

Honoring the Best: The Dr. Earl Rippie Scholarship



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Leadership and knowledge can go hand in hand. Dr. Earl Rippie was a strong supporter of veterinary nurses and believed that we are the cog in the wheel of a veterinary practice. He believed we should have an equal voice as a member of the veterinary health care team. His mantra was that “veterinary nurses are to be recognized and valued as a key patient advocate by promoting the health and well-being of our patients and their pet parents.” Dr. Rippie was my strongest supporter in my nomination, election and progression as the first veterinary nurse to become President of the NAVC Board of Directors.

In 2016, the profession lost this dedicated, hard-working, admired veterinary leader. He served as President on the New Jersey Veterinary Medical Association, a member of the AVMA House of Delegates and on the NAVC Board of Directors as President and then Secretary/Treasurer.

In his honor, The Dr. Earl Rippie Veterinary Technician Leadership Scholarship recognizes veterinary nurses who have demonstrated leadership skills and have made a positive impact on the profession.

The NAVC congratulates the “best of the best” veterinary nurse 2018 scholarship winners: Alison Weller, Diane Becker and Kyle Wendy Skulety. The winners were chosen for their leadership in local and state associations, and also as authors and speakers within the profession. They're highly motivated and dedicated veterinary nurses.

How to Apply for the Scholarship

Interested in becoming a Dr. Earl Rippie Veterinary Nurse Leadership scholarship winner? Applying for it is easy! For a full description of the criteria and submission information visit the NAVc.com website: **The Dr. Earl Rippie Veterinary Technician Scholarship** to apply. All completed applications must be received by August 1 and a decision is made by September 1.

Winners receive a full VMX registration, one round-trip economy airfare, six nights at a VMX host hotel, a six-day per diem, and participation in one Masterclass fee. Winners will also be invited to the VMX Special Events as a VIP and a Pre-VMX Meet and Greet.

I encourage all veterinary nurse leaders or those who wish to nominate a colleague to apply for the scholarship. As a leader, Dr. Rippie strongly believed in our value and contributions to the profession. Let's honor his legacy by continuing to carry our voice and passion forward.

Good luck and see you at the NAVC VMX 2019 as a winner! **TVN**

Lynne Johnson-Harris, RVT
Editor in Chief