

# Marie's Gift

Our proposal to make the most of Marie Pinho's bequest

Your name(s) Eric Carroll, Linda and Jack Christie, Kathy Scheimer, Christina Smith-Gajadhar and Meg Tuccillo

## 1. An indication of how much your project anticipates using (specify exact amount):

Large pot project (up to \$220,000) \_\_\_\_\_

Small pot project (up to \$30,000)  \_\_\_\_\_

Financially supporting Dreamers on college scholarships who are in need of other financial support while attending college. To connect this more to NOVA, we are also thinking of limiting the applicants to those students who have been part of NOVA's mentoring program with Dreamers.

We are thinking specifically of people like NOVA's Daniel Sanchez who has a full scholarship to Marymount University, but does not have the money to help with other daily expenses. Actually, we propose awarding Daniel the first of the Up to four years Scholarship as a Pilot Program from which we and NOVA can learn before widening the application process to other students. It seems to us that investing in the future of our country through education is a noble and important idea. We also believe Marie Pinho would agree. ☺

NOVA could determine a monthly amount to give to such a student or students. We are thinking of \$300 a month. The measure of its success would be the student remaining in school and also his/her grades on a semester by semester basis. The student would have to sign an agreement to make his/her transcripts known at the end of each semester for which he or she is funded.

If NOVA puts aside \$30,000 for this effort, it could easily provide up to \$300 per school month for some three students. For example, if NOVA gave \$300 a month for eight semesters (at a four year college), it could significantly impact the future of three young people. We would think it reasonable to expect a minimum of a 2.0 or better in grades per semester. Should the student's grades go below that, the student could be given one semester of "grace" to bring the grades back up. If failing to do so, the student would forfeit future financial assistance. We do not want to attach additional "strings" to this program.

The program's success would be based on students helped graduating from college. We would need to come up with a simple application for students to show a need for financial assistance.

\*The math would possibly be: eight months per year (thinking four months per semester) at \$300 a month = \$2400 times four years = \$9600 per one student for four years. \$9600 times three students = \$28,800 or just about the \$30,000. ☺

It would be wonderful if the \$30,000 could be turned into some kind of endowment that could be invested and would produce money, but we know that is not possible with \$30,000.

We are also thinking that this might be handled the same way NOVA's charitable distributions are handled: the treasurer (Joe Formosa) could cut monthly checks to those students chosen. If the student is not documented and cannot easily cash checks, we propose using money orders.

In conclusion, we judge this proposal fits in very well with this statement found on NOVA's website: "NOVA sponsors about 35 different social action projects each year. We give financial support, spiritual help, manual labor, planning expertise – whatever our time and resources will allow. Members are involved with projects dealing with feeding the poor, health care and education here and abroad, special ventures in the peace movement, ordaining women, environmental stewardship – and much more". This specific proposal supports the financial support and education aspects.

## NOVA Catholic Community Marie Pinho Scholarship

**Deadline is June 30, 2017**

**Overview:** The NOVA Catholic Community Marie Pinho Scholarship was created in October 2016 to assist Dreamer students on scholarship who have been part of NOVA's mentoring program to four year colleges who need additional financial support to achieve the dream of graduating from college. By funding these scholarships, NOVA Catholic Community wishes to not only promote higher education in the community, but also make the dream of a college education a reality.

**\*We would actually like to begin this project with a single test case. We propose awarding the first such scholarship to NOVA's Daniel Sanchez who does have a full scholarship to Marymount University beginning in the Fall Semester 2016. We judge we will learn much from doing this with a single student and then, based on the experience, we propose adding two additional students in the Fall of 2017.**

### **Awards:**

**Up to four years (four months per semester at a time) \$300 per month scholarships will be awarded to high school graduates who are on full-time college scholarships in July 2017. These graduates will also have been part of NOVA's mentoring program with Dreamers.**

### **Eligibility Criteria:**

**Have a minimum of 2.0 cumulative GPA on a 4.0 scale (or the equivalent)**

**Be a high school graduate who has received a full scholarship to a college or university**

**Have been part of NOVA Catholic Community's mentoring program**

**Plan to pursue or is currently pursuing an undergraduate degree FULL TIME (12 credits or more) at a U.S. accredited institution in the U.S. in the Fall semester of 2017.**

**Reside in Virginia, Maryland or the District of Columbia**

**Requirements Checklist:**

**Submit 2016 NOVA Catholic Community Marie Pinho Scholarship Form**

**Submit high school transcript**

**Submit a recommendation letter from a teacher, coach, community leader or mentor with the application**

**Submit a copy of FAFSA's Student Aid Report (<http://www.fafsa.ed.gov>)  
OR a copy of a parent's filed Tax Return for 2015**

**Program Guidelines:**

**All applications must meet eligibility requirements; incomplete applications will not be considered**

**Applications received after June 30, 2016 will not be considered**

**Mail application packet and all required documents PLUS Three Copies of each document to:**

**NOVA Catholic Community Marie Pinho Scholarship**

**1000 Winnipeg Court, Burke, VA 22015-3844**

**For more information, please contact: Linda and Jack Christie**

**[jacklinc@verizon.net](mailto:jacklinc@verizon.net)**

**703-491-8670**



Please read and sign:

I certify that all of the information included in this application is true and complete. I am indeed on a full scholarship to the college listed. I hereby grant permission to NOVA Catholic Community Marie Pinho Scholarship Program to verify such information and to contact the schools I have attended. I hereby authorize the college or university listed below to provide my cumulative grade point average at the end of each semester I attend for purposes of continuing my Scholarship. I hereby commit to maintaining at least a 2.0 GPA in order to continue to receive this Scholarship.

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Name of College or University

Name of Student: (Please print.)

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Student's signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_