



KAI's Diane McFarlin Artfully Passionate Scholarship

DIANE MCFARLIN

Diane McFarlin has served the Kaneland District in several different capacities since 1990. She began by directing annual student productions. From there, she taught theatre classes, served as the Instructional Coordinator of the Kaneland KAP (Kaneland Advantage) Program and most recently served as Assistant Principal of Kaneland High School until her retirement in June of 2017. Diane also served on numerous committees throughout her career, most notably the committee to convince the Kaneland District and Community of the need for an auditorium in which the talented students of the Kaneland District could perform. Diane currently serves as the Artistic Director for the award-winning Kaneland Arts Initiative. In this capacity, she assists in creating and choosing the artistic programs and opportunities that the Kaneland Arts Initiative offers within the district and for the Kaneland community and beyond. She has directed the provocative, thoughtful, and moving winter theatre productions in Kaneland's versatile Black Box Theatre along with more than half of the summer theatre productions in Kaneland's premiere performance space, the Kaneland Auditorium.

What makes Diane's legacy so important and indelible to those who she come in contact with is her ever-present passion for the Arts. Those who have had the wonderful opportunity to work with Diane notice immediately that she dedicates herself to assist each individual in finding and succeeding in their passion. She continues as she always has to participate in Artistic endeavors, whether as an actor on stage, a director, a singer, or an audience member. The essence of Diane is that she is truly artfully passionate for what she does. She is a shining example of "working hard and loving your work." To celebrate Diane's dedication to the Arts, specifically for Kaneland and the Kaneland Arts Initiative, the Board of Directors of the Kaneland Arts Initiative voted to create the Diane McFarlin Artfully Passionate Scholarship to be awarded to a Kaneland High School senior who was an active participant in the Fine Arts opportunities offered at Kaneland High School. This scholarship is for students who are not choosing to major in a Fine Art, but will carry the value of the Arts and their passion for them with them into their future lives and successes.

THE SCHOLARSHIP

The mission of the Kaneland Arts Initiative is to encourage people's involvement in, appreciation of, and support for artistic endeavors and fostering the development of artistic abilities. The Diane McFarlin Artfully Passionate Scholarship is for Kaneland High School students who are not intending to major in a Fine Art discipline in college. Candidates may be intending to minor in a Fine Art discipline. These Kaneland High School students show participation in Kaneland High School Fine Arts opportunities. They may have participated in curricular and/or extra-curricular Fine Arts classes/activities. Strong candidates are those who have participated in the Arts both in and out of Kaneland High School and have references from artistic people from the activities listed. Candidates are also required to write a brief essay indicating how their work in Kaneland Fine Arts opportunities influenced or inspired them and how their passion for the Arts will aid them in their future. Candidates may choose to write about those who have inspired them and how they hope to inspire others.