

The Atlantic County Board of Agriculture proudly presents the

David M. Rizzotte, Jr. Memorial Scholarship

Honoring Character, Leadership and Service

David M. Rizzotte, Jr. was a lifelong farmer and agricultural leader. Upon graduation from Villanova University (*magna cum laude*), he returned to the family's Glossy Fruit Farm in Hammonton, NJ where he and his brother's grew apples, peaches, tomatoes, sweet corn, cucumbers, and sweetpotatoes, wholesaling their produce throughout the state and region. They slowly transitioned from apples and peaches into blueberries and also added a farm market to greet visitors passing by their Route 206 farm on their way to the Jersey shore. In 1984, David became the youngest farmer to be elected to serve on the New Jersey State Board of Agriculture and went on to serve as its youngest president. Both as a State Board member and as a community leader, he was committed to promoting and protecting farming throughout the state, helping the NJDA start the Jersey Fresh promotional campaign, and working tenaciously to protect and sustain farming in the NJ Pinelands.

This memorial scholarship seeks to honor students interested in pursuing careers in production agriculture or supporting industries who exhibit that same outstanding character, leadership and service exemplified by David M. Rizzotte, Jr.

Eligible students should demonstrate in an essay and application form:

- Agricultural career goals,
- Exceptional character, ethics and integrity,
- A hardworking nature and drive to be successful,
- Leadership qualities, and
- A concern for others and commitment to give back to their communities.

Eligibility

The David M. Rizzotte, Jr. Memorial Scholarship will be given to an Atlantic County high school senior or first year college student who will be attending a university, college or technical school in the fall of 2018 in pursuit of a career in production agriculture/horticulture, with studies including but not limited to farm business management and marketing, agricultural engineering, agronomy, crop and soil sciences, entomology, plant pathology, horticulture, animal/equine science, veterinary medicine, or food science.

Purpose

The ACBA's Scholarship fund was created in 1998 with an investment designated for educational purposes allowing the Board's Executive Committee to support students studying agriculture. Through this program, the ACBA wishes to encourage the scientific study of agriculture and promote it as a useful, profitable and dignified career. Education is critical to success of today's agricultural entrepreneurs and the ACBA hopes that this scholarship will entice young people to pursue careers in production agriculture or one of the many related fields of study that support today's farmers. This scholarship was renamed to honor the memory of David M. Rizzotte, Jr. in 2016 upon the untimely passing of one of Atlantic County agriculture's most strident advocates and young leaders.

Atlantic County Board of Agriculture's
David M. Rizzotte, Jr. Memorial Scholarship
Recognizing Character, Leadership and Service

APPLICATION FORM
Due by March 30, 2018

Mail to: Atlantic County Board of Agriculture
6260 Old Harding Hwy, Mays Landing, NJ 08330

Fax to: 609-625-3646 or

Email to: ponzetti_sharon@aclink.org subj. ACBA Scholarship App

PLEASE **TYPE** ANSWERS

(a pdf fillable form can be found online at rutgers-atlantic.org)

Name: _____ Age: _____
Address: _____ Phone: _____
_____ County: _____

High School: _____
Present Grade: _____ Cumulative Grade Average: _____

College/Technical School Attending in Fall 2018: _____
Intended major: _____

Please describe your career plans:

List scholarships/awards that you have received or have been offered:

How do you plan to pay for further education?

List your work experience:

ESSAY QUESTION

Please attach a separate one-page essay about your life and educational experiences that have motivated you or demonstrated your ability to overcome obstacles and challenges successfully in order to continue your education.