

Fay Wilmerding Indigenous Scholarships

Valued at either A\$2,500 (semester program) or \$3,500 (year program) each, two partial scholarships are available and are named for Fay Wilmerding who helped establish the student exchange industry in Australia during a distinguished 30 year career.

Applications for these scholarships are invited from Indigenous candidates from Australia and New Zealand who meet Student Exchange Australia New Zealand Ltd's eligibility criteria. To be considered for a scholarship you must:

- ✓ be at school when you apply
- ✓ be in good physical and mental health
- ✓ have maintained the equivalent or better than a C grade average since Year 9
- ✓ (Australia)
- ✓ have achieved a National Certificate of Educational Achievement at the appropriate
- ✓ level, or produce a statement from your school about anticipated levels of achievement
- ✓ when the certificate is awarded (New Zealand)
- ✓ be mature and open-minded
- ✓ be flexible, adaptable, responsible and ready to learn
- ✓ be between 15 and 18 years old

and you must provide the following additional information:

- ✓ Complete the Student Exchange Australia New Zealand Ltd application form according to the instructions detailed on the inside front cover of that form. Please note, you will also need to submit a \$500 deposit with the application.
- ✓ Prepare a 1000 word creative piece of writing entitled "My Story" which tells us about you, your family, your community and how you will use the exchange experience to contribute to your community upon your return and into the future.
- ✓ Provide a reference from one community referee – s/he should use the attached form.
- ✓ Provide a reference from one school teacher – s/he should use the attached form.
- ✓ Provide evidence of your Indigenous heritage.

For Indigenous Australians: you must identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander; be accepted as such by the community in which you live or have lived; provide a written statement from an elder in, or representative on behalf of, the community in which you live or have lived confirming this. For New Zealand Māori: you must provide confirmation of your whakapapa by a kaumatua or kuia.

Shortlisted applicants will be invited to participate in a selection interview with representatives of the Indigenous community and/or Student Exchange Australia New Zealand Ltd.

One scholarship may be awarded for a January – March departure. The deadline for receipt of applications is **31 March** of the year prior.

One scholarship may be awarded for a July – September departure. The deadline for receipt of applications is **31 October** of the year prior.

Indigenous Scholarship Community Reference

An applicant for a Student Exchange Australia New Zealand Ltd Indigenous Scholarship has asked you to be a referee. We would appreciate you providing written feedback about the applicant below. Your comments, in conjunction with the applicant's full application, will help us to shortlist candidates. If you need more space, please attach an additional sheet.

Your name: _____

Your contact details: _____

Applicant's name: _____

Your role/occupation: _____

How long have you known the applicant? _____

In what capacity? _____

What are the most important qualities you see in the applicant?

How has the applicant contributed to the community?

Do you feel the applicant could handle living and studying overseas for a semester or a year?

Please comment further on the applicant:

Your signature: _____ Date: _____

Please provide the applicant with the reference in a sealed envelope so that s/he may include it when submitting the application to us.



Indigenous Scholarship School Reference

An applicant for a Student Exchange Australia New Zealand Ltd Indigenous Scholarship has asked you to be a referee. We would appreciate you providing written feedback about the applicant below. Your comments on his/her activities in your school, commitment to his/her Indigenous heritage, family orientation and how you see him/her giving back to the school and community upon his/her return from the exchange experience would be appreciated.

Your name: _____

Your title/role: _____

School name: _____

School address: _____

School phone: _____

Applicant's name: _____

Comments on the applicant: _____

Your signature: _____ Date: _____

Please provide the applicant with the reference in a sealed envelope so that s/he may include it when submitting the application to us.

Fay Wilmerding

Fay Wilmerding was an exchange student to Sweden in 1956. She completed a Bachelor of Arts at Brown University (Providence, Rhode Island, USA) in 1961. She went on to spend 10 months studying language in France and teaching English.

She returned to the US where she was employed in the student exchange industry and was subsequently asked to manage high school exchange programs in Australia.

From 1968 to 1998, Fay played a leading role in the development of exchange opportunities in Australia and the founding of new programs. She was instrumental in establishing international education opportunities for thousands of exchange students, both Australians going overseas and young people coming to Australia. Her work contributed strongly to the formation of student exchange programs we know today.

Since leaving her career in the exchange student industry Fay has completed a Bachelor of Laws with first class honours at the University of Technology (Sydney). In 2007, she achieved her Masters in Criminology from the University of Sydney. She was admitted as a Legal Practitioner of the Supreme Court of NSW in 2004 and has worked assisting a Judge of the Supreme Court of NSW and with Legal Aid NSW.

(These scholarships are fully funded* by Student Exchange Australia New Zealand Ltd which, where appropriate, works closely with relevant Indigenous bodies in the recruitment and selection of students).

*Student Exchange Australia New Zealand Ltd will fund up to AU\$2500.00 (semester program) or AU\$3500.00 (year program). Scholarship winners applying for a program to Canada, the UK or Ireland will need to pay the remaining program fee.