

Peggy Radmer “I Love Music” Scholarship

By Cathy Paquette

Peggy Radmer “I Love Music” Scholarship State Chairman

This is the first year for the presentation of the Peggy Radmer “I Love Music” Scholarship in memory of Peggy Radmer - longtime member and server of the WPMC, and co-founder of the Wisconsin Independent Senior Club. The response to this new scholarship was outstanding and we had fifteen applicants (all of whom were well deserving), making the decision for the committee to choose a winner very difficult. As a result, it was decided to give two scholarships this year and two young ladies won a \$500 scholarship.

Emily Anna Bollendorf of Racine was one of the winners. Emily is a cello student of Martha Veto, member of the Schubert Club of Kenosha, and has been with her since she was in 1st grade. Emily’s dedication, hard work, careful practice, self-discipline, faithful attendance of lessons and responsibility has resulted in her ability to play at an advanced level and to play, as Martha says, “beautiful music . . . She is the kind of student every teacher wants!!”

Along with her work on her cello, Emily is a dedicated and highly competitive swimmer. Emily’s swim coach of four years, Frank Michalowski, says of Emily that she is a “very remarkable individual . . . very dedicated . . . gifted and well-disciplined.” He included that she is caring, honest, and shows respect and responsibility.

Concerning herself, Emily says “Music has touched my life in many ways . . . whether it is playing or listening to it.” Although it did not necessarily come easy to her, through music and the hard work she put into it, Emily realized that she could do anything she put her mind to. It is no wonder why Emily was chosen to receive this scholarship. Emily will be attending Minnesota State University, Mankato in the Fall where she intends on pursuing a degree in electrical engineering.

Our other winner of the Peggy Radmer “I Love Music” Scholarship is Eleanor Louise Sladek – piano student of Mary Larsen, member of the Bay Area Adult Music Club. Eleanor has been a student of Mary’s for ten years, but also plays trumpet and is quite active with it in band. Concerning Eleanor, Mary writes - “She has been diligent . . . dedicated . . . highly intelligent and very teachable . . . achieved an advanced musical level. Because of Eleanor’s outstanding abilities, I have invited her to be my assistant teacher for the past two years.” The last sentence states much – for a teacher to have such confidence in her student that she would be willing to have her student teach and represent the teacher in the music studio.

From Eleanor’s Honors Junior English Teacher, Michelle Mahlock, besides the compliments typical of a student such as Eleanor, her teacher states “(Eleanor) is aware that contentment and happiness matter; she is driven to help maintain and improve the environment . . . a generous collaborator, a positive influence in every situation that she faces.”

Eleanor says of herself: “Music has been a part of my life since the day I was born, and I could not imagine existence without it. Throughout my life, music has served as a way of expression and relaxation, but most importantly, it has served as a development of my entire self.” Eleanor dreams of becoming a Physician’s Assistant and the skills she learned through music study will help her attain this goal. She ended her essay with this: “I look forward to using these enhanced skills to confidently reach for my goals and to continue to bring joy to those around me wherever I go.”

This scholarship is designed for 12th grade students continuing their education in a non-musical field and who are moving on to amazing careers advanced by the discipline learned from practice and commitment, and the “love of music.” Both Emily and Eleanor are excellent examples of this type of an individual. Our congratulations go to Emily and Eleanor in receiving this scholarship, and best wishes for success in their future endeavors.