

Erin Kinkel Memorial Scholarship Award - 2026

**A \$1,000 Scholarship Award will be given to two students graduating from
Gilroy High School**

Description of Award:

Two \$1,000 scholarship awards will be presented to two recipients from Gilroy High School (GHS) in Gilroy and will be selected for their achievements in Community Service and Academics, with special emphasis given for achievements in Athletics or Performing Arts. The recipient will be among the most deserving as determined by the evaluation of the “Award Criteria.”

Award Criteria:

- The student must be a graduating GHS senior.
- The student must be accepted to a two or four-year college or university.
- The student must have a positive attitude towards education and a minimum 3.0 GPA.
- **The student must exhibit some of the following characteristics:**
 - Through actions or community service, has demonstrated a commitment to making good choices and showing and taking responsibility.
 - Through actions or community service, has made a positive impact on other people’s lives.
 - Has regularly demonstrated enthusiastic, positive, hard working attitudes and is kind and helpful towards others.
- Special emphasis will be given to:
 - **A student who has exhibited commitment in Gymnastics, Karate, Cheerleading, or Performing Arts.**

Notes:

- The recipient will be chosen first based on their community service or impact to other people’s lives, secondly based on commitment to Gymnastics, Karate, Cheer Leading, or Performing Arts, and finally, overall GPA is only considered as a tiebreaker.
- The student’s race, gender, religion, or family economic status is not a consideration.

Method of Selection:

- The Gilroy High School Common Application Form must be used. The application is due by **Friday, March 6, 2026**. The “Financial Information” of the application does not need to be completed. The Award Criteria will be evaluated and determined by the Erin Kinkel Memorial Scholarship Award Committee, a volunteer committee consisting of family and coaches representing Gymnastics, Karate, Cheerleading, and the Performing Arts.
- Scholarship must be claimed by December 11, 2026, or be forfeited.

Applicants must submit the following documents:

1. Completed GUSD Common Scholarship Application.
2. Three letters of recommendation: two letters from a staff member-teacher, ACs, Aps, and one letter from a community service supervisor (non-school staff member nor relative).
3. A copy of the applicant’s unofficial high school transcript.

Email any questions to scholarships@gilroyfoundation.org

Donors

Scott, Miki, Megan, Danielle, Catherine and ★Erin★ Kinkel

Administered by: Gilroy Foundation, P. O. Box 774, Gilroy, Ca 95021
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