



Region 11 Athletic Ministry
Archdiocese of Philadelphia

Board of Athletic Directors
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The 2020 Region 11 Meredith Merlini Catholic Youth Scholarship Program

The Region 11 CYO Board of Athletic Directors is pleased to continue our Scholarship Program for graduating 8th graders from its member parishes who are continuing their education next Fall at an Archdiocesan or private Catholic high school. The Scholarship is named in honor of Meredith Merlini, the long-time Region 11 coach, athletic director, commissioner, and Chair of our CYO Board.

In the program last year we received a record 68 essays for scholarship consideration. We asked the students to give two examples from the world of sports - plus a personal experience - that exemplify our CYO ideals of good sportsmanship. The essays were evaluated anonymously by a panel of ten long-serving former CYO administrators and, because the essays were so close in merit, we awarded an extra scholarship. The six scholarships for \$1,000 each were awarded to:

Jonathan Burkholder – St. Luke the Evangelist parish, attending La Salle College High School
Juliana Colella – Nativity of Our Lord parish, attending Archbishop Wood High School
Kate Donovan – St. Alphonsus parish, attending Mount Saint Joseph Academy
Delaney Finnegan – Our Lady of Good Counsel parish, attending Archbishop Wood High School
T.J. Tingley-Kelley – St. Hilary of Poitiers parish, attending La Salle College High School
Karey Dawn Williamson – St. Robert Bellarmine parish, attending Villa Joseph Marie High School

This year we will award five scholarships of \$1,000 each. The eligibility criteria have not changed. The graduating 8th grader must have been a CYO participant during grade school and must be continuing his or her education at an Archdiocesan or private Catholic high school.

Interested 8th graders are invited to submit a **ONE-PAGE** essay in **word .doc or .pdf format only** – no “Google Docs” – on the topic below by Monday, May 11, 2020 to be considered for one of the \$1,000 scholarships. **Because the essays will be evaluated anonymously, students should not identify themselves or their specific parishes in the essay itself. Include the following information ONLY in the email:**

NAME - PARISH - SCHOOL - CYO ACTIVITIES - HIGH SCHOOL ATTENDING FALL OF 2020:
Please return to: 2020scholarship@region11cyo.org by **Monday, May 11, 2020**
(You will receive an email confirming receipt – if you don't receive one, contact the Coordinator.)

2020 CYO Scholarship Question:

"Think of a professional athlete – past or present. What qualities and behaviors do you believe this individual exhibits or exhibited that makes her or him the ideal CYO role model."

Excluded athletes that you may **NOT** write about: Ivan Anaya, Connor Barwin, Kobe Bryant, Roberto Clemente, Nick Foles, Luz Long, Michael McGlinchey, Jamie Moyer, O'Donovan Brothers, David Robinson, Jackie Robinson, Tim Tebow, Shane Victorino, or Carson Wentz.