

The Don Reeser and Mary Evanson Memorial Scholarship  
Application Form, 2021  
Sponsored by  
The Friends of Haleakalā National Park  
A 501(c) (3) non-profit, Fed EIN 99-0330457  
P. O. Box 322, Makawao, HI 96768  
[www.fhnp.org](http://www.fhnp.org)

A scholarship grant of \$1,000 USD will be awarded to each of up to two students who will be attending an accredited college or university in 2021-2022 and who are, or will be, studying in a field related to the biology, ecology and/or conservation of Haleakalā National Park's ecosystem.

The scholarship honors the life work of both Don Reeser, Superintendent of Haleakalā National Park from 1988 to 2005, and Mary Evanson, co-founder of the non-profit Friends of Haleakalā National Park (FHNP) which supports the Park's mission to preserve and protect Haleakalā 's unique ecosystems, scenic character, and associated Native Hawaiian culture. Please see more about these heroes on page 3.

Requirements-

Each scholarship recipient will be:

- a Hawai'i resident,
- either a graduating high school student admitted into an accredited college or university or a continuing college student within the United States,
- and planning to enter, or already working toward a degree in, a field related to conservation, ecology or biology related to the preservation of the ecosystem of Haleakalā.

Each applicant will provide:

- Transcripts showing a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher,
- 2 letters of recommendation,
- a 1200- to 1500-word essay. Please see essay question and guidelines below.

Essay guidelines: To help us know you better, please write an essay of 1200 to 1500 words about your experience with Haleakalā National Park or other Hawai'i ecosystem(s) and how you will apply that experience to your field of study. If you have not been to Haleakalā National Park, what other parks have you visited in Hawai'i, and how will you apply that experience to your chosen field? Why did you choose this field, and what is your long-term goal in this field of study?

Date due: The completed application must be submitted to The Friends of Haleakalā National Park by Earth Day, April 22, 2021.

Submittal method: Either by email to BOTH [fhnp@earthlink.net](mailto:fhnp@earthlink.net) AND [mary@fhnp.org](mailto:mary@fhnp.org), or by postal mail to: FHNP, P. O. Box 322, Makawao, HI 96768 and post-marked by the due date of April 22, 2021.

Winners will be notified by May 15, 2021. We request that, upon notice of winning, awardees provide FHNP with a photo, and that they permit excerpts from their essays, along with a possible interview and their photo to be used in the newsletter of FHNP and for articles in the Maui News and FHNP social media for the purpose of announcing the year's scholarship award.

Please find the application form on the following page.

The Don Reeser and Mary Evanson Memorial Scholarship Application

Page 2

Application deadline: April 22, 2021

Your full name: \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Home address: \_\_\_\_\_

Street address

Postal address, if different from street address

City State Zip code

College or university you will be attending in Fall, 2021: \_\_\_\_\_

Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Program/major: \_\_\_\_\_

Year in your program: \_\_\_\_\_

If a high school graduating senior, date of expected graduation: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Your signature Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print name

If applicant is under 18 years of age: \_\_\_\_\_ Date  
Parent or Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent or Guardian printed name

**Don Reeser and Mary Evanson** are Haleakalā mountain heroes, having given selflessly to the mountain, to the Friends of Haleakalā National Park and to the Maui community. We hope to encourage future generations in Hawai'i nei to be as dedicated to preserving and to value our natural resources as did Don Reeser and Mary Evanson.

**Mary Evanson** spent countless hours in the Park as a dedicated volunteer. She knew the resources in the Park as well as any professional staff. Her love for Haleakalā began in the 1930's when her family visited the mountain. She moved from Oahu to Maui in the 1970's, and she began volunteering in the Park and helped with everything from fencing to monitoring the endangered silverswords. She was a founder 1996 of the Friends of Haleakalā and served as board president for many years. She launched regular overnight service trips into the Park, founded the Adopt-a-Nene program, which supports native species in the Park, and started the FHNP Newsletter. Mary's influence on the preservation of Maui's natural resources extends mauka to makai, across Maui County beyond the borders of the national park. She fought to preserve native species and prevent invasive species from changing Maui's landscape. In 1996 Mary Evanson was honored by the Park Service for her tireless work by being designated Honorary Superintendent of Haleakalā National Park, the only person ever to receive that honor. She received many other awards and recognitions for her contributions to Maui's ecosystems and culture. Mary Evanson passed away on May 9, 2019, at the age of 97. The Friends of Haleakalā National Park are humbled by her dedication, and we hope to honor her by naming this scholarship after her.

*Don designating Mary Honorary Superintendent*

**Don Reeser** began his National Park Service career in Glacier National Park as a seasonal ranger and retired after serving as Superintendent of Haleakalā National Park from 1988 to 2005. He was known as a conservationist dedicated to preserving native habitats and their ecosystems. As Wildlife Ranger at Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, he initiated a fencing program to restore Park ecosystems by keeping ungulates out of the Park. This method was so successful that it was adopted in many other national parks, including Haleakalā. Treasured species in the Park such as nene and silverswords were saved because of the fencing. Haleakalā NP acreage was enlarged during Don's tenure. His personal connection with the communities surrounding the Park encouraged involvement in the Park as well as ownership. These two things increased local participation and caring for the Park and surrounding areas. He was a deeply involved member of Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa and as such was a defender of the peninsula and its history. Don joined the Board of Directors of Friends of Haleakalā upon his retirement from the Park Service in 2005. He provided guidance, leadership and wisdom until his death in March of 2019. He was an invaluable resource for the Board, and his legacy will influence us far into the future. We hope to return a small portion of the Aloha 'āina that Don shared by honoring a student conservationist with this scholarship in his name.

