



*Kevin M. Eidt Memorial Scholarship Fund
7 Bumblebee Lane ~ Norwalk, CT ~ 06851
www.KevinsFund.org*

June 17, 2016

Dear Friend,

Today would have marked Kevin's 38th birthday. Thanks to our donors, we are able to reflect on something positive today and update you about Kevin's Fund, our 2016 scholarship recipients, and events since our April 9th benefit dinner dance and scholarship presentation.

Ava Rosato announced on April 9th as this year's \$100,000 scholarship recipient, as the most outstanding senior in the Norwalk High School class of 2016, will matriculate at Georgetown University. Ava is the second of our scholarship recipients to matriculate at Georgetown and just coincidentally the sixth recipient in the last nine years choosing to matriculate at a Jesuit University. For those who were unable to attend this year's scholarship presentation we have included abstracts from Ava's comments on the attachment to this letter.

As each one of our supporters is special to us we normally do not take the time during the benefit dinner dance to acknowledge a given supporter except in unusual situations. This year was an exception as we acknowledged both Kurt Simonsen and Stew Leonard's.

As previously shared with you Kurt, a Norwalk High School teacher and longtime integral member of our Scholar Selection Committee, accepted a headmaster's position at another high school. I would like to share an abstract of Kurt's comments, which follow this letter, as he accepted a token of our appreciation for his extraordinary contributions to Kevin's Fund.

Again we would like to acknowledge Stew Leonard's support of Kevin's Fund for the past 16 years through their Wishing Well project. Their participation validates our mission and affords us a unique opportunity to further promote Kevin's Fund.

Over the past several weeks Kevin's Fund awarded eight additional scholarships recognizing outstanding achievements in the areas in which Kevin participated and excelled.

- On April 5th the Boston College Emerging Leader Scholarship was presented to the freshman in the Emerging Leader Program whose leadership skills and potential best represent Boston College's philosophies of "Ever to Excel" and "Being Men and Women for Others". This \$2,000 scholarship was awarded to Kandace Nguyen, class of '19, from Marrero, Louisiana.

- On April 14th Boston College EMS, the student run Emergency Response Organization, held its annual awards banquet. Boston College EMS was founded in 1997 by Mark Ritchie, a classmate of Kevin's, who wanted to ensure future situations like Kevin's would be met with the skill and resources which could mean the difference between life and death. In 2009 Boston College EMS established the Kevin M. Eidt Excellence Award which is presented annually to the most outstanding member of the organization. The 2016 recipient of Kevin's Excellence Award is Kevin Zirko, class of '16, from Lombard, Illinois.
- On April 28th Lauren Wedell, Boston College class of '17, from Arden Hills, Minnesota received the \$18,000 Kevin M. Eidt Memorial Scholarship awarded to the outstanding junior in the Boston College Carroll School of Management Honors Program. This scholarship is presented to the junior, who in the opinion of the faculty and administrators of the Honors Program has demonstrated the unique combination of academic achievement, character, leadership, and school spirit similar to Kevin's.
- On May 22nd, Christina Ronzitti was awarded the \$4,000 St. Jerome Youth Group Scholarship at their year-end graduation banquet. This scholarship is presented to the individual who, in the opinion of the Youth Group Adult Ministry Team, has demonstrated outstanding commitment to the youth program and community and religious service similar to Kevin's. Christina will attend the University of Rhode Island.
- On May 26th, Norwalk High School held its annual awards assembly at which Kevin's Fund presented the following scholarships:
 - \$1,000 Scholar-Athlete Scholarship to George Kutrubis for outstanding contributions to Norwalk High School both as a scholar and an athlete. George will be attending the University of Connecticut.
 - \$1,000 Orchestra Scholarship to Ines Purcell for outstanding contributions to the orchestra program. Ines will be attending Bryn Mawr College.
 - As previously announced Kevin's Fund awards a \$2,000 scholarship, (in recognition of Kevin being in the BC class of 2000), to each Norwalk High School Senior who matriculates at Boston College. This year the scholarship was awarded to Arissa Troy.
- On June 6th, at the year-end Norwalk High School band banquet, Kevin's Fund awarded the following scholarships:
 - \$1,000 Marching Band Scholarship to Thomas Jankovic. This scholarship is presented to the four year member of the Marching Band, in good standing, with the highest cumulative grade point average similar to Kevin's achievement. Thomas will be attending Princeton University.
 - \$1,000 Jazz Scholarship to Kyle Brenn. This scholarship is presented to the senior, in good standing, who has made an outstanding contribution to the Jazz program. Kyle will be attending New York University.

Congratulations to our recently graduated 2012 scholarship recipients who received financial support from Kevin's Fund for the past four years: Alexander Libre ~ Dartmouth

College ~ (Norwalk High School Scholarship) and Michael O'Callaghan ~ University of Connecticut ~ (St. Jerome Youth Group Scholarship).

For the upcoming fall semester, Kevin's Fund will be providing financial support to 15 students matriculating at Holy Cross (2), Connecticut (2), Georgetown, Boston College (3), Western Connecticut, James Madison, Sacred Heart, Rhode Island, Princeton, NYU, and Bryn Mawr.

Photographs of the April 9th benefit dinner dance and scholarship presentation were taken by Yvonne Marchese Photography. A montage of these photos can be viewed at <http://www.yvonnemarchesephotography.com/Private-Galleries/Events/Eidt-Dinner-2016/n-kVTQJh/>.

The Fund's next update will be in November at which time we will announce Kevin's scholarships available in 2017. Current information regarding Kevin's Fund activities will be posted on our website: www.KevinsFund.org. You can also follow us on Twitter @KevinsFund_org and join the Kevin Eidt Memorial Scholarship Fund Group on LinkedIn. In the event you have any questions or suggestions please feel free to contact us at KevinsFund@aol.com.

Our 18th annual benefit dinner dance and scholarship presentation will be held on Saturday, April 8, 2017 at The Shore & Country Club in East Norwalk, CT.

It is with great sadness Kevin's Fund shares the news of the passing of Alexandra Sandor. Alexandra was Kevin's Fund Benefit Auction Chairperson since the auction was incorporated as part our benefit dinner dance activities. Her talents, commitment, creative flair, and most importantly, her friendship will be greatly missed. May Alexandra rest in peace and her family find some solace in knowing how special she was to Kevin's Fund and our family.

Through your generosity and his scholarship fund Kevin and his legacy has now touched 133 recipients with gifts of education totaling \$1,747,000. Thank you for making the extraordinary achievements of Kevin's Fund possible and for allowing our scholarship recipients to be a living legacy of Kevin's enduring personality and glowing accomplishments.

With sincere gratitude on behalf of Kevin's Fund.

Chris

Christian H. Eidt
Director

The Kevin M. Eidt Memorial Scholarship Fund, a 501(c)(3) publicly supported charitable organization, was established in honor of the exemplary achievements of Kevin, who died from cardiac arrest during his freshman year at Boston College. The Fund recognizes outstanding achievement in academics, athletics, the arts, and community and religious commitment.

APRIL 9TH BENEFIT DINNER DANCE AND SCHOLARSHIP PRESENTATION REMARKS

Ava Rosato

“Good evening and thank you all for being here. I’d like to begin by expressing my gratitude to the Eidt family for providing me with this amazing opportunity. Their strength and character has endured in spite of tragedy and brought us here to honor the accomplishments of Kevin Eidt – whose name and legacy lives throughout the community and upon the Scholarship Award that I am so fortunate to receive.

I would also like to extend my sentiments of thanks to all those who support Kevin’s Fund – donors, selection committee members, past recipients, and members of the community. It is through your support and generous donations that I stand here tonight in receipt of this Scholarship.

I am also elated that this award will significantly impact my family’s ability to afford my education at my top choice school, Georgetown University. For this, I cannot stress my appreciation enough. I was thrilled to hear of my acceptance but was concerned about the possible financial burden on my family. Now, without any reservations, I am so happy to say I’ll be Hoya next year! In gratitude, I will put my best foot forward in order to rise to the level of success associated with past recipients and among the outstanding tenets of Kevin’s accomplishments.

Tonight, after being named an Eidt Scholar, I am truly the recipient of the generosity and support of every person in this room. I would like to express my deepest appreciation that I am able to receive this Award in order to further my education, celebrate my past accomplishments, and commemorate Kevin’s exemplary triumphs on which this Scholarship was founded and has afforded its exceptional legacy. I am so honored to become a part of that legacy and look forward to continuing it through my studies at Georgetown and in the years to come.”

Kurt Simonsen

“I always took a lot of pride in being a part of this Scholarship Selection Committee. It was quite an honor. When you’re in education as long as I have been, over 20 years of being a teacher, you get to be on lots of committees. Most of them are meaningless but fortunately this one was not. And I thought about, well, why is it that I felt so much pride? I’m not a family member; I route against Boston College, sorry, and I wasn’t Kevin’s teacher or anything like that. I was just the guy that wrote a lot of recommendations for this scholarship. So why is it that I felt such pride in doing this? To boil it all down, the simple answer is this: because it’s right. Everything about this is right. The process, the philosophy, the reason, tonight; everything about this is right. So all of us who share in that pride, and I want to just take a quick moment to thank the entire scholarship committee, the people I worked with, it was a very sad day when I decided that I was leaving Norwalk High School and this was part of it to be honest, but I want thank everyone, and specifically the Eidt family, for giving me something that I could always believe in because it was right.”