

The Andrew Cruz Memorial Innovation in Technology Scholarship Guidelines

Purpose:

Each year, the Andrew Cruz Innovation Fund will award a \$1,500 scholarship to a deserving Marvin Ridge High School senior. The goal of this scholarship is to recognize a graduating student who demonstrates academic achievement, specifically in innovation and a dedication to using technology in ways to enrich the community. This scholarship is a one-time grant, paid directly to the student's post-secondary school, to honor the values and passion Andrew Cruz and this student exemplify.

Committee:

Scholarships are awarded based on merit. Financial need is not a factor in applying for this scholarship. Applicants will be evaluated by a committee consisting of:

- Jorge and Kathy Cruz
 - One MRHS administration representative
 - One MRHS IT/Technology teacher
 - Two community members
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- Parents of the applicant(s) may not serve on the Scholarship committee.
 - The Scholarship Committee reserves the right to verify the information submitted by the applicant.
 - All applications will be reviewed strictly on a blind basis.
 - Decisions of the Scholarship Committee will be final.

Scholarship:

- The scholarship will be announced during the Awards Day at MRHS.
- The recipient must provide evidence that the student will attend a post-secondary educational institution (including trade or technical schools) on a full-time basis after graduation.

Eligibility:

To be considered for the Andrew Cruz Memorial Innovation in Technology Scholarship, students must meet the following criteria:

General:

- Applicant must be a senior at MRHS graduating June 2019.

Academic Achievement:

- The student must have a minimum cumulative un-weighted high school grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale, as of the end of the third grading period of the applicant's senior year. This will be confirmed for all applicants by the MRHS guidance department prior to the committee reviewing applications.

Student ID: _____

Technology Proficiency:

- Applicant must be a graduating senior of Marvin Ridge High School who has demonstrated proficiency in technological related areas and clubs (inside or outside of MRHS). These may include fields such as Robotics, Cybersecurity, Programming, Software & Game development, Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning.

Post-Secondary Education:

- The applicant must be accepted to a post-secondary educational institution. Post-secondary educational institutions include, but are not limited to, two-year or four-year colleges, universities, technical, and vocational schools.

Letters of Recommendation:

- Applicants must have two (2) recommendations.
 - One (1) from a MRHS teacher associated with technology, and
 - One (1) from someone outside of MRHS within the technical field (Optional but highly recommended).
- Those completing the letter of recommendation must place the letters in a sealed envelope and sign the envelope prior to giving the letter to the applicant to turn in. The letters should include the Student ID # but not the student's name.

Essay:

- All applicants must submit an essay based on the prompt detailed below. The essay must be at least 350 words. The essay will be judged on creativity, originality, real-world impact, use of technology, grammar and organizational style

Essay Prompt:

- Andrew Cruz was passionate about all sorts of technology, but more importantly he loved to use technology solutions to help others. In today's world, technology is all around us in various forms. Certain innovative products are perceived as either non-productive, negative or even destructive. If you had a new company that made a revolutionary product or solution, what would that be and do and how would the product or solution bring benefit to the world and/or community?

Submission Deadline:

- **April 19** - application and corresponding documents must be submitted online (<https://goo.gl/forms/O0zPcQeNlUnA9xYU2>) or delivered to the Marvin Ridge High School Guidance Office by **April 19th, 2019**. Submit online (preferred)

**The Andrew Cruz Memorial Innovation in Technology
Scholarship Application Form**

Student ID: _____

- Personal identifiable data will not be shared with the selection committee. Selection committee will only see pages 2, 3 and essay.

Personal Information

This data is required for administrative purposes only. All information is confidential. Please provide an e-mail address through which we can contact you after graduation.

Full Name	
Student ID#	
Current Mailing Address	
Home / Mobile Telephone Number	
E-Mail Address	
Mother's Name and Phone Number	
Father's Name and Phone Number	
Name of School you plan to attend	

Statement of Understanding

- I certify that information contained in this application is correct and completed by applicant. I understand that falsifying information will cause this application to be ineligible for selection.
- I confirm the completed essay is my own work and has not been plagiarized.
- Scholarship winner will be notified at the Senior Awards Ceremony in May.
- I understand that all scholarship money will be disbursed to the institution's registrar / bursar after enrollment in the post-secondary institution has been established.
- I understand that an enrollment verification from the post-secondary institution must be submitted to the Marvin Ridge High School PTSO for these funds to be paid.
- I further understand that if I withdraw prior to completing a semester of school, I forfeit my scholarship funds, and these must be repaid to the Marvin Ridge High School PTSO.
- My parent or legal guardian and I have read this completed application and agree that all information is correct.

Applicant Signature _____

Date _____

Parent or Guardian Signature _____

Date _____

Technology Proficiency

Student ID: _____

Applicant must be a graduating senior of Marvin Ridge High School who has demonstrated proficiency in technological related areas and clubs (inside or outside of Marvin Ridge High School). These may include fields such as Robotics, Cybersecurity, Programming, Software & Game development, Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning.

Indicate your participation in technology related areas, clubs, classes and training. List Name of the School, Course, Club, Class and year/time attended. Please be as detailed as possible.

Community Involvement	Date and Time Committed	Description of Activities

Please use additional sheets if needed.

Academics

Student ID: _____

Please list your cumulative high school GPA, un-weighted on a 4.0 scale as of the end of the third grading period of your senior year: _____

- This information will be confirmed by MRHS Guidance.

Briefly answer the following: What is the most exciting thing or solution you have ever built, coded designed or worked on and why?

Essay (at least 350 words, on a separate sheet of paper)

“Andrew Cruz was passionate about all sorts of technology, but more importantly he loved to use technology solutions to help others. In today’s world, technology is all around us in various forms. Certain innovative products are perceived as either non-productive, negative or even destructive. If you had a new company that made a revolutionary product or solution, what would that be and do and how would the product or solution bring benefit to the world and/or community?”

Guidance use only:

Does this student meet the Scholarship requirement(s)? Yes _____ No _____

Student ID: _____

The Andrew Cruz Memorial Innovation in Technology Scholarship

Letter of Recommendation

Dear Teacher, or Community Leader,

The Andrew Cruz Memorial Fund, (In Association with Marvin Ridge High School), is presenting a \$1,500 scholarship to a graduating student. The student must embody the passion for technology with the compassion for helping others, that Andrew Cruz brought to his family, friends and community. Letters of recommendation are an important part of the application process to fully understand an applicant.

On a separate sheet, please describe the student's character and comment on how the student has demonstrated the qualities of the award such as creativity, technological skills, dedication, innovation, leadership, friendship and compassion. Please cite specific examples of how the applicant has demonstrated these qualities and include your full name, e-mail address, and a brief explanation of your association with this student. Please include the Student ID # at the top of the letter.

Please refrain from using student's name. If necessary, use "he", "she", etc.

The completed letter should be returned to the student in a sealed envelope, your signature confirming completion. The student will submit the sealed letter along with the completed application to the MRHS Guidance Office.

Thank you for helping identify this very deserving scholarship recipient.

Sincerely,

The Andrew Cruz Memorial Fund @ Marvin Ridge High School

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The Andrew Cruz Memorial Innovation in Technology Scholarship

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