



P.E.O. Scholar Awards News & Reminders

Newsletter

October 2021

Live Sessions at Convention of International Chapter

PSA Trustees were thrilled to see so many of you at last week's Convention of International Chapter. If you missed any of the live sessions for our project, you missed seeing some remarkable young women who have recently received the Scholar Award! All of them are so grateful for the financial assistance they received from this award, but they also expressed their gratitude for the personal support they have received from their nominating chapters. Here is a sampling of what we heard from them:



Raquel Hakes Weston-Dawkes talked about the California chapter that has been a community of women critical to her life as a doctoral student. Raquel is now continuing to study the effects of wildfires on communities in their path. She

described the benefits of necessary fires that enhance the natural world as opposed to those that destroy homes, stressing that "Climate informs everything."



Ellen Busby became a P.E.O. herself after she received a Scholar Award. She has progressed through all the chapter offices,

her British Columbia Provincial Board, and just this week was appointed to the 2021-2023 Leadership Team as a member of the Study and Research Committee. What an example of how Scholars become great sisters! You can read about Ellen and her local chapter in the May/June 2021 issue of The P.E.O. Record.



Chloe Latham Sikes is now Deputy Director of Policy at the Intercultural Development Research Association in Texas, working on state policies that advance equity in education. She wishes legislators could focus more on what is really important!



Kathy Do is continuing as a research fellow at UNC-Chapel Hill as she investigates the use of social awards that help teens make good decisions. She is so enthusiastic about young people. We laughed as

she spoke of saying to them about a particular action: "Why did you do that?!"



Angelica Amezcua aims to create a sense of community in her University of Washington classroom as she prepares first-generation and minoritized students to overcome academic obstacles. Through her study of Spanish linguistics, she wants her students to

know how important words can be and appreciate the beauty of poetic language.



P.E.O. Scholar Awards Newsletter *continued...*



Samantha Cooper was our project night speaker, and wow! did she entertain us! As part of her study of Jewish voices in popular music, she shared the voices of Fanny Brice and

Barbara Streisand as they sang “I’d rather be blue over you than be happy with somebody else,” adding her own rendition of this song as she concluded her speech.



Lauren Genova has secured her dream job teaching chemistry at the University of Delaware, but she has only been able to meet with them virtually because of pandemic restrictions. Knowing how important it is to know how to teach – beyond

just subject content – she collaborated with other graduate students to write a book on becoming better teachers. Lauren has become a P.E.O. sister who loves the “vibe of P.E.O. where you can be your full authentic self. It’s like a hug for your heart!”

Questions Asked during Live Sessions at Convention

How can chapters advertise the Scholar Award on University websites?

Chapters may place the following link on the university website peointernational.org/projects so that potential applicants can find accurate Scholar Awards information. See To the Point (page 49) in the November/December 2020 issue of The P.E.O. Record for more details on this issue.

What continuing contact can chapters have with their Scholars?

Send birthday cards, care packages, an invitation to speak about her research at a chapter meeting. Invite her to become a P.E.O.!

How do you write a good nomination letter?

See this link on the Scholar section of the P.E.O. website.

<https://members.peointernational.org/resource/tips-writing-psa-nomination-letter>

How can applicants show what they do in doctoral programs that do not focus on research?

See list of questions through this link. Talk to your applicant during the interview to help jog her memory.

<https://members.peointernational.org/resource/scholar-award-application-question-list-local-chapter-reference>

Why are Scholar Awards not given to applicants in every state, province and district?

P.E.O. Scholar Awards need to be given to the very best applicants, regardless of where they live or where they are studying.

How long does it take to fill out the application?

Scholar Kathy Do said it took her between 5 and 10 hours. Applicants need time to think and process answers.

Remember that our PSA supervisor, Lori Discher, is here to help you with questions related to our project. ldischer@peodsm.org 515-255-3153 Ext 3703

Supporting Women . . . Changing the World!

