

District 10 Scholarship Endowment (Honoring Mark J. Smaha, MS, ATC)



About the Endowment: The District 10 Scholarship Endowment honoring Mark Smaha, MS, ATC, established in 2009, provides an annual scholarship of \$2,300 to a qualified athletic training student, with preference to students from District 10.

About Mr. Smaha: Mark Smaha, an Iowa native, started his career in 1967 at Iowa State University. After receiving his BS in 1970, he went on to Marshall University in West Virginia as the assistant athletic trainer. In 1970, a tragic airplane crash killed 75 people including Marshall's football team, athletic personnel and boosters. This led to Mr. Smaha assuming the responsibilities of the head athletic trainer. While at Marshall, he finished his MS degree in 1972 and moved to the University of Washington to join a research team in studying athletic injuries at the high school level. While working for the University of Washington and Interlake High School as a teacher and athletic trainer, he co-authored a book on athletic training. Mr. Smaha later became the head athletic trainer for the University of Idaho in 1975, and then the head athletic trainer for Washington State University (1978), and later its Director of Athletic Medicine.

Mr. Smaha's accomplishments include serving the NATA as Secretary/Treasurer of District 10 (NWATA) (1979), Director/President of NWATA (1982), Vice-President of the NATA (1986), President of the NATA (1988-1992), three President's Commendations for Life Saving Emergencies, a nomination for the NCAA Award of Valor (1982), NATA Most Distinguished Athletic Trainer Award (1994), and inducted into the NATA Hall of Fame in 1997 and the Northwest Athletic Trainers Hall of Fame in 1998. As NATA president, he guided the association through economic challenges and changes in staff leadership. Currently he is a consultant within his own company, MJS Communications.

Scholarship Recipients:

- 2019 Jennifer McCaw, Idaho State University
- 2018 Hailie Cowdell, Idaho State University
- 2017 Kathleen Olson, University of Montana
- 2016 Amelia Meigs, Saint Louis University
- 2015 Kalyn Hasenoehrl, University of Idaho
- 2014 Tyrel Nelson, Boise State University
- 2013 Jordan Bigam, Oregon State University
- 2012 Reed Omdal, Washington State University
- 2011 Kiri Weeks, University of Montana
- 2009 Christopher Neumann, Oregon State University
- 2008 Christopher Hawley, Linfield College

Status: ENDOWED

Commitment: \$50,000

Amount Received: 50,000

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