



An Affiliate of the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque

## **LINDA HUGHES MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT**

### **Overview**

Northeast High School students are increasingly engaged in a myriad of academic advancements. With the advent of modern technology, in addition to hands-on training, students are better prepared to embrace real world challenges and take full advantage of opportunities to further their academic and professional growth. Therefore, the LINDA HUGHES MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT was established by her husband, Donald Hughes, to provide financial assistance for graduating seniors interested in continuing their educational advancement in **Fine Arts** (visual arts, speech, drama, vocal and instrumental, culinary and industrial arts).

Northeast students will be awarded scholarships from \$1,250.00 to \$2,500.00

### **Program Goal**

The LINDA HUGHES MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP proudly supports students who exemplify the skills and abilities required to achieve greatness. Being from the Northeast High School community, the LINDA HUGHES MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP takes pride in being able to sponsor scholarships to Northeast High School students who strive for academic and personal excellence. The LINDA HUGHES MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP is committed to assisting students to become responsible citizens, who may in the future give back to the Northeast High School community that nurtured their growth and development.

### **Application Process**

Application materials are available through the Guidance Office. All applicants must submit a one-page essay describing their academic goals, career goal(s), special achievements and involvement in the community.

### **Eligibility Criteria**

Students are eligible to be considered for a LINDA HUGHES MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP based on the following *requirements*:

- Recipient(s) will graduate in May of current year from Northeast High School;
- Have cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher (based on a 4.0 scale) at time of nomination;
- Have demonstrated leadership ability through past/present participation in community service, church, extracurricular and/or other activities;
- Have an acceptance letter from a two or four-year institution of higher learning;
- Have an application and essay fully submitted to the Northeast High School Guidance Counselor by the designated date;
- Will be pursuing interests in **Fine Arts**;
- Will be enrolled as a full time student;
- Will have read the biography of Linda Hughes.



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## **The Biography of Linda Hughes**

Linda Thiede Hughes was born and raised in Preston, Iowa. She graduated from Preston High School in 1952, where she had enjoyed participating in school activities. Since she loved music, she played the bass drum in the band and, more notably, accompanied the chorus and other students on the piano. Although she dreamed of becoming a music teacher, the poverty of her family meant there was no money for her to attend college.

After graduation, she moved to Davenport, Iowa, where she worked as an executive secretary for Nabisco. She took the bus to work or walked, even climbing Brady Street Hill in stiletto heels. In July of 1956 she moved to Clinton Engines in Maquoketa, where she was Director of Personnel, responsible for hiring and firing all employees. She knew every employee by name, department and badge number and could still recall that information some thirty years later. Perhaps her Dale Carnegie course skills helped.

While at Clinton Engines she met Donald Hughes, her future husband, who worked in the foundry. Their first encounter was at the negotiating table, where she represented the administration and he the union. She enjoyed recalling the humor of their first formal encounter, often chuckling, "We've been negotiating ever since.." They settled in an apartment in Goose Lake but soon after purchased a farm at Ten Mile Corners.

Joe Bohr, the Superintendent of North East Community Schools hired her in the mid sixties as the Superintendent's Secretary. For several years, until the arrival of her family, she also handled the accounting and the hot lunch program. Her children, Jeanne and Gregory, were both graduates of Northeast. She continued her involvement in the District by serving on various committees like the Athletic and Fine Arts Boosters and Library Committee. Donald also served a term as a school board member in the Seventies.

Volunteering was a passion with her. She worked as the Clinton County Coordinator for Iowa Public Television. She served on the Clinton County Community Concert Association and the Clinton Symphony Orchestra. In her church, St. Mary's Catholic Church in Bryant, she was the organist and music director and briefly taught catechism. She was also very active in Al-anon. She believed in promoting the arts and helping those in need and extended her generosity to organizations like the Salvation Army, the Humane Society and Iowa Public Television.



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Most recently she relished traveling with her family and spending time with her granddaughters, Haleigh and Nicolle currently students of Northeast. Regularly she attended preschool story hour with them and particularly enjoyed the annual field trip to Little Bear Park in Maquoketa, where the girls got to ride with grandma on a big yellow bus.

Although Linda never had the opportunity to acquire a formal education beyond high school, she was well versed in the areas of music and current events. She read avidly and believed that students should be exposed to significant works of literature. Her degree, in her own words, "came from the College of Hard Knocks," but her reading and traveling provided much else.

She was very proud of her roles as wife, mother, grandmother and friend. She admired greatly a saying from a wise friend, "My goal in life is for my children and grandchildren to get along," and regarded that as one of her life's greatest accomplishments. Her friends and family remember her for her quick wit and marvelous sense of humor, which, along with a deep faith and inner strength, pulled her through many trials in life including a brain aneurysm and colorectal cancer.

Her challenge to the recipient of this scholarship would be to simply try your best and, when the opportunity presents itself, remember to give of yourself to others and to your community.

Some favorite quotations of hers:

*Take time to laugh. It's the music of the soul.*

*One day at a time!*

*Grandchildren are the reward for not killing your own kids.*

*Remember: Houseguests and fish smell after three days.*

*The Lord is my strength and my song.*

*Money is the root of all evil.*