

Harriet Bouslog Labor Scholarship

Because of her close ties to the ILWU and its members, Harriet Bouslog and her husband, Stephen T. Sawyer, established in 1989 the Harriet Bouslog Labor Scholarship to benefit children and grandchildren of ILWU members and retirees.

Harriet Bouslog earned her place in history as Hawaii's first female labor and civil rights attorney. She started her legal career in Hawaii as the ILWU's first General Counsel from 1946 to 1978 and was involved in many historic cases in defense of working men and women as well as those who otherwise would have no advocate. Harriet Bouslog passed away in 1998 at the age of 85.

Today, Stephen Sawyer continues support for the Bouslog Labor Scholarship, which provides financial assistance for ILWU children to get a college education and promotes the University of Hawaii. The scholarship also commemorates the historic achievements of the ILWU and encourages greater awareness and understanding among young people about the ILWU's economic, social, and political contributions to Hawaii.

Scholarships are awarded each year to high school seniors, two each (one boy and one girl) from Oahu, Maui, Kauai and Hawaii. **The scholarship provides \$1,000 per semester toward tuition at the University of Hawaii at Manoa or Hilo only.** The scholarship may be renewed for up to eight semesters, provided the student remains a full-time student in good standing at the University of Hawaii.

How to Qualify

Applicants must:

- Be a resident of the State of Hawaii;
- Be a senior at a Hawaii high school;
- Have applied to the University of Hawaii at Manoa or Hilo (award subject to UH acceptance);
- Have a parent or grandparent who is an active or retired member of the ILWU;
- Respond to a set of essay questions on unions and the ILWU; and
- Submit the completed application form, responses to essay questions, a list of extracurricular activities, and a personal reference to the ILWU Division nearest their home.

Selection Process

Applications will be reviewed at two levels: first, by a committee from the ILWU Division on the student's home island (or county); and second, by a state committee appointed by Stephen Sawyer.

Successful applicants will receive notice of award prior to the registration deadline for the University of Hawaii. Students must be accepted to the University before scholarship payment can be made.

Essay Questions

Applicants are asked to respond to the following questions in essay form. You may respond to each question separately (the expected length of responses is given) or integrate your responses into a single essay. Your responses to all the questions, separately or integrated, should not be less than eight pages, typewritten and double-spaced.

1. **What is a union?** Give your understanding, based on what you have learned, heard, and read about unions. (1 page)
2. **Why is there a need for unions today?** Give your opinion on why there is a need for unions today—or why not. Present your arguments clearly, using examples. (1 page)
3. **What is the ILWU?** Include references on historical contributions, significant individuals, milestone events, etc. as well as the role of the ILWU in the present-day labor movement. (4 pages)
4. **Why would you want to join the ILWU?** Demonstrate your understanding of who the ILWU represents today and what the ILWU is able to do for working people. (1 page)
5. **Describe your family's affiliation with the ILWU.** Discuss the kind of work your parent or grandparent did as a member of the ILWU; his or her involvement in union activities; what, if any, effect union affiliation has had on your family. (1 page)

If You Become A Bouslog Scholarship Recipient

As a recipient of the Harriet Bouslog Labor Scholarship, you must stay in contact with the Scholarship Committee if you wish to continue your scholarship for the maximum eight semesters. Any change in address or student status must be reported immediately.

To receive the scholarship, you must be a full-time student in good standing at the University of Hawaii at Manoa or Hilo. **At the end of each semester, you must inform us of your intent to continue your studies at the University of Hawaii.** At the end of each academic year, you must provide us with a copy (photocopy permitted) of a transcript of your grades.

In addition, you must arrange with the ILWU for a **brief internship** each year. This internship will be for one day a year and can be fulfilled during the summer. The internship may involve “shadowing” a business agent, conducting membership surveys, assisting at events like Labor Day, picketing, signwaving, or other similar activities.

For More Information

If you have any questions, contact the ILWU Division Director on your island or the ILWU Social Worker on Oahu. Telephone numbers are as follows:

Oahu: 949-4161
Maui: 244-9191
Hawaii: 935-3727
Kauai: 245-3374

SCHOLARSHIP FUND COMMITTEES

ILWU DIVISION COMMITTEES

- Kauai: • Clayton Dela Cruz, Div. Director
• Joanne Kealoha, Social Worker
• Designee of Division Director
- Oahu: • Dave Mori, Div. Director
• Joanne Kealoha, Social Worker
• Designee of Division Director
- Maui: • William Kennison, Div. Director
• Joanne Kealoha, Social Worker
• Designee of Division Director
- Hawaii: • Richard Baker Jr., Div. Director
• Joanne Kealoha, Social Worker
• Designee of Division Director

STATE COMMITTEE

- Stephen Sawyer
- Ah Quon McElrath

**HARRIET
BOUSLOG
LABOR
SCHOLARSHIP**

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