HISTORY OF THE AWARD: Friends of Downtown was founded in 1990 when REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONALS Eve Hager and Felicia Bell realized the importance of sharing information and ideas with others who care about the well-being and growth of downtown San Diego. This eventually led to several outreach programs to serve the local community. The group is comprised of a variety of professionals, residents and business owners who work or live in the downtown community. Friends of Downtown has grown in scope to include the following programs:

- **Annual Scholarship Fundraiser** – which benefits students of San Diego City College. The fund-raising efforts, through the generosity of members, guests, and corporate sponsors, have allowed Friends of Downtown to provide nearly $500,000. The scholarship recipients must meet a high academic requirement and interview with the group’s scholarship panel.

- **Holiday Gift Bags for Senior Shut-ins** – The Board of Directors and fellow members work to collect non-perishable food and other items such as blankets, books, socks, and toiletries to fill 100 large gift bags for senior shut-ins and those with limited incomes. During the first week of December, members of the group prepare all 100 Senior Gift Bags at the Mary and Gary West Senior Center, which then distributes them via its home meal delivery program.

- **Monthly Luncheons** – Educational lunch programs are held monthly at local popular restaurants. Each month features high-profile speakers from the downtown community. The programs provide members with the opportunity to network and learn what is happening in San Diego.

AWARDS: Approximately 30 scholarships of $500 each will be awarded

ELIGIBILITY:

1. Must be **currently enrolled** in at least 9 units at SDCC, with plans to continue next semester.

2. Must have already completed 18 units of college, to be verified by SDCC.
4. Must have a 3.0 or higher GPA, to be verified by SDCC.
5. Must be a U.S. Citizen or a resident alien.

**NOTE:** scholarship recipients will be selected at the discretion of the Friends of Downtown Scholarship Committee. Due to limited funds, not all eligible students will be selected to receive a scholarship.

**SCHOLARSHIP WILL BE ADVERTISED:** Early November to Mid December

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:** Friday, February 6, 2015 or until 28 qualified applications

**AWARD DATE:** April 11, 2015, at the Annual Scholarship Awards Presentation at the San Diego Hall of Champions in Balboa Park.

**APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS:**

Fill out the electronic application below, and submit electronically by clicking the SUBMIT button at the end of the application. In addition to all REQUIRED fields, you must also fill in the following additional fields before you click SUBMIT:

- Upload a one to two-page essay about your educational and career goals, and need for the scholarship. The essay should include background information, volunteer activities on campus and/or in the community, why the applicant is applying for this scholarship, and why they should be considered.

- If qualified, you will be contacted to participate in a group interview scheduled in early February 2015.

[CLICK HERE TO APPLY]