



## **2025 WILLIAM & MARLEE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

**For those pursuing careers in  
S.T.E.M. related fields or Veterinary Sciences**



**The William & Marlee Scholarships  
for the Children of U.S. Special Operations Members in Cooperation with  
the National Navy SEAL Museum and the Unit Scholarship Fund (Army)**

The Marlee Foundation, Inc. is a charitable 501(c)(3) organization that was established in late 2015 with the following charter:

1. To help those that cannot easily help themselves with the major focus being on children, veterans and animals.
2. To have 100% of administrative efforts covered by volunteers and donations from AJA International, Inc. only.
3. To have 100% of outside donations be used for the specific program requested by the donor.
4. To operate a fully transparent operation that ensures 1, 2 and 3 above are respected.

Before formally establishing the Marlee Foundation, I began this scholarship program in early 2015 for the children of US Special Operations Members by working directly through the National Navy UDT SEAL Museum, its Executive Director, Rick Kaiser and Foundation Director, John Lee. Rick Kaiser immediately asked me to include Chairman Henry "Ike" Eisenbarth and the Army Unit Scholarship Fund into our new program. All these children that we have helped with over \$1,025,000.00 in scholarships to date have been truly phenomenal and deserving. The "Incognito Photo Contest" has made it even more special to myself and to our donors as we get a better insight into these creative, young individuals. Periodic updates from scholarship recipients are also welcome as it is very rewarding to observe these students striving to achieve their goals.

This program is dedicated to my personal involvement in the world of scientific research and to my dearest friend, Marlee. In 1989 I started AJA International, Inc., a company whose goal has always been to manufacture the best Thin Film R&D tools in the world. We had a Delta Force business model – 40 to 50 employees max with extensive, direct communication between few management layers. A customer's phone call was ALWAYS answered by a knowledgeable person – never by automated answering. This has not changed. It was never about growth and selling out. It was about being the best in the world, and we succeeded. These scholarships are largely funded by this success. In 1999 I found Marlee, my white American Labrador. With a selfless heart and a tireless spirit, Marlee was my constant companion for over 14 years. She traversed the US with me over 20 times and changed my life in many significant ways, teaching me much about love, sacrifice and toughness. To pursue these efforts in her name is very special to me and to all those that knew her.

**These scholarships are specifically for students pursuing careers in S.T.E.M or Veterinary Sciences.**

I believe that offering scholarships for students with these goals in mind is very much in line with the road Marlee and I have traveled in life. By making this funding available, we hope to say "Thank You" in a small way to those military families of Special Operations Members that have given so very much to us all.

William Hale  
President, The Marlee Foundation, Inc.  
Founder/CTO AJA International, Inc.



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Award Date: **End of June 2025**

A total of **\$60,000** in W&M Scholarships will be awarded in 2025. These awards will be checks mailed to the student but made out directly to the College or University. The funds are to be used exclusively for undergraduate tuition expenses for eligible recipients age 23 and younger. They are not to be used for books, room & board or subsequent redistribution to the student.

Criteria for Awards:

1. The awards will be based on:
  - a: prior academic, personal and community achievement
  - b: situation / application details / essay answers
  - c: financial need
2. In order to be considered for award selection, applicants are required to:
  - a: completely fill out the attached application form by hand and submit with the attachments requested
  - b: submit all other attachments requested in typed or printed format in order
  - c: submit "Incognito photo" by text to 775-379-5212

**INDIVIDUALS WHO DO NOT COMPLETE THIS APPLICATION AS INSTRUCTED WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED**

**ALL APPLICATIONS WILL BE VETTED BY EITHER THE NAVY SEAL MUSEUM or THE ARMY UNIT SCHOLARSHIP FUND and WILL BE KEPT STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL.**

**PLEASE SUBMIT ONLY ONE MARLEE FOUNDATION APPLICATION.**



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**Please complete this page by hand, in its entirety, as your application cover sheet:**

Full Name:	Date of Birth (m/d/y):	
Mailing Address:		
Contact Telephone Number:	Contact e-mail address:	
Name of S.O.C. Member:	Branch:	
Active Duty Dates Served:	Years Deployed Overseas:	
Univ./College to be attended:	Degree(s) Sought:	ROTC (Y/N)_____
Address of Institution:		

**Please submit and attach the following in order:**

1. Copy of Letter of Acceptance from University/College - must be verifiable
2. Complete High School Transcripts and University/College Transcripts (if applicable) - must be verifiable
3. Copy of highest SAT or ACT test results - must be verifiable
4. (2) Letters of Recommendation with contact information of sponsors
5. Maximum 1/2 page letter documenting/explaining your financial need situation
6. (2) Essays / (1) photo. Please prepare essays as follows :1 individual page each, typed, single spaced
  - 6a. Please describe the event(s) or people in your life that have resulted in your pursuing a career in either S.T.E.M or Veterinary Sciences and why you want to go in this direction.
  - 6b. Please describe the job(s) and/or community service efforts you experienced during high school.
  - 6c. Please TEXT your Incognito Photo Contest phone picture submittal to 775-379-5212 with only your first name and last initial (example: "Stephen G."). Try to be creative while being unrecognizable (INCOGNITO). Details and examples below. **No scholarship award will be issued without your submittal.**

**AUTHENTICITY: As Parent/Guardian of this applicant, I hereby attest that these essays have been prepared by my child without assistance from any type of AI program.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
email address

**PLEASE MAIL APPLICATIONS based on affiliation TO ARRIVE BY THE MAY 10, 2025 DEADLINE to either:**

**Yvonne Terwilliger c/o The National Navy SEAL Museum, 3300 N. Hwy A1A, Fort Pierce, FL 34949  
(or)  
Henry "Ike" Eisenbarth c/o The Army Unit Scholarship Fund, PO Box 73338, Fort Bragg, NC 28307**



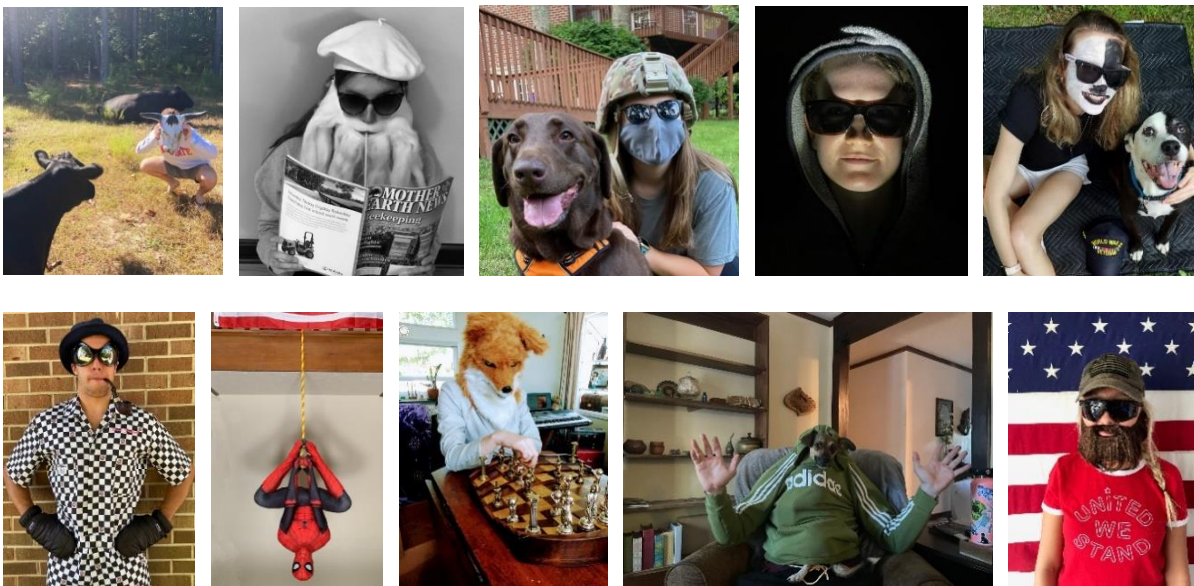
## THE MARLEE FOUNDATION 2025 **INCOGNITO PHOTO CONTEST**

Dear Applicant:

Welcome to the fun part of completing your Marlee Foundation Scholarship application! Each applicant must submit one phone picture of themselves without revealing their identity, hence, the “Incognito Photo Contest”. We are looking for creativity and the top 10 of the 36 applicants will receive an additional award of \$500.00 in early December toward tuition in the second semester. It is always a lot of fun putting this together and soliciting the votes from a wide variety of judges (military, donors, foundation officers, friends). All votes are tallied and the winners are chosen at the end of November.

A collage of all the photos will appear in the annual Legends Invitational Magazine which covers a Pebble Beach golf tournament featuring retired NFL players, the Navy Seal Museum and a number of Navy SEALs and Medal of Honor winners.

Please see examples below of past submissions:



Please text your phone pic and first name plus last initial (e.g. James D.) to 775-379-5212.

Please remember this is required for your application to be considered. As you can see, the competition can be tough, so don't be a slouch! Have fun with it.

William Hale, President

**The Marlee Foundation, Inc.**