

# STEVE HANSEN EARTH STEWARD SCHOLARSHIP FUND



*A component fund of the*

*"A teacher affects eternity; he can never tell where his influence stops." Henry B. Adams*

## **PURPOSE:**

The Steve Hansen Earth Steward Scholarship Fund was established within the Community Foundation of North Central Wisconsin shortly after his death on March 10, 2005. The purpose of the fund is to perpetuate the memory and values of Steven A. Hansen through the annual awarding of the Earth Steward Scholarship in his honor to a graduating senior of Wausau East High School.

## **BACKGROUND:**

Steve grew up an ordinary person who went on to do extraordinary things with his life.

He was a teacher, friend, husband, son, mentor, advisor, motivator, confidant, and lifelong learner. Steve lived his life by one of his favorite quotes, *"Be the change you wish to see in the world."* - Ghandi. He was a motivated doer whose favorite line was, *"Tenacious engagement."*



**Steven A. Hansen**

*February 16, 1966 – March 10, 2005*

Steve was raised in Wisconsin and grew up learning to love the outdoors. This passion inspired him to major in biology, with minors in ecology, botany, environmental science, and outdoor education.

He did not happen upon education in the usual way. He had various life experiences which all lead him to his career as an educator. Steve was passionate about learning and shared his enthusiasm for not only his content areas, but also life, through lessons that extended far beyond the reaches of a classroom. He led by example, setting high expectations for himself and those around him. He motivated his students to be better people and to pursue their dreams. Steve was energetic, yet maintained a quiet, humble, and compassionate existence.

Steve lived with great integrity in both his personal and professional life. He motivated all who knew him to live simply, love deeply, laugh often, learn forever, and to explore with gusto.

Steve's life is proof that in order to have great impact in life, one need not be famous, nor make great sums of money. One must follow his/her calling, stay true to him/herself, hold and maintain a set of core beliefs and success will follow.

*"Live with intention. Walk to the edge. Listen hard. Practice wellness. Play with abandon. Laugh. Choose with no regret. Continue to learn. Appreciate your friends. Do what you love. Live as if this is all there is." Mary Anne Radmacher*

## CRITERIA FOR SELECTION:

To be an Earth Steward encompasses more than being an activist, environmentalist, recycler, and taking note of water and energy consumption. It is a way of life and means to live with integrity, to be a giver, to appreciate beauty in nature, to be moved by the changes in the sun, moon, and stars, to possess a willingness to try new things, to have an incredible work ethic, to be a life-long learner, to live gently, and to be mindful of one's environment as well as to reach out to others when there is a need.

To be considered for the Steve Hansen Earth Steward Scholarship, applicants must meet the following criteria:

- ◆ Be a graduating senior from Wausau East High School;
- ◆ Dedicated to the environment;
- ◆ Displaying a strong work ethic, a desire to do things right, and to make things better;
- ◆ Demonstrating the characteristics of integrity, compassion, caring, empathy, and kindness;
- ◆ Planning to pursue an education in any field of study at any accredited 4-year college or university,
- ◆ GPA is not a factor in selection.

## APPLICATION PROCESS AND DEADLINE:

Students are encouraged to apply online by visiting the Community Foundation's website at [www.cfncw.org](http://www.cfncw.org). Click the "Apply Now" / Grants Scholarships button on the top menu bar; then go to the left-side menu and click on "Scholarships." You can then click on the "Apply Online" button anywhere you see it on the page to reach the online application portal and begin the registration and application process. If this

is your first visit to the site, you will need to "Create an Account." If this is a return visit, enter your email address and password. Completed applications must be submitted by **February 15** to be considered by the Selection Committee. Information will be held in the confidence of the Selection Committee, the Community Foundation's board of directors, and its staff.

## Your application must include:

- Transcript of grades
- List of extracurricular activities and community service (downloadable form online)

## PAYMENT:

Payment of the scholarship will be made by the Community Foundation directly to the college or university the scholarship recipient is attending. The student must provide proof of registration to the Community Foundation office for payment to be initiated.

## DONATIONS ACCEPTED:

The Steve Hansen Earth Steward Fund was established within the Community Foundation of North Central Wisconsin in 2005, to honor Steve's memory through the awarding of an annual scholarship in his name to a graduating senior of Wausau East High School who shares the principles by which he lived.

Tax-deductible donations can be made to this fund at any time and in any amount. Make checks payable to the Community Foundation of North Central Wisconsin, with a notation on the memo line that the gift should be directed to the Hansen Scholarship Fund. The family will be notified of your thoughtful gift.

Questions or requests for further information can be directed to the Community Foundation office.



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