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Sharon McConnell Gillis
Executive Director

March 5, 2008

Doyon Foundation Announces 2008 - 2009 Competitive Scholarships

The Doyon Foundation board of directors recently approved the 2008 - 2009 competitive scholarships, which include 64 awards totaling \$257,000. For a full list of competitive scholarships, please visit www.doyonfoundation.com.

The deadline to apply for 2008 - 2009 competitive scholarships is April 15, 2008. Please note the deadline to submit basic scholarship applications for the summer 2008 semester is March 15, 2008. Doyon Foundation also reminds students that short-term, vocational funding is available year-round on a first-come, first-funded basis.

With recent upgrades to the Doyon Foundation Web site, students may now apply for scholarships online. All students are encouraged to create an online account and apply for scholarships at www.doyonfoundation.com/CreateAccount.aspx.

For details on the scholarship application and selection process, as well as a full list of competitive scholarships, visit www.doyonfoundation.com. Or contact Doris Miller, scholarship program manager, at 907.459.2050 or millerd@doyon.com.

Alumni Association Offers Assistance to Competitive Scholarship Applicants

Doyon Foundation Alumni Association members are offering to review competitive scholarship packets for the first 40 students requesting assistance. For more information about this opportunity, please contact Doris Miller, scholarship program manager, at millerd@doyon.com or 1.866.478.4755 ext. 2050.

Thank You to New Donors

Doyon Foundation extends our deep gratitude to our newest donors, including:

- Florence Carroll, Nee Ts'e Neyh donor
- Law Offices of Guess & Rudd, Competitive Scholarship Fund donor
- Leon Huntington, General Scholarship Fund donor
- BP America, Inc., General Scholarship Fund donor

The Foundation's annual fundraising campaign is still underway. If you wish to make a donation, please visit www.doyonfoundation.com or contact Sharon McConnell Gillis, Doyon Foundation's executive director, at 907.459.2051 or gilliss@doyon.com.

Doris Miller
Scholarship Program
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Message From Our Executive Director



Pictured left to right are some of the Doyon Foundation Alumni Association members, including Judith Evans and Beverly Demientieff (top), and Julie Biddle, Laverne Demientieff and Tracy Snow (bottom).

Recently, Doyon Foundation and the Doyon Foundation Alumni Association conducted a student survey to determine how the association can more effectively mentor and support our students. All of the respondents were entered in a drawing for an iPod shuffle, which went to student Janna Gurtler - congratulations, Janna!

A total of 82 students responded to the survey, providing valuable input on questions such as "What does mentorship mean?" "What does student support mean?" "What type of support is most important to you?" And "What type of support would you personally like the alumni association to provide?"

We learned our students see a mentor as someone "who helps you out when you need it," "to learn from," "who has knowledge and experience to guide," "you can count on to support you with big decisions," "who cares about you and what you're doing," "that wants you to succeed just as they have, and wants the best for you," "a person I look up to personally and professionally," and "a person that has my respect, and a person that cares about my future."

These are just a sampling of the many wonderful responses we received, and I thank all of our students for taking the time to participate in this important survey. Armed with your insights, we will move forward, continuing to grow and improve the services and support we offer - all in an effort to help you succeed in achieving your dreams.

- Sharon McConnell Gillis
Doyon Foundation Executive Director

Doyon Foundation Student Profile: Janna Gurtler



Doyon Foundation student Janna Gurtler was the winner of the iPod shuffle, which was awarded to one lucky student who participated in the recent Doyon Foundation Alumni Association online survey.

Gurtler currently lives in North Carolina, where she is pursuing a bachelor's of science degree in communication, with a concentration in broadcasting, at Western Carolina University.

After graduating in August 2008, Gurtler said she hopes to land a successful job in television. To increase her opportunities for a good job, Gurtler is getting all the hands-on experience she can. For example, she is currently the news director of Western Carolina's television station, TV62. She is also planning to do an internship this summer with a major TV network.

"The internship will show me what I'm really interested in, whether it be editing for news, news production, anchoring or directing," she said.

Although Gurtler lives far from Alaska, she said Doyon, Limited and the Foundation are very important to her.

"It's the only way I can learn about my heritage right now," she said. "I've never been to Alaska, and being provided with the information that Doyon sends me is helpful in learning about my family history, so I can

one day visit and learn more. Doyon is also important to me because the Foundation helps me continue my education."

Gurtler is the daughter of John and Joan Gurtler of Franklin, N.C. Her paternal grandparents are Jack Gurtler of Hermiston, Ore. and Camille Simon of Silverdale, Wash. Her maternal grandparents are R.C. and Sybil Hammonds of Crossville, Ala.

Candidates Sought for Competitive Scholarship Review Committee

Doyon Foundation is seeking candidates for three open seats on the competitive scholarship review committee. Interested candidates should submit a resume and a letter of interest outlining why they'd like to serve by April 11, 2008. The Doyon Foundation board of directors will select the members at their April 26, 2008 meeting in Fairbanks.

For details on candidate qualifications and responsibilities, please visit www.doyonfoundation.com. For additional information, please contact Doris Miller, scholarship program manager, at 907.459.2050 or millerd@doyon.com.

Major Information Sessions Held at UAF

Rural Student Services (RSS) at the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF) has invited academic departments to host information sessions on different majors and career paths. Upcoming information sessions, which take place in the RSS gathering room, include:

- March 21, 5 p.m., School of Management
- April 2, 5:30 p.m., Psychology
- April 9, 3:30 p.m., Alaska Native Language
- April 16, 3:30 p.m., Alaska Native Studies
- April 23, 3:30 p.m., Education
- April 30, 3:30 p.m., Social Work
- April 25, 5 p.m., Rural Development

Also, check out Major Mania on March 21 from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. at the Wood Center Ballroom, where representatives from all UAF majors will be available to talk with students.

Staged Reading of "Winter Bear" Held March 6

A staged reading of "The Winter Bear," written by Anne Hanley and directed by Wesley Roberts Dalton, will take place Thursday, March 6 at the Museum of the North in Fairbanks. A question-and-answer session will take place before and after the reading. Organizers also expect to perform at the Salisbury Theatre on May 10, 2008, and potentially at the 2008 Alaska Federation of Natives convention.

For more information, contact authenticalaskan76@gmail.com or 907.460.8136, or visit www.authenticakproductions.com.

Internships, Scholarships and Other Educational Opportunities

Looking for a summer job or internship? Need help paying for school? Here are just a few of the many opportunities currently available. Be sure to visit www.doyonfoundation.com/static/employment.aspx for the full list!

- Doyon Emerald has an opening for a summer engineering intern at its headquarters in Anchorage, Alaska. Applicants should be enrolled in an engineering or technical-related college curriculum with at least two years of education in civil, mechanical, chemical or environmental engineering. For more information, call 907.258.8137 or visit www.emeraldalaska.com. Interested parties should e-mail a cover letter and resume to hr@emeraldalaska.com.
- The Gillam Foundation is offering scholarships to graduating Alaska high school seniors with a passion for business. Up to \$250,000 in scholarships will be awarded to college-bound students. For more information, visit www.gillamfoundation.org. Applications due March 7, 2008.
- First Alaskans Institute's 2008 summer intern program will place approximately 30 Alaska

Native/American Indian and rural students into organizations around Alaska to provide leadership development experiences. These paid internships are 10 weeks in length, from early June to mid-August. For more information, visit www.firstalaskans.org or contact 907.677.1700 or info@firstalaskans.org. Applications due March 7, 2008.

- Applications are being accepted for the Stanford Graduate School of Business Summer Institute for General Management, a four-week residential program designed for college juniors, seniors and recent graduates with majors in non-business fields. The program will be held June 22 - July 19, 2008. For more information, contact 650.724.7409 or ng_lin@gsb.stanford.edu, or visit www.gsb.stanford.edu/si. Applications due March 10, 2008.
- The Bezos Scholars Program at the Aspen Institute will bring together 12 of the country's top high school juniors to participate in the annual Aspen Ideas Festival, held June 30 - July 6, 2008. Applications are being accepted for all-expense-paid scholarships to the festival. Public high school juniors are invited to apply. For more information, visit www.aspeninstitute.org/site/c.huLWJeMRkPH/b.1484475/k.D035/Bezos_Aspen_Scholars_Program.htm. Applications due March 14, 2008.
- The Kenai River Sportfishing Association is accepting applications for the Ted Stevens Scholarship Program. Up to seven scholarships will be awarded; each scholarship will cover one year of tuition at a University of Alaska institution. Students can apply in three categories - Kenai Peninsula College scholarships, bachelor of science scholarships, and post-graduate scholarships. For more information, visit www.kenairiversportfishing.com or contact 907.262.8588 or scholar@kenairiversportfishing.com. Applications due March 15, 2008.

To view a full list of opportunities, please visit www.doyonfoundation.com/static/employment.aspx.

Tips for Student Success

With the Doyon Foundation competitive scholarship application deadline quickly approaching, we thought it would be helpful to provide some advice on writing your personal essay - one of the most important pieces of the application. Here are some simple tips for writing a stand-out essay:

- **Brainstorm first - write second.** Read the essay criteria closely, then brainstorm different ways you might respond. Once you've decided on a direction, create an outline to help you organize your thoughts.
- **Write with a theme in mind.** A personal essay is much different than a resume, so don't just make a list of all your awards, achievements and activities. Rather, think of an overall theme for your essay and incorporate stories that support that theme.
- **Don't recycle essays.** Each scholarship you apply for will have different requirements, so don't be tempted to re-use an essay you wrote for another application. Carefully review the requirements for each essay, and tailor your writing specifically to those requirements.
- **Stand out.** Remember your essay will be read along with many others, so think of ways to make your essay original, creative and interesting.
- **Be specific.** Use real-life examples to demonstrate the points you want to make. For example, don't say "I'm very interested in community service." Instead, say "Community service is so important to me, I dedicate five hours a week to volunteer at the local soup kitchen."
- **Spell check, spell check, spell check.** Read over your essay very carefully, checking for spelling and grammar errors. Also, ask a trusted friend, family member or teacher to review your essay.
- **Make sure your essay looks professional.** Essays should be typed - not handwritten - and printed on clean, unwrinkled paper. Check for any specific formatting requests, such as double spacing and margins, as well.
- **Meet the deadline.** You may have a first-class essay, but if you don't get it in on time, you probably won't even be considered for the scholarship. So be sure to give yourself plenty of time to meet the application deadline.

For more student tips, visit www.doyonfoundation.com/static/studentTips.aspx.

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