

Josie “Diva” Manalo Candolita-Baria Memorial Scholarship Application

Mata’irea Polynesian Cultural Preservation (MPCP) is dedicated to helping high school graduates of 2025 pursue higher education.

Mission: MPCP is dedicated to the preservation of Polynesian culture while promoting cultural understanding and appreciation through events, education, and community engagement.

Vision: MPCP strives to empower young adults to embark on the next chapter of entering the world as young adults.

Purpose: MPCP’s Josie “Diva” Manalo Candolita-Baria Memorial Scholarship is to offer financial assistance to high school graduates of 2025 entering college for the first time.

Josie’s Background: Josie “Diva” Candolita-Baria was a source of light and had an exuberant optimism about life and love. Her very presence was an example of strength, humor, and confidence. In 2018, Josie was diagnosed with Leukemia and fought with hope and courage until her last days. She was a true champion in Wushu Kung fu, and dancing ‘Ori. She was an even bigger champion off the dance floor through her battle with Leukemia. She brought light to everyone with her positive outlook on life. We hope this scholarship will keep her youthful spirit and wonderful love of life alive for many years. She was a true “Diva”.

Josie “Diva” Manalo Candolita-Baria May 31, 1960 – August 26, 2018

Application Details

All applications and required attachments must be submitted via mail and postmarked on
or before

Friday, September 20, 2024

Criteria for Eligibility

An exclusive panel will review and evaluate applications anonymously using the following criteria:

- Applicants *must* be currently enrolled as high school seniors for the 2024-2025 school year and demonstrate graduation as part of the class of 2025.
- Applicant *must* be an active dancer, drummer, or singer (for at least one year) in a California/Nevada-based Polynesian Dance Group.
- Applicants *must* provide proof of a 2.0 GPA or higher and provide a school transcript or last report card that shows a 2.0 GPA or higher. (“C” average)
- Applicant *must* include **two** Letters of Recommendation. One from the Group Director, and one person within your local community who can attest to the applicant’s capability of transforming their lives and society.

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Applicants *must* submit a 300 to 500-word essay. Essay question:
Discuss how being part of a Polynesian dance group, and giving back to your community has impacted your physical, mental, and emotional well-being.

- The essay must be typed using the following: Arial, Aptos, or Calibri font (choose one), size 12 pt font, single-spaced, with a 1” margin.
- If awarded, the grantee(s) *must* be willing to attend the 5th annual Te Fa’a Nō Te ‘Ori dance competition that will be held on Saturday, October 19, 2024. (Attendance details to follow.
- The number of grantees and the funded amount will vary based on the number of applications received and funding availability.

Please refer to the application eligibility criteria requirements above:

- If any question does not apply to you on the application form, please put “N/A” in the space.
- Please refer to the criteria above for a list of supporting documents needed (i.e., evidence of GPA, recommendation letters, essay, etc.)
Incomplete applications will not be considered.
- Please type or print your answers legibly. (Illegible applications will be returned to you. You can resubmit your application by the **original** deadline, so get them in early!)
- Scholarship grantee(s) will be presented during the closing award ceremony at the 5th Annual Te Fa’a Nō Te ‘Ori dance competition on Saturday, October 19, 2024.
- If you have any questions about the application, contact Yolanda Amen, President of MPCP at Yo@matairea.org

Good Luck to all the applicants!

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Please type or print your answers legibly.

1. Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

2. Mailing Address: Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

3. Daytime Telephone Number (____) _____

4. Email address: _____

5. Date of Birth: Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

6. Name of School currently attending: _____

7. GPA from last junior year semester: _____

8. I hope to be attending the following college/vocational training school in the Fall of 2025:

9. What specialty/major do you plan to pursue as you continue your education?

10. How long have you been dancing/drumming/singing with your halau? _____

11. Please list any volunteer work you've done in your community and any hobbies you may have.

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If you need more space to answer any of the questions, please feel free to add additional pages to complete your answers. Please specify which question the additional answer corresponds with.

Applications must be postmarked on or before **Friday, September 20, 2024 (NO EXCEPTIONS)** and mailed to:

**Mata’irea Polynesian Culture Preservation
947 Windsail Lane
Stockton, CA 95206-6213**

Judging criteria

- The judging panel will be comprised of exclusive leaders in the community.
- MPCP’s Board of Directors will not be on the judging panel.
- Applications will be reviewed anonymously by the panel. The applicant's application and essay will be scored based on academics, achievements, leadership qualities, community service, and personal statements. This will help the panel identify deserving individuals capable of making a transformative impact on their lives and society.
- The top-scoring applicant(s) will be awarded the scholarship.

Activity	Date
Scholarship Release	August 5 th , 2024
Scholarship Application Due	Postmarked by September 20, 2024
Review Panel	Weeks of September 21 – October 4, 2024
Recommendation to the Board of Directors	Week of October 7, 2024
Proposers notified (via email)	Week of October 7, 2024
Presenting of Award(s)	October 19, 2024

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Scholarship Checklist

The following list identifies all items that must be submitted in your application package. Space for marks is provided for your convenience. Please utilize this tool before sending your application package to MPCP.

- ___ Application Form (see page 3)
- ___ Proof of 2.0 GPA or higher (school transcript or last report card from the end of junior year)
- ___ Include a Letter of Recommendation from the Group Director
- ___ Include a Letter of Recommendation from your local community
- ___ Include a 300-500 word essay
- ___ As an applicant, if awarded, you will attend the 5th annual Te Fa’a Nō Te ‘Ori dance competition that will be held on October 19, 2024.