

Scholarships, Awards, and Grants offered by the Rome College Foundation

- Since 1991, the Foundation has been giving the [Rome College Foundation Scholarships](#) to Rome area college students. They are awarded to four students who qualify, one each from Utica College, SUNY Poly, Mohawk Valley Community College, and Hamilton College. The awards, in the amount of \$1,000 per student, are based on academic achievement, citizenship, and need. Since 2008, the [Sears Family Foundation](#) has been co-funding the awards, providing invaluable support to this program. In 2004, the Community Foundation of Herkimer & Oneida Counties Inc. established the [Credit Bureau of Utica/Rome College Foundation Fund](#) in the amount of \$30,000. As a result, an annual award is now given, also in the amount of \$1,000, to a student at one of the local colleges who is pursuing studies in an accredited program leading to a degree in business or a health-related discipline.
- Revere Copper Products, Inc. selected the Rome College Foundation to administer an endowment fund entitled the [Charles T. Beeching - Revere Copper Products, Inc. Family Scholarship](#) in the amount of \$2,000. It is awarded annually to a son or daughter of a Rome-based Revere employee and is based on scholastic achievement, citizenship, and community activities.
- The [Peter A. Fabrizio, Jr. Scholarship Fund](#) was established in 2003 and is given to a Rome third grader who holds the highest grade average at the end of May and will continue to attend a Catholic School. Peter died in a tragic auto accident in 2002 and, at the request of his parents, the Foundation administers the scholarship.
- On behalf of the [Rome Twigs](#), the Foundation awards scholarships in varying amounts to qualified students from RFA who will be pursuing careers in nursing or health-related fields. Each student receives a Twigs Scholarship in varying amounts. The scholarships are funded by the Twigs to honor the memory of their deceased members.
- As the result of a \$14,000 donation from the estate of [M. Carolyn Giesmann](#), the Foundation initiated a \$1,000 award in her name to a graduating RFA or NYSSD senior majoring in a physical science curriculum as a college freshman.
- At the annual [Student/Teacher Achievement Recognition \(STAR\) program](#), the Foundation recognizes students from NYSSD and RFA, along with the educator each honoree feels has had the most significant influence on his or her life. Financial Grants of \$200 were initially presented to each student. Since 2008, the [Sears Family Foundation](#) has been making it possible for the grants to be increased to \$400.
- With grants from the [Sears Family Foundation](#), the Foundation co-sponsored several programs administered by the Chamber's Education Committee, including: Sophomore Mentoring Program for students at RFA and NYSSD; Career Fair at RFA; College Night at RFA; the "Be Cool" substance abuse education program in cooperation with Rome Memorial Hospital for fifth graders; and a STEM seminar for high school students presented in cooperation with ANDRO Computational Solutions.
- Rev. Robert A. O'Meara dedicated his life to the betterment of peoples everywhere. The [Rev. Robert A. O'Meara Scholarship](#), in the amount of \$1,500, began in 2007 and is awarded to adults who wish to enhance their current human services skills, to re-enter the human services, or to change their career to human services.
- In 2010, the Foundation began offering a new grant program to support collaborative projects among area colleges, made possible through a gift from the estate of [James J. Gillette](#), a long time Rome business owner who passed away in 2006. In 2012, the program was changed to offer a \$1,000 scholarship to a RFA or NYSSD senior who plans to pursue a career in the either the hospitality or business fields.
- The [Bernhard Family Scholarship](#) was established in 2011 in memory of Joseph W. Bernhard, a Rome businessman who passed away in 2011. As a result of a gift from his estate, the Foundation began awarding \$1,000 scholarships in 2012 to graduating seniors from RFA. Additionally, the Foundation distributes \$1,000 annually to Jervis Public Library for staff development purposes and since 2016 has sponsored students attending the Project Fibonacci STEAM Conference.
- The [Charles R. Getty Scholarship](#) was made possible in 2012 by a gift from his estate. Mr. Getty, who passed away in 2011, retired as vice president of Revere Copper and Brass Inc. and was very active in community service, including serving a term as president of the Rome College Foundation. A \$750 grant is now awarded in his memory to an RFA or NYSSD senior who plans to attend college to pursue a career in accounting.
- The [Julius J. Perillo Scholarship](#) was established in 2013 and is awarded to a RFA senior who plans to attend college to pursue a career in teaching, has made a sustained, positive impact in the community and has achieved academic success in high school. Mr. Perillo honorably served the Rome City School District for more than 30 years, retiring as Superintendent of Schools in 1987. The first annual award of \$2,000 was presented in 2013.
- The [Utica-Holly Chapter #178 of the Order of the Eastern Star of the State of New York Scholarship](#) was established in 2015 and is awarded to two RFA seniors who plan to attend college to pursue careers in nursing; \$1,000 per student.
- In 2018, the first [Professional and Business Women of Rome Scholarship](#), in the amount of \$500, was awarded to provide financial assistance to a single parent who plans to continue their education and/or is already enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate program of study in Business.
- In 2019, the [James Wood Scholarship](#) was established in the amount of \$1,000 to be awarded to a Rome Free Academy senior who plans to pursue a career in the building trades. In 2020, it will be awarded to a senior who plans to pursue a career in education.



ROME COLLEGE FOUNDATION



The mission of the Foundation is to promote and enhance the Rome community's needs for higher educational opportunities

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