



History and Mission of the Crystal Lake Chamber Foundation

The Crystal Lake Chamber Foundation, situated in Crystal Lake, Illinois, is a dynamic and community-driven organization with a steadfast commitment to nurturing the growth and development of present and future leaders. This document provides an overview of the foundation's history and mission, offering a comprehensive understanding of its purpose and values.

About the Crystal Lake Chamber Foundation:

The foundation's core values are rooted in education and the belief in the power of scholarships to transform lives and empower the local community.

Our Mission:

The mission of the Crystal Lake Chamber Foundation is clear: to provide deserving students with the financial means to pursue their educational dreams. The foundation views education as an investment not only in individual potential but also in the collective potential of society. By offering scholarships, the foundation aims to unlock student opportunities, equipping them with the tools they need to foster a more prosperous Crystal Lake.

Our Values:

1. **Community Growth:** The foundation is committed to the betterment of the local community. Through scholarships, it strives to elevate the potential of local talent and contribute to a more thriving and vibrant Crystal Lake.
2. **Investing in Potential:** Recognizing the transformative power of education, the foundation provides financial support to students, investing in their potential and cultivating the leaders of tomorrow.
3. **Sponsor Engagement:** The foundation values sponsors as integral partners in its mission, fostering mutually beneficial relationships that make a real impact on the community.

4. **Transparency and Accountability:** The foundation operates with integrity and transparency in all its endeavors, emphasizing the importance of trust from sponsors and the community.

Why Sponsor a Scholarship with Us:

Sponsoring a scholarship through the Crystal Lake Chamber Foundation is an opportunity for companies to align with a noble cause. By becoming a sponsor, organizations not only support education but also invest in the future of the local community. Company participation resonates through the achievements and aspirations of scholarship recipients, creating a lasting impact.

History of the Chamber Foundation:

The roots of the Crystal Lake Chamber of Commerce trace back to the 1940s when local business leaders initially chartered the organization. In 1950, the Chamber was reconstituted as a not-for-profit corporation. Since then, the Chamber has served its members and the community with a remarkable variety of events, programs, and activities, contributing to a thriving business community in a beautiful and vibrant city.

The Chamber's office has been located in the "old pump house" (and sometimes jail) in McCormick Park on West Virginia Street since 1966. Over the years, the Chamber expanded to accommodate a growing staff and membership, with significant additions in 1969 and 1987.

In 2005, recognizing the importance of a modern functional office, the Crystal Lake Chamber of Commerce Foundation was formed to fund the renovation of the building. With the generosity and commitment of Chamber members and the community, the renovation project became a reality, marking the beginning of a new era in the history of the Chamber.

The Crystal Lake Chamber Foundation invites individuals and companies to become a part of its meaningful journey and help shape the future leaders of Crystal Lake. By sponsoring a 2023-2024 school year scholarship, participants can make a tangible difference and enhance their presence within the community. The foundation is committed to cultivating a more prosperous future for Crystal Lake.

For sponsorship details and inquiries, please contact:

- Mike Winnecke at mike@vidforweb.com

- Michelle Kidd at mkidd@d155.org



Sponsoring a Scholarship

We are excited to extend an invitation to your esteemed company to participate in a unique opportunity that aligns with your commitment to community growth and education. The Crystal Lake Chamber Foundation, dedicated to fostering the development of present and future business leaders, is seeking sponsors for our scholarship program for the current school year of 2023-2024.

Our mission resonates with companies like yours that value investing in education and nurturing local talent. By sponsoring a scholarship; you can showcase your dedication to the future leaders of Crystal Lake and simultaneously elevate your company's profile within the community.

By sponsoring our scholarship program for the 2023-2024 school year, you are contributing to the education and empowerment of future leaders. In return, we are pleased to offer the following benefits:

Sponsorship Benefits for Custom Scholarships through the Crystal Lake Chamber Foundation:

Scholarship in Your Company's Name:

- ❖ Any sponsorship of \$1,000 and above will result in a scholarship bearing your company's name.

Visible Exposure:

- ❖ Your company's logo and name will be prominently featured as the scholarship sponsor you choose to support, enhancing your visibility among students, parents, and the Crystal Lake community.
- ❖ Your logo and acknowledgment will be featured on our website, LinkedIn, and Facebook, and your company's name will be prominently displayed on our social and web pages.

Scholarship Presentation:

- ❖ You or a representative from your company will have the honor of presenting the sponsored scholarship at the student's honor night in May, creating a meaningful and memorable experience for both your company and the student.

Engagement at GEM Luncheon:

- ❖ Attend our 11th annual GEM Luncheon on April 18, 2024, where you can interact with scholarship recipients and learn about their educational plans and aspirations.
- ❖ Your 75.00 administration fee provides you with two tickets to our luncheon: One for a representative from your company and one for the scholarship recipient. Allowing the scholarship recipient to attend and be honored and the opportunity to meet local business partners in our area.
- ❖ Your company logo and or name will also be acknowledged in the program booklet at the luncheon.

Tax Deductible Contribution:

- ❖ The Crystal Lake Chamber Foundation is a 501(c)3 organization, making your sponsorship eligible for a tax write-off.

Community Impact:

- ❖ By investing in education, you play a pivotal role in shaping the future leaders of Crystal Lake and fostering a stronger, more prosperous community.

Join us in making a profound impact on the lives of young individuals and the growth of our community. To learn more about sponsorship options and how you can be part of this meaningful initiative, please contact Mike Winnecke at mike@vidforweb.com.

Together, let's empower the next generation of leaders.



Michael Winnecke, Chair
Crystal Lake Chamber Foundation
815-861-0169



Sponsoring a Scholarship: Your Next Steps

Thank you for your commitment to supporting education and the community through your scholarship sponsorship.

This handout provides a step-by-step guide to help you navigate the process.

1. Define Your Scholarship Purpose:

- Determine the goals and objectives of your scholarship.
- Identify the eligible recipients, including criteria and qualifications.

Reminder: While setting the criteria and qualifications, it's important to consider that the more restrictive the guidelines, the fewer students will be able to apply. To maximize the reach and impact of your scholarship, consider keeping it broader, such as students majoring in Business, attending a 2/4-year or trade school, or pursuing an education degree. A more inclusive approach can open doors to a wider range of deserving candidates.

2. Scholarship Selection Process:

- The Chamber Foundation's scholarship committee will handle the selection process using a predetermined rubric and interviews to assess applicants based on their essays, resume, academic standing, and interview performance. You can rest assured that the committee will manage this aspect, alleviating any concerns on your part.

3. Determine Scholarship Amount:

- Set the scholarship award amount and frequency.
- Consider annual, renewable, or one-time scholarships.

4. Application Requirements:

- The Chamber Foundation employs a standardized application process, which includes submitting an application form, an essay (choosing one of the three provided prompts), letters of recommendation, and a student's resume. It's important to note that our

scholarship committee will manage all aspects of the application materials, ensuring a smooth process for you and the applicants.

5. Promote Your Scholarship:

- The Chamber Foundation will take care of the promotional materials targeting students. We will handle the design and distribution of promotional materials to ensure that the scholarship opportunity reaches its intended audience. This includes utilizing our resources for online promotion and outreach.

6. Awarding the Scholarship:

Once the scholarship recipient(s) have been selected, we encourage your participation in celebrating their achievements.

You will have the opportunity to:

- Attend and present the scholarship at the student's honors night, if available and desired.
- Be a part of the special luncheon where you will have the chance to sit with the student, fostering a closer connection and understanding of their educational journey.

Sponsoring a scholarship is a meaningful way to make a lasting impact on the lives of students and the community, and we understand that you, as a busy company, want to create these opportunities without added stress and workload. The Chamber Foundation is committed to taking the burden of scholarship administration off your hands, allowing you to focus on the broader impact your company wishes to make. We're here to support you every step of the way, ensuring that your dedication to the future of our community is streamlined and successful. Thank you for your unwavering commitment to education and the betterment of our community.

INVOICE



CRYSTAL LAKE

Chamber Foundation

Our mission is to assist future leaders by providing financial and educational resources to support those pursuing their dreams of a four-year, two-year, and trade school education. Each of these scholarships is sponsored by our local chamber businesses to help our students progress in their educational dreams.

Bill To:

Invoice No. 1234
Issue Date: 11/7/2023
Due Date: 12/1/2024

DESCRIPTION

SUBTOTAL

Scholarship Offered by "Company Name Here".

\$

Fee

\$75

By remitting a \$75 administration fee, your company will receive two tickets to the 11th annual GEM Luncheon scheduled for April 18, 2024. One ticket is reserved for a representative from your organization, and the other is designated for the scholarship recipient.

SUBTOTAL \$

TOTAL \$

PAYMENT DETAILS

Crystal Lake Chamber Foundation
Attention: Kathryn Sinde
427 W. Virginia Street
Crystal Lake, IL 60014

THANK YOU.

The benefits of sponsoring custom scholarships through the Crystal Lake Chamber Foundation are as follows:

- **A scholarship in your company's name for any sponsorship of \$1,000 and above.**
- **Enhanced visibility through your company's logo and name being prominently featured as the scholarship sponsor you choose to support on our website, Facebook, and social and web pages.**
- **The opportunity for you or a representative from your company to present the sponsored scholarship at the student's honor night in May, creating a meaningful and memorable experience for both your company and the student.**
- **Attendance at our 11th annual GEM Luncheon on April 18, 2024, allowing you to interact with scholarship recipients and learn about their educational plans and aspirations. Your \$75.00 administration fee provides you with two tickets to the luncheon: One for a representative from your company and one for the scholarship recipient. This allows the scholarship recipient to attend and be honored and have the chance to meet local business partners in our area.**
- **Your company logo and name will also be acknowledged in the program booklet at the luncheon.**
- **Eligibility for a tax write-off, as the Crystal Lake Chamber Foundation, is a 501(c)3 organization.**
- **The chance to play a pivotal role in shaping the future leaders of Crystal Lake and fostering a stronger, more prosperous community by investing in education.**

