



Phi Kappa Phi

Chapter 143

Gratia Murphy

First-Year Student Award

Chapter 143 of the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi annually awards a first-year student at Youngstown State University a \$500 scholarship in recognition of past achievements and future academic potential. The award honors the memory of Gratia Murphy, a long-time professor at Youngstown State University who dedicated her career to the success and advancement of students enrolled at YSU.

Chapter 143 of the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi will conduct an essay contest among first-year students to identify the recipient of the award.

To be eligible for this award you must:

- Be a first-year student at Youngstown State University
- Construct a 500-word essay on the given topic
- Fill out the attached award application and submit it with your essay

Essays should be:

- Single-spaced
- 12-point type
- Submitted on standard 8 ½" x 11" paper

Important: Do not put your name on the essay itself.

Your name should only appear on this application form.

Essays will be subject to blind judging.

Deadline: March 1, 2026

All applicants must complete the accompanying application form.

Phi Kappa Phi

Chapter 143

Gratia Murphy Competition Application

Name: _____

Street address: _____

City, state, ZIP: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Attached, please find my 500-word essay responding to the following prompt: The organization of Phi Kappa Phi centers around the idea that education can bring people together and guide them, with our motto being "Let the love of learning rule humanity". Please provide an example of a time when you were able to use what you have learned to overcome an obstacle and/or to bring others together.

Return this form and your completed essay to:

Emilie Brown: egbrown02@ysu.edu

Silvestri Hall, Room 222

Do not put your name on the essay itself.

Your name should only appear on this application form.

Essays will be subjected to blind judging.

Deadline: March 1, 2026