



Robert Mammano Frezza Memorial Scholarship

What is The Robert Mammano Frezza Memorial Scholarship?

This merit scholarship will be considered for award annually to a graduating Lawrenceville School senior planning to attend any accredited U.S four-year college or university. The Scholarship Fund, established to honor the memory of Robert Frezza L'98 (1980-2001), was endowed with generous contributions from Bob's family, friends, coworkers, and most notably Bob's mentor Max Levchin, founding Chief Technology Officer of PayPal, Inc.

How Large is the Scholarship and how is it Paid?

The winner will be awarded \$24,000 disbursed in either twelve \$2,000 payments or eight \$3,000 payments depending on whether the recipient's school is an a semester or trimester calendar. Payments will be made directly to the matriculating university. Failure to register for a regular semester or trimester session for any reason (including but not limited to transfer, withdrawal, expulsion, or early graduation) will terminate award payments. Exceptions will be granted for a student studying overseas then returning. Consideration will be given at the sole discretion of the fund's trustees for recipients who take time off or withdraw and then re-matriculate.

About Robert Mammano Frezza L'98

According to Regan Kerney of The Lawrenceville School, "Bob was a unique individual whose diverse talents were exceeded only by the love he inspired in the people around him." He was a strong student academically, involved, influential, and well loved in the Lawrenceville community throughout his four years at the School, which was also attended by his younger brother Brian M. Frezza L'01. Bob was editor-in-chief of The Lawrence his Fifth Form year. He attended Lawrenceville as a day student, unobtrusively managing his diabetes care while fully immersed in the hectic pace of Lawrenceville life.

Bob chose Stanford to pursue the studies of computer science and economics. Successful entrepreneurship was Bob's foremost professional dream. When once achieved, he more privately fantasized about settling into a career in teaching, perhaps even someday returning to Lawrenceville. Bob was academically and personally recognized at Stanford as a student who excelled and as a friend and tutor to many. Since his death, many of Bob's friends have shared common memories of him as a person never too busy to help out a friend or to enjoy the relaxing and happy moments he taught others there was always room to squeeze into life's daily responsibilities. (See www.bobfrezza.org). Bob worked as an intern at the Palo Alto start-up PayPal on and off from the summer following his sophomore year in

college, where according to Max Levchin, “Bob played a pivotal role in PayPal’s early days, helping solve several major problems that were threatening the company’s viability.” Max and Bob share a patent from a software invention that was conceived in their work together.

Bob frequently described himself as “a problem solver.” He died three days after final exams in December 2001, three weeks before his 22nd birthday, his GRE’s successfully completed and graduate school applications having just been placed in the mail. Bob’s untimely death left a void in the lives and hearts of many, with his own vivid dreams for the future yet to be realized.

What is expected of Scholarship recipients?

Recipients of The Robert Mammano Frezza Memorial Scholarship are expected to exemplify the values and potential Bob evidenced during his short but dynamic life.

Eligibility

All Lawrenceville graduating seniors who have been accepted into an accredited U.S. four year college or university and plan to enroll for the following academic year are eligible.

Criteria

The selection process will consider each recipient’s contributions to the vitality of the School during their Lawrenceville career, motivating factors that led to their decision to attend Stanford, as well as his or her personal character, professional aspirations, and life values. The following criteria will be considered in the evaluation process:

- capacity to lead and motivate, particularly as evidenced in his or her Lawrenceville career
- scholastic ability and achievement
- moral force of character
- priorities on friendship and family
- acceptance of differences
- personal ambition

Financial need is not considered in this selection. The Scholarship will be awarded solely on merit. One scholarship will be considered for award annually, but this scholarship is not guaranteed to be awarded each year. Recipient’s merit will be based upon the criteria established above as judged by the selection committee.

How the Selection Process Works

Students wishing to be considered for the scholarship are urged to ask one of their teachers to bring their name to the attention of the special faculty nominating committee during the fall semester of their senior year. Toward the end of the semester, the nominating committee will invite five to seven seniors to apply for the award. Applications, along with transcripts and recommendations, will be reviewed by the RMF scholarship selection committee. Individual interviews will be scheduled with each applicant either on the

Lawrenceville campus or via telephone or Skype. The committee's decision will be announced on or around March 1st.

Trustees of the RMF Scholarship Fund

Max Levchin, former CTO and founder of PayPal, Inc.

Mr. Regan Kerney, Master of Economics and Interdisciplinary Studies at The Lawrenceville School

Dan Boneh, Professor of Computer Science at Stanford University

Ken Easwaran, L'98, S'02

William Frezza, P'98,'01, Board of Trustees chairperson

Scholarship Selection Committee:

The selection committee is appointed annually by the trustees and currently consists of Max Levchin, Ken Easwaran, Brian Frezza '01, and chairperson Donna Frezza P'98,'01. Donna is the former Director of Parent Programs at The Lawrenceville School (1998) and served as chairperson of the Parents at Lawrenceville Committee for six years.