



## *Millie & Ken Hom*

NURSING SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Thank you for your interest in the Millie & Ken Hom Nursing Scholarship Program. The Hom's are very generous people who had a great love of eastern Montana and chose to do something lasting for the nurses of our region by establishing a permanent endowment with the Holy Rosary Healthcare Foundation. As a result, scholarships are awarded annually to nursing students with eastern Montana ties.

### **SELECTION CRITERIA**

The Millie & Ken Hom Nursing Scholarship Program criteria includes:

- Student grew up, was educated, now resides, and/or will work in a healthcare facility (upon graduation) in eastern Montana.
- Student has completed at least one year of college in a nursing program (or is currently enrolled in their first year of a nursing program) and scholarship funds are requested to assist with next year of nursing education.
- Student is enrolled or plans to enroll in an associate's, bachelor's or master's degree program related to nursing.
- Student has achieved at least a 2.75 GPA in the nursing program.
- Student has a proven need for financial assistance for nursing educational costs.
- Student is willing, if selected as a scholarship recipient, to have his/her photo used for promotional purposes of the scholarship program and will attend a nursing scholarship award banquet where they will be recognized and awarded the scholarship.

Each member of the selection committee uses the same measurement tool for each application. The written applications and supporting materials will be evaluated and finalists selected. The finalists will then be asked to complete an in-person interview with the selection committee. Scholarship recipients will then be selected and all applicants will be notified.

### **SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS**

Scholarships are awarded for \$2,500 each to a selected number of students annually. The number of scholarships awarded annually is decided by the scholarship selection committee.

## **IMPORTANT DATES**

January 1	Scholarship applications available
April 15	Application deadline
May 5	Application review and applicant finalists identified
May 15-25	Finalists complete in-person interview
June 10	Scholarship recipients notified
June 10	Scholarship applicants notified
August 30	First half of scholarship funds disbursed to educational facility (\$1250 fall semester)
January 5	Second half of scholarship funds disbursed to educational facility (\$1250 spring semester)

## **RECIPIENT REQUIREMENTS**

Maintaining a full-time class schedule and regular class attendance and class participation is mandatory as a scholarship recipient. The recipient who receives the scholarship is required to successfully pass all courses with a cumulative semester GPA of 2.75 for each semester being funded by this scholarship.

You will be required to provide a copy of your semester grades to the Holy Rosary Healthcare Foundation within 45 days of the close of the semester. You will be required to repay the scholarship in full if any of the following situations occur:

- You leave school and do not finish the semester's curriculum
- You leave or are removed from the nursing program for any reason
- You don't meet the 2.75 required cumulative semester GPA
- You don't provide us with a copy of your semester grades within 45 days of the close of the semester.
- Criminal, civilian or moral behavior (occurring during the reward semester)
- If first semester guidelines are not met, second semester funds will not be disbursed

Not meeting the above criteria/requirements due to an act of nature, unpreventable situation, significant life event, or severe medical condition will not constitute repayment of the scholarship.

## **INFORMATION**

The Millie & Ken Hom Nursing Scholarship Program is administered by the Holy Rosary Healthcare Foundation. For more information or answers to your questions, please contact: Holy Rosary Healthcare Foundation, 2600 Wilson Street, Miles City, MT 59301; (406) 233-4043.



## *Millie & Ken Hom*

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### ***MILLIE & KEN HOM: Two Very Special People Passionate About Providing Opportunities for Nurses in Eastern Montana***

This remarkable couple, married December 1, 1954, always enjoyed eastern Montana and felt strongly about the area. Ken, a police officer and city judge, and Millie, a nurse and educator, touched many, many lives. Let's learn a little about these two very special people.

Ken Hom was born in Beach, North Dakota on March 5, 1934. Ken was raised on a farm. At age six, his family moved to Brusett, Montana; and when he was a teenager, the Hom family moved to Forman, North Dakota where he later graduated (in 1952) from Forman High School. Ken moved to Miles City before entering the Army in 1953. During his three year commitment, he married Millie and then returned home and began his 20-year career in law enforcement as an officer with the Miles City Police Department. In 1994, Ken took on new duties and was appointed City Judge until 2005, when he retired. That was the year he chose to establish a nursing scholarship endowment to reward those pursuing a nursing education and create a permanent way to honor and remember Millie and her many contributions to the nursing profession.

Millie was born November 19, 1933 in Houston, Texas and moved to Miles City while a young woman. Although she wasn't born here, she took Miles City into her heart. She graduated from Sacred Heart High School and attended Sacred Heart Church.

Establishing a legacy of caring for others, Millie Hom was a true pioneer for the nursing profession in Montana. An article in the December 6, 1968 Miles Community College Pioneer student newspaper revealed that Millie's career as a caregiver began while still in high school, when she worked as a nursing assistant. She went on to the Presentation School of Nursing at Holy Rosary Hospital (which later closed in 1959). After working for several years as a Registered Nurse, she attended Miles Community College. Millie continued her education at Montana State University in Bozeman, receiving her master's degree in Registered Nursing.

Returning to Miles City, Millie was employed at Holy Rosary Hospital and became the first Registered Nursing Program Director charged at developing the program at Miles Community College in 1968. Her numerous duties included developing the curriculum and ensuring accreditation, recruiting, collecting equipment, and arranging for clinical experiences. During the first year of the program, she was the only instructor.

Why did she work so hard? According to husband Ken, “because there was a shortage of nurses, and she thought it would be a good idea to have the nursing program here.”

Ken says Millie worked hard to polish her proposal for the Associate of Arts in nursing. A strong presentation was necessary as two other sites in Montana were also battling for the program: Kalispell and Havre. Millie presented the curriculum to several different boards, and Ken recalled how frightened she was when speaking about her program. Other colleges had sent several staff members and even the presidents of their institutions, but Millie appeared alone. Her vision and perseverance impressed a number of people.

The Miles Community College Nursing Program began enrolling students in the fall of 1968, and the first class of nurses graduated in the spring of 1971. One of the original graduates, Meredith Hirsch, recalls “Millie was a go-getter. She was determined we know everything we needed for the state boards.” At that time, the Registered Nursing licensing examination consisted of a two-day written test held in Helena.

Ken states that Millie worked hard to make sure her classes did prepare students. She often worked until midnight and woke up at 5:00 a.m. to carry out all of her teaching and administrative duties.

Millie left Miles Community College in 1977 but continued working in the nursing field. Her many activities included the Eastern Montana Red Cross, administering the BS nursing program at Dickinson State College, helping to establish the Garfield County Nursing Home, and serving as president of the Montana Nurses Association. After retirement, she volunteered for the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program and was one of the founding members of the Convent Keepers to preserve the Ursuline Convent.

Millie Hom passed away on August 11, 2000. In addition to family and friends, she left behind the foundation of a nursing program that has since graduated over 800 nurses and impacted thousands of lives.

The Millie & Ken Hom Nursing Scholarship Program was established in 2005 to permanently honor these two remarkable people who shared a special love for eastern Montana.



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## APPLICATION CHECK LIST

As outlined in the selection criteria, applicants must meet particular requirements to be considered for the scholarship. Please use this checklist as a guide to ensure your application is complete.

- Complete & Submit Application
  - Designate your ties to eastern Montana. Per the scholarship guidelines, student must have grown up, been educated, currently reside, and/or will work in a healthcare facility (upon graduation) in eastern Montana.
  - Student has completed at least one year of college in a nursing program (or is currently enrolled in their first year of a nursing program) and scholarship funds are requested to assist with next year of nursing education.
  - Per the scholarship guidelines, student is enrolled or plans to enroll in an associate's, bachelor's or master's degree program related to nursing.
- Current Educational Transcript with grades
  - Per the scholarship guidelines, student must be achieving at least a 2.75 GPA in the nursing program.
- Proof of Financial Need
  - Per the grant guidelines, student must exhibit a proven need for financial assistance for nursing educational costs.
  - Please attach a copy of your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) award letter that designates the amount of scholarships, grants, and other aid being offered for the next academic year. If you don't have the award letter, please provide information from the educational institution that you are attending showing your financial aid (including scholarships, grants, loans, and other aid) for the current academic year, and your last year's personal tax return (if claimed by parents, parent's return).
- Letters of Recommendation
  - Please attach three signed letters of recommendation (for example: last employer, current or former instructor/professor, personal reference)



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**APPLICATION**

Today's Date \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**EDUCATION**

Date of High School Graduation \_\_\_\_\_  
High School \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/State \_\_\_\_\_  
How many, if any, semesters of college have you completed \_\_\_\_\_  
Are you currently enrolled in college \_\_\_\_\_ Dates of enrollment \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of College \_\_\_\_\_ City/State \_\_\_\_\_  
Field(s) of Study \_\_\_\_\_  
If you are not currently enrolled, when do you plan to do so? \_\_\_\_\_  
Where and in what field of study? \_\_\_\_\_

Please list any other colleges you have attended, not listed above, with dates, field of study and GPA. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Designate the highest educational level completed by your parents. M=Mother; F=Father

Some high school       High School Graduate  
 Some College (circle years completed: 1, 2, 3, 4 )  
 Associate's degree       Bachelor's degree       Master's degree  
 Doctorate degree       Other \_\_\_\_\_

If college, field(s) of study \_\_\_\_\_

Tell us about your ties to eastern Montana. \_\_\_\_\_

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Tell us about your need for financial assistance related to your pursuit of a nursing education. \_\_\_\_\_

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Why are you interested in being a nursing professional? \_\_\_\_\_

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Have you completed any hands-on learning, job shadowing, or other career exploration related to nursing? If so, tell us about that. \_\_\_\_\_

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Tell us about your work experience in the healthcare industry? Provide name of employer, dates of employment, and duties of the position. \_\_\_\_\_

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If you're pursuing a bachelor's or master's degree in nursing, tell us about your nursing education to this point. \_\_\_\_\_

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If you're pursuing a master's degree in nursing, tell us about your clinical work in nursing to this point. \_\_\_\_\_

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What type of work do you want to do in nursing? Do you have a particular area of specialty or interest? \_\_\_\_\_

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What are your goals as a nursing professional? \_\_\_\_\_

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What scholarships, awards, grants, and other financial assistance have you been awarded related to your current pursuit of a nursing career? \_\_\_\_\_

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Have you ever been convicted of a misdemeanor or felony? Yes No  
If yes, where, when and for what? \_\_\_\_\_

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Please attach a copy of your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) award letter that designates the amount of scholarships, grants, and other aid being offered for the next academic year. If you don't have the award letter, please provide information from the educational institution that you are attending showing your financial aid (including scholarships, grants, loans, and other aid) for the current academic year, and your last year's personal tax return (if claimed by parents, parent's return).

Please attach three signed letters of recommendation (for example: last employer, current or former teacher/professor).

In addition, please review the application checklist carefully and attach all appropriate paperwork and/or proof that may be required related to the selection criteria. For example, proof that you've achieved at least a 2.75 GPA in the nursing program. There may be other submissions required; please review your finished application carefully to ensure it's complete and supports the selection criteria.

By signing below you agree that all information provided is accurate and true. If you are selected as a finalist, you authorize us to conduct a criminal background check.

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Name

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Date