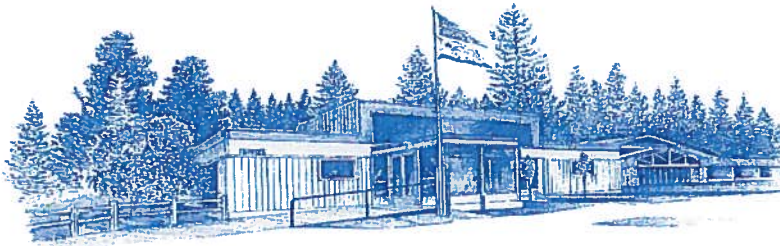


# South Tahoe High School

Lake Tahoe Unified School District

*"Home of the Vikings"*



Ivone Larson, Principal  
Dennis Sarosik, Assistant Principal  
Patrick Hamett, Assistant Principal

Scholarship Committee,

is a very deserving candidate for the Hero Award. She is a bright, determined, bold, independent and resilient young lady. has been able to remain successful in school despite the many emotional and financial struggles at home. has prepared for college with rigorous academic preparation and meaningful extra-curricular and personal experiences.

She was raised by her mother who struggled with alcoholism, depression and anxiety for much of s young life. As a result, had to stay home and take care of her mother while she was having panic attacks, vomiting and drinking constantly. reflected on having to babysit her mom until it was so bad that she needed to be hospitalized several times. Her mother's inability to care for herself resulted in lost jobs and evictions from apartments. attended 13 different elementary schools in 5 states making her grow up quickly. It was a very difficult having to be responsible for her mother at a very young age.

didn't know that her life was going to get worse. A few years ago, her mother met a man and had a baby. Now, not only did have to deal with her mother's dysfunction but now had to help care for a new baby. Her greatest struggle has been dealing with her new step-father and his problems. He was an abusive alcoholic who was schizophrenic or bipolar. He was physically and emotionally abusive toward her mother and would intervene to protect her mother and baby brother. Then he would continue his cruelty toward everyone with severe verbal and emotional abuse. Throughout high school she was faced with the trauma of living with this abuse and begging her mother to leave. Finally, after moved out for her own sanity. Her mother finally left her abusive husband.

This young lady is determined to succeed in life and knows that getting away from home is her ticket to a happy and healthy life. has proven to be resilient and resourceful. She has been able to cope with a difficult home life by educating herself and refusing to allow her childhood pain ruin her life. As a true artist she channels the pain in her acting. thrives on stage, specializing in mature roles. She took the lead in several plays on campus including 42<sup>nd</sup> Street and White Christmas. Earned Best Actress honors for her leading role in our school production of Michael Frayne's Noises Off. She is a very dedicated actress who never misses rehearsal despite working up to 20 hours per week at TJ Maxx.

will be moving to Oregon to attend Lewis and Clark to study Theater and Psychology. The college has provided a substantial financial aid package for but will have to take out large student loans and has applied for many scholarships as well as a work study. She will do whatever it takes to persist with this plan. I hope all of this information helps you invest in her future.

Respectfully,

  
Robert Sullivan

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