

I Got to Have More Scholarship by April Stewart, R.N. M Ed Health

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“I got to have more COWBELL,” a line said between actors Christopher Walkin to Will Ferrell in an infamous Saturday Night Live skit as it is one of my favorites from the show. Consequently, I could use a similar line, “I got to have more SCHOLARSHIP” regarding our outreach with the National DAR Scholarship. While doing my due diligence as State Chair, I have discovered the following: as I researched websites of over one hundred public and private high schools, there were less than ten high schools in Nevada who had a direct link to the DAR Scholarships. In addition, only one out of our eighteen state DAR chapter websites highlight the National DAR Scholarships, the Ila Warner State DAR Scholarship, and their own local DAR scholarship. Shout out to the Sierra Nevada Chapter! For the rest of you, ladies, let’s step up together as education is one of core organizational pillars!

The National DAR Scholarship is important to the future of our organization as it plants seeds for future DAR members and donors. It creates a pay it forward mentality when you become established and reach a level of success later in life. In other words, you remember the people or institutions that helped you along the way when you needed it most. The National DAR Scholarships is not only for DAR members and families; the application is opened to ALL graduating high school seniors and college undergraduates and graduate students who are U.S. citizens who plan to attend an accredited college or university in the United States. As of now, I have reached out to both public and private high schools, colleges and universities, and our public library system hoping to spread the word of the possibilities of what DAR scholarships offer. Hope is a good thing to represent because according to the Education Data Initiative, the average cost of college in the U.S. is \$38,270.00 per student per year, including books, supplies, and daily living expense. Also, students are applying to college and universities in record numbers, therefore, our scholarships are needed.

I would be thrilled to see a student from Nevada receive a National DAR Scholarship which is motivation to keep the fire going, but I cannot do it alone. I am asking Nevada chapters to create a link to our scholarships on their webpages, follow up with local high schools, colleges, universities, and libraries in your area about the availability of DAR Scholarship information, and encourage students to apply as applications open on November 1st and continue through to January 31st. Applicants create an account online with DAR so there is no papers anyone needs to keep track of anymore. That is one advantage to the digital age.

So come on, Nevada DAR, let us ring that cowbell for more National DAR Scholarship, baby! <http://dar.academicworks.com/>