

Jonathan Edward Aukstikalnis Character Recognition Fund, Inc.

Tax ID 83-3605374

65 Burnshirt Road, Phillipston, MA 01331

Phone (978) 895-5762

heidi@jonathanscharacterfund.org

www.jonathanscharacterfund.org



Introduction

Jonathan's home was in Phillipston, Massachusetts. As a young boy, he would play for hours making new things and seeing new ways to use old things around the house as creative inventions. Jonathan also enjoyed being outside, playing with his brother, riding bikes, hiking, sledding, going on adventures, playing soccer, skiing, and hunting. Jonathan also liked going to story hour, karate, church, Sunday school, Boy Scouts, camping, and traveling to Canada. Jonathan attended Phillipston Memorial School, Narragansett Middle School and was accepted at Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School, where he planned to study plumbing. Jonathan provided countless community service hours at the first annual Easter's Great Gathering, the church bazaar, the fall fair, Earth Day clean-up and more. He participated in Narragansett area youth sports, such as t-ball, baseball, basketball and soccer (his favorite!) Jonathan also played on the middle school soccer team, serving as one of the captains in the eighth grade, and playing for Westminster's travel team, the Outlaws.

As a first grader, Jonathan joined scouting as a Tiger Cub, and he moved up the ranks through Boy Scouts, having earned all the required merit badges for the rank of Eagle. Before he could complete his Eagle project, however, Jonathan passed from injuries sustained in an accident at home in 2012. Jonathan's scouting achievements were recognized at the local, state and national levels, when he was awarded the Spirit of the Eagle Award. This award recognizes Jonathan's many years of commitment and dedication to scouting, where he was unable to obtain the rank of Eagle due to his untimely passing.

Throughout his 14 years, Jonathan did many things, met people of all ages, and had a ready smile for everyone. Jonathan would often sit and spend time with others that may have been sitting alone, or stay inside with younger children who wanted to go out with the big kids, and he would hold the door for someone and offer a smile, whether he knew them or not. When asked about why he was coloring with smaller children one day instead of out playing with his friends, he said, "...just because."

Whenever people speak of Jonathan, they speak of his smile and wonderful sense of humor. They also talk about how he quietly achieved, doing what needed to be done. People mostly talk about Jonathan's kindness.

Losing Jonathan was unbelievably overwhelming, and it brought a tremendous sadness to his family and all who knew him, but we wanted to do something positive in memory of a young man who exemplified outstanding character. Initially, family and friends pitched in to award a scholarship to a graduating senior in Jonathan's class; however, we wanted to be able to do more. We decided it would be very fitting to create an organization that would enable us to recognize and support, through scholarship, the academic and social growth of students who give of their time, energy or skill set through service within their school and community. Through much hard work and determination the organization became incorporated, February 2, 2019, and subsequently obtained 501c3 status.

The Jonathan Edward Aukstikalnis Character Recognition Fund, Inc. is a 501c3 public charity created in Jonathan's name to honor the memory of a young man who was known for doing something kind... just because. When completing this application, either for yourself or for someone else, please keep in mind what good character is and what it is about your character that makes you a good candidate for this scholarship.

Character Matters

"... JUST BECAUSE"

When you do something kind,

- You make someone's day a little bit easier
- You make the world a better place
- You set an example for others
- You don't do these things for personal gain or public accolades, do them because it is the right thing to do.

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SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

(Grades K - 12)

Deadline: *Applications must be received at least 2 weeks before sponsorship payment is required.*

Mail to: Scholarship Committee, Jonathan Edward Aukstikalnis Character Recognition Fund, Inc., at the address above. Please refer to the contact information above to reach out with any questions you may have.

Date: _____
(MM/DD/YYYY)

Eligibility: To be eligible, the student applicant or nominee must meet these criteria.
Please initial.

1. ___ **(Circle one)** Student is a resident of Athol, Gardner, Phillipston, Royalston, Templeton or Winchendon.
2. ___ If awarded, the scholarship will be used for academic/social-emotional growth.
3. **Name of person completing form:**

First Name Middle Name Last Name

4. Relationship to student (Choose one):

- | | | |
|--|---|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parent/Guardian | <input type="checkbox"/> Other family member | <input type="checkbox"/> Clergy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family friend | <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher/Paraprofessional | <input type="checkbox"/> Principal |
| <input type="checkbox"/> School Counselor/Guidance | <input type="checkbox"/> Scout Leader | <input type="checkbox"/> Coach |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Self | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ | | |

5. How long have you known your nominee?

- <1 year 1-3 years 3-5 years 6-10 years 10+ years

18. Has the student applicant or nominee volunteered at school or in the community? (Helping others, just because. Please do not include paid positions.)

Please explain. (For more space, please attach an additional sheet).

19. What effort has the student made to raise funds on their own?

20. What will the scholarship be used for? (Mark only one).

- Scout Camp
- Summer/Sports Camp
- Educational Camp
- Specialized Camp
- School-Related Activities
- Other _____

How will this activity build character?

21. Certification Statement:

By signing my name below, I confirm that all of the information provided above and in the accompanying documents is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signed: _____ **Date:** _____