

## **Belinda A. Terzich Memorial Education Scholarship**

### **Who Was Belinda A. Terzich:**

Belinda was a graduate of Knoch High School and Slippery Rock University where she obtained a B.S. in Accounting. After college, she worked for Deloitte & Touche, Deloitte Global Consulting and PNC Bank. She was married to Mike Terzich in 1993 and had two daughters, Sydney and Addison. They moved to the Mars Area School District in 2001 and Belinda's family remains there today. In 2009 at the age of 38, Belinda was diagnosed with breast cancer. She fought through multiple surgeries and two recurrences over seven years, losing her battle in September 2015 at the age of 45, when her daughters were 11 and 9. Through her family and her closest friends, this scholarship was established to help support an ambitious and deserving female senior at Mars Area High School.

Belinda was the perfect combination of hard and soft. She possessed a smile that could light up a room, combined with an inner strength that shined within. She had very strong opinions and expressing them came easy. She loved everything beautiful. She had a wonderful sense of humor, mixed with a dash of sarcasm, and an amazing eye for fashion and decorating. Belinda was a loving and devoted mother, wife and friend, who is dearly missed. She made sure she taught everyone that life is worth living.

### **Purpose:**

To provide a female college bound Mars Area School District Senior with a \$3000.00 non-renewable scholarship to help defray costs of the first-year post-secondary education.

### **Criteria:**

Students must meet the following criteria to apply:

- Have a 3.75 or higher QPA.
- Be pursuing a B.S. degree at a four-year accredited college in accounting/finance, science, technology, engineering, or math.
- Show school spirit by her participation and attendance at school events or in sports or other school activities.
- Have attended Mars Area High School for (at least) her full junior and senior years.
- Submit a letter of recommendation from a Math, Science, or Business teacher.
- Submit a copy of her Mars Area High School transcript.
- Submit a copy of her letter(s) of acceptance to a four-year college.
- Submit an essay per the instructions on the following page.

- Each applicant must submit a short, **no longer than 2 page**, essay that should address the bullets below. Please note, imagination with an appropriate sense of **humor mixed with sarcasm** is encouraged. Belinda enjoyed humor and so do the reviewers. (Minimum font size is 12, 1" margins, line spacing is optional).
- **Why would you be a good recipient for the scholarship?** (*Please include a reference to school spirit criteria noted above*)

**NOTE:** You must include **exactly 3** of the following in your response:

- |                        |                                      |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| • Paris                | • Shopping - online or in person?    |
| • Shoes                | • Airplanes                          |
| • Purses               | • Finding a Cure                     |
| • Pineapples           | • Stickers on the Backs of Cars      |
| • The Beach            | • Your favorite movie quote and why? |
| • New York City        | • Favorite TV show and why?          |
| • Hoodies              | • FOMO or JOMO                       |
| • Best Family Vacation | • Funniest Memory of High School     |
| • Best Concert Memory  |                                      |

#### **Submission of Application:**

- Applications are to be submitted to the Mars Area School District High School Guidance Office.
- *Please carefully proof your essay, typos will count against you - come on, it's \$3,000 and worth the effort!*
- *Please do not include your name within the body of the essay. You may include it on the first page or on a header throughout, as long as it is easy to redact. The reviewers do not want to know your identity when making the selection and will have the essays de-identified prior to review.*

**\* Your application must be RECEIVED in the Guidance Office no later than Friday, March 31, 2023.**

- Late applications will not be accepted – **NO EXCEPTIONS.**
- Scholarships will be formally awarded at the Mars Area High School Academic Excellence and Awards Ceremony.

**Submitted applications and essays for the 2022/2023 school year award will be anonymously reviewed by the following members of the selection committee:**

- Mike Terzich
- Paula Hooper
- Elizabeth Shook

If you have any questions regarding eligibility or the application process, please contact the Mars Area School District Senior High School Guidance Counselor. Best of luck!