



Ethel “Billie” Gammon History Education Scholarship Fund

Billie, founder of the Norlands, took great joy in seeing visitors, especially children, “get it” – that history education could be fun and that lessons from rural life are timeless. To feel what it was like to sit on the hard school benches, to know the day started and ended with family chores and responsibilities, to understand the rural Maine philosophy of everyone pulling together and that at the end of the day the love that bound the family made your home a nurturing, comforting place where you felt safe.

Billie has been described as “a bottomless well of energy, a bottomless well of joy, a bottomless well of mischief and a bottomless well of sharing,” and it has been said that “her love of Norlands was contagious and she shared it with everyone.”

In 2010, on the first anniversary of Billie’s passing, the Norlands Board of Trustees established the *Ethel “Billie” Gammon History Education Scholarship Fund* to honor her bottomless enthusiasm for sharing by providing support in her name for “learning through fun.” Scholarships will be awarded annually in two categories to young students of history.



Billie Gammon, 1916-2009

LIVERMORE FALLS HIGH SCHOOL HISTORY STUDENT

\$100 Three recipients

Selected by LFHS Advanced Placement History Teacher; announced in June.

The students must demonstrate excellence in history education as a high school student and provide proof of enrollment in post-secondary studies.

The teacher informs the students and Norlands of their selection in June. The student is paid directly upon proof of enrollment in a post-secondary enrollment institution. *This is a long-standing scholarship fund, formerly known as the Washburn-Norlands Foundation Scholarship, renamed in Billie’s honor.*

MAINE HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR PURSUING ‘HISTORY’ EDUCATION

\$1,000 One recipient

Selected by a committee of no less than 3 members, with at least one member of the Norlands Board.

The Maine student must have been to the Norlands and be planning to pursue a field that can be related to the mission of the Norlands, which includes history, but could also include American studies, education, museum studies, sustainable agriculture, and so on. No later than May 1, applicants must complete a simple application and submit an essay of 300-500 words about how the Norlands relates to and/or has impacted their interests and their life plans. *Recipients of LFHS scholarships are eligible.* Applications are available at www.norlands.org or call 897-4366.

In June, the committee chair informs the selected student. The student is paid directly upon proof of enrollment in a post-secondary institution. *Norlands retains the rights to publish the winning essay in full or in part, and will request written permission from all applicants to use quotes from their essays.*

Our mission is to preserve the heritage and traditions of rural life in Maine's past, to celebrate the achievements of Livermore's Washburn family, and to use living history methods to make values, activities, and issues of the past relevant to present and future generations.

WASHBURN-NORLANDS LIVING HISTORY CENTER

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