Ryan Cannon Earns $2,000 Scholarship

Ryan Cannon, of Millburn, NJ, was awarded a $2,000 scholarship by the National Catholic Committee on Scouting (NCCS) through the Emmett J. Doerr Memorial Scout Scholarship Fund. He is a member of St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church in the Archdiocese of Newark. 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.

Ryan truly embodies the idea of servant leadership. When asked why volunteering is important to him, he responded, "Service to others has helped me find myself in life. I truly enjoy the self gratification of giving thanks to those that have provided me freedom, in doing my part by helping build a stronger sense of community, and helping others that are less fortunate." Through his church, Ryan has volunteered for numerous projects including, community clean-up, soup kitchen and pantry, food and clothing donation drives and Operation Shoebox. He has earned both the Ad Altare Dei and the Pope Pius XII religious emblems.

Where Ryan really excels is through service to his community. He was awarded the BSA National Medal of Merit for his work in raising $7,000 in donations for the National Hurricane Relief Effort. In addition, he raised $1,500 for New Eyes for the Needy and co-led a successful but challenging campaign to have one of his town’s streets renamed after his Troop’s late Scoutmaster of 36 years. Ryan has been volunteering with Breezy Point Wounded Warriors & Hope for Warriors Weekends for more than six years and is a member of Sons of the American Revolution. When Milburn Township cancelled their Memorial Day Parade, Ryan stepped forward to become the Parade Coordinator. He organized 30 community organizations, over 1,000 marchers and served as emcee for the parade.

At Milburn High School, Ryan, has been appointed to the Student Liaison Committee, is a member of Coin Club and the Finance and Investment Club. He was selected by Milburn High School and American Legion Post 140 to attend American Legion Jersey Boys State.

Through Scouting, Ryan has 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, Scouting’s Honor Society and attended the National Order of the Arrow Leadership Conference (NOAC). His Scouting experiences include the National High Adventure Sea Base in Florida, Philmont Scout Ranch, plus National and World Jamborees. In 2019, he received the New York State VFW
Eagle Scout of the Year Award and the BSA National Medal of Merit. He was named Lodge Chief for the 2020 NOAC.

For his Eagle Scout project, Ryan led sixty volunteers for six days totaling over 600 hours of community service to revitalize the Guy R. Bosworth American Legion Post 140 in Milburn, NJ. This facility not only serves the American Legion but is also used for community meetings and events. Renovations included painting the vestibule, stairway and entire second floor, new LED lighting, new woodwork, signage, and carpet cleaning. The project totaled $2,600 that he covered through a fundraising campaign. Ryan says that his project not only brought life to an American Legion Hall but…” It empowered me with the confidence to independently lead and be impactful in whatever I put my mind to doing.”

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 Ryan Cannon, are certain to enrich our future.