



The Lancaster Regional Players are proud to announce the  
**Helen J. Kryszak Memorial Scholarship for 2016**

Recognizing students who are dedicated to the behind-the-scenes aspects of the theatre

The Lancaster Regional Players have been bringing theatrical productions to the Lancaster community since 1965. We are a recognized 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization, consisting of people from all walks of life who enjoy coming together to prepare, produce, and perform in plays for local audiences. We recognize the importance of those who serve outside of the spotlight in numerous roles behind the scenes of a production, and no one symbolizes this commitment more than our own Helen Kryszak. Helen was a longtime resident of Lancaster who joined our group back in 1972, when we were known as the Lancaster-Depew Community Theater. From 1972 to 2010, Helen worked in some capacity, mostly in a backstage role, in almost 70 productions. She served as stage manager, stage crew member, and house manager, but it is her role as Property Mistress in dozens of productions that quickly earned her the nickname "Helen of Props."

Hardworking and always eager to help, Helen also was friendly and made a point to help newcomers feel welcome. Anyone who has been involved with a show with LRP over a 38 year period had the opportunity to know and work with Helen. Despite the dozens of directors who have helmed our shows and the hundreds of actors who have performed with us between 1972 and 2011, the one constant was Helen, sitting backstage during each performance, following along with the script, and ready to spring up and help out with the next scene change or special effect.

In February 2011, Helen's life was cut short by cancer, and our productions will never be the same. But we will never forget her commitment and dedication to our group and our productions, specifically her drive to help others look good onstage and do what was needed for each performance to run smoothly and efficiently.

LRP has chosen to honor the memory of our friend, Helen Kryszak, by offering, since 2011, a scholarship in her name to a student who shows similar dedication to the backstage aspects of the theatre. Backstage personnel are the backbone of any production and LRP would like to recognize students who exemplify Helen's spirit and commitment and fellowship of the theatre.

The details of the scholarship are as follows:

- Open to students of Lancaster, Depew, and St. Mary's High Schools
- Applicants must be graduating seniors in 2016
- Applicants need to submit the following to Lancaster Regional Players:
  - A completed scholarship application
  - A separate essay that describes what you have learned from your behind-the-scenes experiences in the theater, and how you anticipate this experience will benefit you in the future.
  - Three letters of recommendation from teachers, advisors or mentors who can speak to your commitment to theater or other pursuits.
- Entries must be mailed to:  
Lancaster Regional Players  
PO Box 51  
Lancaster, NY 14086
- All entries must be postmarked by April 1, 2016
- The scholarship winner will receive a check for \$500 from Lancaster Regional Players

Please forward any inquiries regarding this scholarship to: [lancasterplayers@gmail.com](mailto:lancasterplayers@gmail.com)  
Download the PDF of this application at [www.lancasterregionalplayers.org/scholarship.html](http://www.lancasterregionalplayers.org/scholarship.html)

Helen J. Kryszak Memorial Scholarship – Application 2016



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) of Parent(s) or Guardian(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/Town/Village \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

High School(s) Attended \_\_\_\_\_

Major Sequence(s) in High School \_\_\_\_\_

Average \_\_\_\_\_ As verified by Guidance Counselor \_\_\_\_\_

Name of college or university you plan to attend \_\_\_\_\_

Major/field you plan to pursue \_\_\_\_\_

List the plays and productions you have been involved with since you entered high school (or attach a separate resume):

<u>Name of Production</u>	<u>Sponsor or institution (school, church, etc)</u>	<u>Date (MM/YY)</u>	<u>Your role (job/task, etc)</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Please list any additional activities, if any, that demonstrate your commitment to the behind-the-scenes aspects of theatre or the performing arts:

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Please include a brief essay that describes what you have learned from your behind-the-scenes experiences in the theater, and how you anticipate this experience will benefit you in the future. Also include three letters of recommendation from teachers, advisors or mentors who can speak to your commitment to theater or other pursuits.

Signature of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_