



## **West Orange Scholarship Fund Breaks \$1 Million Mark**

### **Awards Record Amount to Students for Fifth Straight Year**

**June 9, 2014– West Orange, NJ** -- For the fifth consecutive year, the West Orange Scholarship Fund (WOSF) has awarded a record dollar amount of scholarships to deserving high school seniors. A total of 55 graduating seniors will receive \$55,000 in scholarship awards to help fund their future education.

The scholarships were awarded during West Orange High School Senior Awards Night on May 29, 2014. Scholarship winners submitted written applications and were chosen in part based upon financial need, academic performance, extracurricular activities and community service.

“The record amount awarded this year is a tribute to the community’s support and commitment to providing higher education for our West Orange high school students,” said West Orange Scholarship Fund President Rich Rizzolo. “We were especially pleased with the quality of the applications and the high level of excitement the seniors showed on Awards Night.”

There were 87 scholarships awarded in all, including sponsorships by the Nikhil Badlani Foundation, the Parisi Family, the McKeon Family, Kessler Institute for Rehabilitation, Parents Advocating for Special Services in Education (PASSE), Team Capital Bank, Sodexo Food Services, Rotary Club, Lincoln Education Services, Towne Realty and the Bligh Family.

The Nikhil Badlani Foundation awarded four scholarships to need-based graduating seniors who demonstrated strong academic achievement and have participated in music or drama.

“It was our privilege to be part of the record-breaking \$1 million West Orange Scholarship Fund Awards night. The night was to celebrate the students’ commitment, dedication and their

successes. We wish the 2014 Class of WOHS the very best in their future.” Sangeeta Badlani said.

Established in 1923, the WOSF has awarded scholarships to deserving West Orange school students every year since 1925, assisting close to 1,700 students with now over \$1,000,000 since its inception. In 2013, 61 WOHS graduates received more than \$44,000.

The WOSF is a collaboration of an all-volunteer Board of Trustees, who pay their own fundraising expenses, and the West Orange Council of PTAs. All funds raised go to current and future scholarships. Applications are available each year through the WOHS guidance department in February or March and the awards are presented at the end of the school year.

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