**NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND SCHOLARSHIPS**

The National Federation of the Blind presented these thirty awards to our nation’s top blind scholars in 2016:

$12,000 -- 1 scholarship

**Kenneth Jernigan Scholarship**—In memory of the man who changed perceptions regarding the capabilities of the blind in this country and throughout the world, this scholarship is given yearly by the American Action Fund for Blind Children and Adults, a nonprofit organization that works to assist blind people.  Kenneth Jernigan is viewed by our field as the most important figure in the 20th century in the lives of blind people.  The Action Fund wishes to keep fresh and current in the 21st century the understandings he brought to the field and thus has endowed this scholarship dedicated to his memory and to the continuation of the work he began.

$10,000 -- 1 scholarship

**Charles and Melva T. Owen Memorial Scholarship**—First established by Charles Owen in loving memory of his blind wife and now endowed by his last will and testament to honor the memory of both.  In founding the scholarships, Charles Owen wrote:  "There shall be no limitation as to field of study, except that it shall be directed toward attaining financial independence and shall exclude religion and those seeking only to further general or cultural education."

$8,000 – 2 scholarships

**The Oracle Scholarship for Excellence in Computer Science**—Oracle seeks to hire the best and brightest talent to build our products, basing our employment decisions only on merit, experience, and potential. We offer an optimized and fully integrated stack of business hardware and software systems. With more than 390,000 customers—including 100 of the Fortune 500—and with deployment across a wide variety of industries in more than 145 countries around the globe, we recognize the significant impact that our products and technologies can have on people with disabilities. This scholarship for $8,000 is for a student in the field of Computer Science, Computer Engineering, User Experience, or related field.

**The Oracle Scholarship for Excellence in a STEM Field**—Awards academic excellence and leadership in science, technology, engineering, or mathematics. Oracle wishes to promote excellence and funds this scholarship based on Oracle’s understanding of its impact on disabled employees and customers throughout the globe.

$5,000 – 4 scholarships

**Larry Streeter Memorial Scholarship**—Federationist Larry Streeter worked tirelessly to ensure quality education for blind and disabled children, inside and outside of the classroom. His wife, Sandy, and their daughters, Erin and Jennifer, along with friends and colleagues, sponsor this scholarship to carry on Dr. Streeter’s promotion of higher education that will assist blind students to elevate their quality of life, equipping them to be active, productive participants in their family, community, and workplace.

**Mimi and Marvin Sandler Scholarship**—This scholarship is funded by longtime friends of the Federation, Mr. and Mrs. Sandler. Marvin Sandler served as president of Independent Living Aids for more than thirty years. His wife and he wish to further academic excellence by sponsoring this award.

**Pearson Scholarship**—This scholarship is partially funded by Pearson Education and is awarded to a student who plans a career in education. For Pearson, learning is a never-ending road of discovery.

**National Federation of the Blind Scholarship for $5,000**—This award is funded by the collective membership of the National Federation of the Blind to recognize and honor achievement by blind scholars. No additional restrictions.

$3,000 – 22 scholarships

**Adrienne Asch Memorial Scholarship**—This award is given in loving memory of Dr. Adrienne Asch a consummate scholar and a longtime member of our Scholarship Committee.

**Charles and Betty Allen Scholarship**—This scholarship is given by two longtime leaders in the National Federation of the Blind of Kentucky. Their contributions to our movement date back to 1968 and run the gambit from serving as president and first lady of our Kentucky affiliate to founding more than one local chapter. Charles and Betty Allen wanted to establish this scholarship because they place such high emphasis on education. Clarence Mitchell, President of Mitch-Co Inc., also contributed to this award.

**Charles and Melva T. Owen Memorial Scholarship**—“There shall be no limitation as to field of study, except that it shall be directed toward attaining financial independence and shall exclude religion and those seeking only to further general or cultural education."

**E. U. and Gene Parker Scholarship**—This scholarship honors two longtime leaders of the National Federation of the Blind whose participation stood for strong principles and strong support of the Federation's work.

**Two Expedia Scholarships**—These scholarships are awarded to students studying in STEM fields or any other field of study relevant to Expedia’s business.

**One NFB Science and Engineering Division Scholarship**—This scholarship is awarded to a student studying in a STEM or related field. The Science and Engineering Division is a group of blind students, professionals, and individuals committed to the success of the blind in the fields of science, technology, engineering, mathematics, or a related field. Division members are studying or working in the fields of actuarial science, biology, bio-engineering, civil engineering, computer science, electrical engineering, environmental science, mathematics, physics, and related fields. The Science Division wishes to encourage the success of blind STEM students in their chosen field of study.

**Fifteen National Federation of the Blind Scholarships**—These awards are funded by the collective membership of the National Federation of the Blind to recognize and honor achievement by blind scholars. No additional restrictions.

All scholarships that are awarded to blind women and are not otherwise endowed are made possible by a generous bequest from the estate of Dorothy R. Olson.

Some NFB scholarships are made possible in part through the support of the Jesse and Hertha Adams Charitable Trust. Through the trust, Jesse and Hertha Adams wanted to help people with disabilities lead productive and meaningful lives.

Members of the National Federation of the Blind also wish to thank the following donors for their generous gifts to our 2016 scholarship class:

Independence Science, which gifted each winner with a $1,000 certificate toward the purchase of Independence Science technologies, specifically the new Sci-Voice Talking LabQuest. Independence Science is committed to blind students having hands-on science learning experiences. Independence Science helps to open doors for the blind in the STEM professions;

Google, which added $1,000 cash to each winner’s prize in addition to the newest Chromebook; and,

Dr. Ray Kurzweil and the Kurzweil Foundation, who gave an additional $1,000 grant to each winner. Dr. Kurzweil and the Kurzweil Foundation presented a plaque in Braille and print to commemorate the scholarship award. Ray Kurzweil also bestowed certificates for KNFB Reader Mobile upon all of our recipients.