Ambrose Terneus Earns $3,000 Scholarship

Ambrose Terneus, of Bellevue, NE, member of St. Peter Catholic Church in the Archdiocese of Omaha was awarded a $3,000 scholarship by the National Catholic Committee on Scouting (NCCS) through the Emmett J. Doerr Memorial Scout Scholarship Fund. This year seven service scholarships totaling $20,000 were awarded nationwide to recognize scouts for outstanding service and leadership in four areas: Church, Community, School and Scouting.

Ambrose truly embodies the idea of servant leadership. When asked why volunteering is important to him, he responded, “Sacrificing myself for the good of others is the foundation of charity. The charity is one not simply for brethren, but more importantly for Christ since all that we do for our neighbor we do unto Him.” He received the Archdiocese of Omaha Serra Club Altar Server Award and has been a vacation bible schoolteacher, member of the choir and an usher. For the past three years, he has volunteered as a substitute parish organist for Mass and Vespers, Master of Ceremonies for Mass Servers, and for the past year as Corpus Christi Procession Music Director.

Ambrose shares his love of music through community service. He received the Hillcrest Youth Volunteer of the Year Award and the President’s Volunteer Service Award for playing 153 hours of music over the past three years at the Hillcrest Health and Rehab Center in Bellevue. In addition, Ambrose logged more than 200 additional hours of community service with the St. Vincent de Paul Society, Nebraska Veterans Home Volunteers, children’s library assistant, math tutor, food bank volunteer, and Nebraska Beekeeper’s Association.

Through distance learning with Mother of Divine Grace School in Ojai, CA, Ambrose served both his school and the Catholic Homeschool Association of Omaha (CHAO) through tutoring and exam preparation. His favorite subjects are Latin, French, German and Math. He says that participating in group service projects for the National Honor Society enables him to try new activities such as story reader and website developer. Ambrose is a National Merit Finalist and member of the National Honor Society, he has been President of the Latin Club, National Latin Honor Society, and received the National Latin Exam Gold Metal 2018, and perfect scores in 2017 and 2019.

In Scouting, Ambrose served numerous leadership positions, which prepared him for his role as Junior Assistant Scout Master. He is a member of the Order of the Arrow (OA), Scouting’s Honor Society, and earned the OA Arrowman Service Award. Ambrose was invited to speak at the first Governor’s Luncheon to raise funds for the Council and was a spokesperson for Scouting for Food, along with the Mayor of Omaha. During his senior year, he participated with a Catholic
Guides et Scouts d’Europe troop in Belgium for several months. It broadened his view of Scouting while he served as an ambassador sharing American culture with French-speaking Scouts. Ambrose also attended the Saint George Trek, NCCS’s high adventure Catholic leadership program for Scouts at Philmont Scout Ranch. The program brings Catholic high school youth from around the country together with selected priests, religious and seminarians for eleven days of backpacking in the context of a vocation retreat.

For his Eagle Scout project, Ambrose led a pond conservation project for Gifford Farm Education Center in Bellevue, Nebraska. Over four weekends, the team transformed the pond, which was overgrown with invasive plants, to a pollinator garden and improved habitat for wildlife. This project aids visitors in teaching about the function, wildlife, and habitats of the farm pond. Ambrose plans to attend Thomas Aquinas College in Santa Paula, CA.

To be eligible to apply for the Emmett J. Doerr Memorial Scout Scholarship, the Scout must be Catholic, earned the Ad Altare Dei and/or Pope Pius XII Awards, and received either the Eagle Scout, Summit, or Quartermaster Award. A complete list of award recipients, eligibility requirements and applications can be found online at http://nccs-bsa.org/index.php/college-scholarship. Emmett J. Doerr Memorial Scholarship recipients have been chosen because they are committed to making a difference for good in the world through service and leadership. These young people, like Ambrose Terneus, are certain to enrich our future.