, as funds allow. Members of each year's graduating class may also apply in the calendar year of their graduation (ie 2016 grads can apply to either of the 2016 deadlines) to allow funding for activities directly post graduation (those happening before next deadline) and possibly activities happening even earlier in that year (ie, spring semester high school). Students who move outside the school district but spent at least 2 years at WHS may also apply.

-Category 2 – Available for high school underclassmen (9th-11th) and first semester seniors. Applicants must be Westport residents attending WHS or any of the above named sister schools.

-Funds dispersed based on availability. Only requests not exceeding \$5,000 will be considered. Funds may be dispersed pre-, mid-, or post-project, depending upon the nature and implications of the request. An agreement may be put down in writing and signed by both parties upon acceptance. CFSEMA (our fund's "mother ship", so to speak) will contact you directly if this is so. Please be alert to their emails.

-In order to consider different types of applications and projects, different fund accounts may have been established, some with tax advantages, some without. Consult your tax adviser for filing rules and implications.

-Requests falling outside the framework of a 501c(3) charitable foundation will be considered separately, *through an entirely different (and heretofore not-established) fund*, and will have no direct involvement nor association with either the WEF or CFSEMA, nor monies raised thus.

-The acceptance of some grants and awards may have a small, required, community give back or community learning piece attached to it.

-Grants and Awards considered biannually, as funds allow. As such, first round applications are **due January 31** with acceptance notifications going out by February 28. Assuming permission, facebook and website winner postings will be made by March 15. Second round applications are **due July 31** with acceptance notifications going out by August 30, permissioned web postings by September 15. Applications not funded initially will be automatically considered for the *next round of funding only*, unless we receive an email from you requesting otherwise.

-Applications (We only need pgs 3-5 (Category 1) or 3-6 (Category 2). Keep the rest for your records!) can be mailed to:

Westport and Beyond/The Erika Hall Memorial Fund
ATTN: Grants/Awards
po box N164
Westport, MA 02790

see above for postmark date (or email application to info@westportandbeyond.org, subject & deadline same).

-See explanation on page 1 for possible funding ideas!

**Erika Hall Memorial Grants/Awards -Category 2
High school (underclassmen)
Application for Consideration**

My name:

Today's Date:

My year of high school graduation:

High School attending:

My phone :

email :

2nd email (yours/parents/etc.):

mailing address:

Amount requested:

Needed by:

My parents/grandparents/relatives are willing and able to contribute this much towards my project (this amount is NOT included in my Amount Requested above):

I have looked into financing my project in these other ways:

Project start/end dates:

Need to know by:

Is this an estimated or actual time frame?

Name of project:

Project category (ie art, music, travel & culture, education, self-discovery, humanitarian, etc.):

Describe project goals. Use back of sheet if necessary.

The money is specifically needed for and will be used in the following ways. Use back of sheet if necessary. (Please list amounts and areas of use, indicating whether amounts are definite or fluid estimates. Will receipts be available?)

Name, addresses (email and street), and phone # of organization working with:

Flying solo? (ie self created project with no connection to an outside organization): Y/N

These people are working with me and in these capacities:

I am willing to have minimal contact/oversight from a WEF or other representative during and at the completion of my experience. Y/N

Name and phone # of contact person who can authenticate this project/experience:

Upon completion of this grant project, I am willing to give back to the community in these ways that are relevant to my project/experience: (ie give a small community talk, show photos, donate or display a piece of created art, do a school assembly, share my experiences with a specific and grade appropriate classroom, write a blog, etc.)

I am willing to entertain other suggestions. Y/N
Why or why not?

Please enclose a brief character reference from someone (non parent) who knows you well.

Thank you for applying! Applications will be considered biannually, and as funds are available. Notification of status (yes/no/further info required/on hold for fund availability or reassessment) will be given by the deadlines set on the previous pages. Please send applications to Westport and Beyond/The Erika Hall Memorial Fund, ATTN: Grants/Awards, at po box N164, Westport, MA 02790, or email info@westportandbeyond.org, subject same.

Parent page

I _____ am excited about this opportunity _____ has been
(printed name of parent/guardian) (name of student)

given and support his/her decision to seek outside financial assistance to pursue said opportunity as it is outside our ability to cover these expences at this time. Thank you.

X _____
signed

dated

Please include below a brief explanation as to why you think this opportunity is important to him/her. What do THEY hope to gain from this experience? What do YOU want them to gain from this experience?

Media Release Permission Form-Category 2

For Westport and Beyond:

I _____ (*please print full name*) agree that my name, high school attending, year of hs graduation, project name and focus as appears on my application or through further correspondence can be used in press, online, and other social media announcements made by **Westport and Beyond** regarding the particular awards and or monies I have recieved.

YES _____ No _____

Signed and dated by applicant and, if under 18, his or her parent.

X _____
Applicant's signature Date

X _____
Parent's signature if under 18 Date

For Community Foundation of Southeastern Mass:

I _____ (*please print full name*) agree that my name, high school attending, year of high school graduation, project name and focus can be used in press and other announcements made by the **Community Foundation of Southeastern Massachusetts** regarding the particular awards and or monies I have recieved.

YES _____ No _____

Signed and dated by applicant and, if under 18, his or her parent.

X _____
Applicant's signature Date

X _____
Parent's signature if under 18 Date