

Berry Quality of Life Youth Leadership Scholarship Criteria, Eligibility and Application

Bill and Peggy Berry

Bill and Peggy Berry established their roots in Carmichael in 1965. After a five year overseas work experience with the Peace Corps in Turkey and Paraguay, the Berry's began a 37 year history of leadership and volunteer work in Carmichael. Individually and together the Berry's commitments included:

- Save the American River Association
- Sacramento Area Water Forum
- Carmichael Creek Neighborhood Association
- California Native Plant Society
- American River Parkway Update Citizens Advisory Committee (UCAC)
- 4-H
- PTA
- People Reaching Out
- Center for Youth Citizenship
- Carmichael Water District

Bill and Peggy believe that serving one's community can be an immensely inspiring and rewarding experience. They know their lives have been enriched and expanded in countless ways through their teamwork with the dedicated community members of the organizations they have been involved with. They hope that their belief in service and commitment to improve the quality of life for the Carmichael community and beyond will be as meaningful in others' lives as it has theirs.

The Berry's level of commitment is a continuing inspiration to the community of Carmichael.

About the Scholarship

Established in 2011 to honor the Berry's long history of volunteer work within the community of Carmichael, The Berry Quality of Life Youth Leadership Scholarship identifies, rewards, and promotes outstanding community service efforts and demonstrations of leadership by a high school student.

The following criteria will be used to evaluate and judge applications:

- Proven Track Record of Volunteering within the Carmichael Community: List group(s).
- Type of Service Rendered: Has the applicant actively participated in a role or in support of several events or programs?
- Length of Service: How long has the applicant been actively involved with an event or program? If this is the first year, what exemplified his or her volunteer service?
- Level of Commitment: How much time, hands-on effort, or emotional investment has the applicant committed to the event(s) or program(s)?
- Impact on the Carmichael Community: In what way is it evident that the volunteer has made lasting improvements or has affected positive change? Who has benefited and how?
- Obstacles, Challenges Applicant Overcame: What personal or academic challenges or obstacles did the nominee overcome to achieve his or her volunteer goals?

Eligibility

- One \$500 scholarship is available to a student attending a public or independent school located in Carmichael, CA, and/or who resides within the Carmichael Water District Service Area who is currently enrolled in and attending the 12th grade or is currently enrolled in a post-secondary institution.
- Has completed a minimum of 130 hours of community service activities by the application deadline.
- Student must have a cumulative weighted GPA of 3.0 or higher.
- Pending acceptance or enrollment confirmation to a post-secondary institution (required for receipt of scholarship).
- Immediate relatives of Carmichael Water District staff or its Board of Directors are not eligible.
- While changes are not anticipated the District reserves the right to change or modify the rules at any time. The District reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to cancel, terminate, suspend or reschedule this award.

Application Process

- 1) Complete the application.
- 2) Write an essay detailing your service, answering all questions in criteria above and include explanation of how it has benefitted the Carmichael Community.
- 3) Obtain two (2) letters of recommendation, one from your school and one from your service agency and attach to the application form provided in the application packet. **The recommendation letters are a significant part of the selection process, as they provide the committee with insight into your leadership skills and must express the nominee's eligibility (GPA, service hours, etc.). Typed references are preferred.**
- 4) Include verification of minimum GPA requirement from school.
- 5) Deliver the completed application to Carmichael Water District and submit the original, along with copies of all materials.

Please note: All materials must be submitted together. Late or incomplete applications will not be accepted or considered.

Deadline: Complete applications must be received in Carmichael Water District's office, 7837 Fair Oaks Blvd, Carmichael, CA 95608 on or before **12:00 p.m. on July 3, 2017.**

Selection Process

Award recipients are chosen by a Selection Committee. Selection is based on community service activities performed, leadership in community service described in the essay, and the two (2) letters of recommendation.

Selection Committee

The Committee will include representatives from Carmichael Water District. The Selection Committee's decision will be final.

Notification and Award Presentation Ceremony (date TBD)

Winners will be notified and **are required to attend the Award Ceremony to receive the award** (efforts will be made to coordinate the Award Ceremony with recipient). Funds will be distributed upon enrollment confirmation to a post-secondary institution.

For more information, go to www.carmichaelwd.org or contact Chris Nelson at (916) 483-2452 or e-mail chris@carmichaelwd.org.

Berry Quality of Life Youth Leadership Scholarship Award Application Form

Applicant Information

Nominee: _____

Home Address: _____

City, State, Zip _____

Home Phone: _____ Other Phone (specify – cell/work): _____

Applicant Confirmation of Eligibility and Information Accuracy

I confirm that the information included in this application for the Berry Quality of Life Youth Leadership Scholarship is accurate, and agree to allow the Carmichael Water District to use the information in media releases, community information programs, on the Carmichael Water District Web Site, and other public venues as deemed appropriate by the District. I also agree to allow Carmichael Water District to use my name and photograph in printed newsletters and media.

Applicant's Signature Date: _____

Parent or Guardian's Signature (Required for student under the age of 18) Date: _____