

Madeline Solomon

Galena Education Association

Scholarship

Academic Requirement: The applicant must have a GPA of 2.5 or higher.

Scholarship Guidelines:

The GEA Scholarship is a competitive scholarship available to all Sidney Huntington High School, Galena Interior Learning Academy, and IDEA seniors. One \$500 scholarship will be awarded to one senior from each program. Scholarships may be used for study at any accredited college, university, or technical/vocational school. There is a possibility that the award this year will be much larger than \$500.

Application Procedure:

Each student must complete an Application Form. Each student must submit a 300-500 word essay. *Your essay must include your educational and professional goals, your extra-curricular activities and interests.* Each student must also submit **two** letters of recommendation from a teacher and/or member of your home community. These letters should be from someone who knows your past experience, community involvement, and your potential to succeed in your chosen field of education.

Application Deadline: May 2nd, 2022

The application form, essay, and letters of recommendation must be submitted together, and postmarked by May 2nd, 2022 to Sutton Casey GEA Scholarship Committee, P.O. Box 299, Galena, AK 99741.

Scholarship awards will be announced on May 18, 2021, via KIYU and mail or email. Contact by mail will be at the address on the application.

Madeline Solomon

Madeline was born on December 22, 1905 in Alnookuhghonh, which means “Patch of Timber.” Her biological parents were Agatha Cleaver and Harry Lawrence, but she was raised by Mr. and Mrs. Little Williams.

She was given in marriage to John Dayton and they raised many children. When he died, she married Herbert Solomon and they had a daughter and adopted two more daughters. They chose Koyukuk as their home.

Madeline learned English while attending the Catholic school in Nulato. Later, she went to Holy Cross and was fortunate to have obtained an eighth grade education. This helped her in the many odd jobs that she held to support her family. She traveled the Yukon River in the summers helping the local storekeeper sell supplies and buy fish. She acted as clerk, bookkeeper and cook. Madeline also taught Head Start, was a cook at the school, and taught others to sew.

In 1974 Madeline moved to Galena and taught Koyukon Language and Culture for eight years at Galena City School, until retiring in 1982. She was a strong Galena Education Association member and tried to emphasize how important it was to get a good education, as she knew that times were changing and the subsistence lifestyle would be harder to rely on.

Madeline’s favorite activities included making birch bark baskets, sewing and beading, setting rabbit snares, hunting, trapping, and staying at Bishop Mountain, her family fish camp. Of course, she cherished the time spent with her children, grandchildren (45 of them), and great-grandchildren.

In 1988 Madeline left this world, but her legacy lives, as she is noted for her trustworthiness, strong family values, and determination to ensure the survival of Native Language and Culture. The GEA Scholarship is named in memory of her.