

TYLER BRETT CARUSO MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Administered by:
TYLER BRETT CARUSO MEMORIAL FUND

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this scholarship is to support and encourage a graduating high school senior who attended St. Charles East High School and who will pursue further education at a college or university of his or her choice.

AWARD:

This scholarship provides a one-time award of \$1,000, made payable directly to the college or university of the selected applicant's choice by the fund administrator of the Tyler Brett Caruso Memorial Fund. The award can be used to apply toward tuition, book fees, or materials directly related to the student's course of study. The scholarship may be awarded up to and including two students, depending upon the available reserves in the fund.

REQUIREMENTS AND SELECTION CRITERIA:

Applicants who have fulfilled the following requirements will be considered for the award. This scholarship will be awarded to an applicant who:

- is currently enrolled as a graduating senior at St. Charles East High School
- will enter in the fall term at an accredited college or university as a full-time college freshman
- completes the attached application by the below deadline
(An original, official high school transcript is a requirement of this application.)
- displays evidence of exemplary achievements in many of the following areas: academics, athletics, student leadership and school service, music (instrument and/or vocal), and community leadership and service
- agrees to contact the Tyler Brett Caruso Memorial Fund in writing after 90 days and no more than 180 days after starting college for the purpose of informing the fund where the recipient is attending college and the activities in which the recipient is participating
- submits a 300 – 500 word essay by the stated deadline
- submits two completed recommendations by the stated deadline

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE:

A committee consisting of the following members will select the scholarship recipient annually: the parents of Tyler Brett Caruso (Anthony J. Caruso Jr. and Marilyn F.

Caruso), a St. Charles East High School administrator, and a St. Charles East High School faculty advisor of students and/or school organization.

PRESENTATION OF SCHOLARSHIP:

The scholarship will be awarded at the St. Charles East High School Senior Honors Ceremony.

APPLICATION DEADLINE:

The application, with attached high school transcript, must be submitted no later than **April 15** of the scholarship year to:

Tyler Brett Caruso Memorial Scholarship
c/o Mr. & Mrs. Anthony J. Caruso Jr.
1125 Crabapple Lane
St. Charles, IL 60174 – 1315

TYLER BRETT CARUSO MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

On July 14, 2002, St. Charles East High School and the St. Charles community lost once of its finest leaders. Seventeen-year-old Tyler Brett Caruso died unexpectedly of apparent cardiac arrest while spending the day at the beach with friends.

Tyler was a student leader who devoted countless hours to the betterment of his high school and community. He was poised to take his place as president of the Student Council Executive Board of St. Charles East High School for the 2002 – 2003 school year. Tyler was captain of the varsity football team, senior member of the audition-only STCE Jazz Workshop (2000 – 2002), director of various projects in H.O.P.E. (service organization to reduce at-risk behaviors in fellow students / 1999 – 2002), peer leadership advisor (PLA) in the select group of junior / senior leaders paired with freshmen to help them adjust to high school life (2001 – 2002), and board member of the Downtown St. Charles Partnership (planning committee for the future of the City of St. Charles / 2001 – 2002). He was a member of the National Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta (Math Honor Society), Upstate Eight Academic All Conference, and ranked in the top 5% of his class. Tyler would have been a 2003 graduate of St. Charles East High School.

Helping others was a daily activity of Tyler's. In addition to his involvement in the aforementioned organizations, he also actively participated in P.A.C. (Principal's Advisory Council / 1999 – 2002), Class of 2003 (president in freshman and sophomore years), Student Council Executive Board (vice-president in junior year), D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education / 1999 – 2002), and Youth Coalition (board member who helped set the foundation for the establishment of the STC Underground teen center / 2000).

Tyler was an avid participant in the arts. He was selected to play in the STCE Wind Ensemble (2000 – 2002), in addition to his membership in the STCE Jazz Workshop. He had been a member in the St. Charles East High School Band (marching, concert, and pep), as well as the Haines Middle School Band (concert and jazz) and the Anderson Elementary School Band. His love for music carried far beyond his talent as an alto saxophonist.

Art had a special place in Tyler's life. He used his talent to design numerous logos for school and community projects. Many of his designs can be seen on murals, T-shirts, and documents in our community.

Tyler's dedication to athletics was evident even in his early years. As a six-year-old, Tyler participated in soccer and tae kwon do. He earned a black belt in tae kwon do at the age of eight. He qualified each year for national competition, winning multiple gold and silver medals. At the age of fourteen, Tyler retired from that sport when he entered middle school sports programs (basketball and football). Football became his most-loved sport and he excelled quickly to reach the position of starting middle linebacker. He was to be the defensive team captain of the St. Charles East varsity football team in his senior

season (2002 – 2003). He was admired and respected by his fellow teammates. The team led the processional at Tyler's funeral.

Tyler was a great humanitarian. He was a recipient of the St. Charles East High School Human Relations Award (recognition of efforts to promote positive, caring relationships among diverse groups in the school / 2000 – 2001 – 2002). He gave of himself unconditionally to others. He faced life's challenges with a positive attitude and patience. He always had time to help anyone in need. He was "everybody's best friend." Tyler had many goals in life, but they all were based upon making our schools, community, and society better places to live and thrive.

In an effort to preserve Tyler's efforts in so many school and community service organizations, the Caruso family established a memorial fund in his name. The generous contributions will enable the family to give back to those Tyler held so dear to his heart.

TYLER BRETT CARUSO MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

NAME _____
(Last) (First) (Middle)

ADDRESS _____

CITY / STATE _____

HOME TELEPHONE _____

Have you applied to a university? Yes _____ No _____

If yes, please list _____

Have you committed to a previous university? Yes _____ No _____

If yes, please include school name / address _____

What extracurricular school organizations (positions), athletics, or activities have you participated in throughout high school?

What extracurricular non-school related activities have you taken part in throughout your high school career?

Student Signature _____

Date _____

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ESSAY

Write an essay of 300 – 500 words. Use this opportunity to detail your academic and extra curricular background and your aspirations in furthering your education. Please include personal achievements and general involvement within your school and community. While writing your essay, please consider the below questions. You are not limited by these questions. Your essay will be evaluated based upon organization, content, sincerity, and grammar. This essay must be typed or computer generated.

- How will this scholarship benefit you?
- What are your personal and professional goals?
- What role does school / community service play in your life?
- Why are you deserving of this scholarship?

TYLER BRETT CARUSO MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Reference on behalf of: _____

Given by: _____
(teacher, counselor, administrator, coach, employer, church / volunteer leader)

Purpose:

This scholarship is intended to aid and encourage a graduating student in pursuit of higher education within the field of his or her choice. This person will embody leadership and humanitarian qualities of Tyler Brett Caruso and will be awarded in an effort to commemorate his memory.

Instructions:

Please provide a sincere and candid evaluation of this student in regards to his or her initiative, leadership, dedication, consideration of others, and general humanitarian qualities. Please indicate your relationship with this student and length of time you have known him or her. Return the completed reference to the student applying for the scholarship. It will be included with his or her application and essay. Thank you.

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