Stephen Lynn Smith Memorial Scholarship for Social Justice

*Application*

Stephen Lynn Smith (1944-2009) was born in Cedar Rapids and raised in nearby Marion. A 1963 graduate of Marion High School, he enrolled in the ROTC program at the State University of Iowa (original name for the University of Iowa) that summer, majoring in engineering. Perhaps influenced by the 1963 March on Washington that August, Steve embraced the Civil Rights Movement. He soon joined the local chapter of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee and in 1964 participated in Freedom Summer, an effort to register African Americans in Mississippi to vote. He was one of over 800 volunteers from across the country.

In March 1965, he organized and led an eight-day hunger strike in downtown Iowa City, in support of Civil Rights workers in Selma, Alabama. An anti-war activist, Steve burned his draft card in the Iowa Memorial Union in October of that year, only the second person in the nation to do so after such protest was criminalized by an act of Congress; he was the first to do so on a university campus. For more information see:

<https://now.uiowa.edu/2012/07/old-gold-steve-smith-following-his-conscience>

Two awards of $2500 each will be given during the spring 2021 semester to students demonstrating a commitment to the principles of social justice and progress.

This scholarship is renewable. If the current award recipient continues to meet eligibility criteria, they must submit a new application each year to be considered for this award.

**Applications must include:**

* **Application Form**
* **A one-page statement** describing your academic or career goals, and some ways in which these reflect a concern for social justice.
* **Two letters of recommendation**.
* **Unofficial transcripts of UI coursework**

Please return application materials electronically via email to [laura-kastens@uiowa.edu](mailto:laura-kastens@uiowa.edu) by February 1, 2021.

Name: Click here to enter text

University ID#: Click here to enter text

Address: Click here to enter text

E-mail address: Click here to enter text

Phone Number: Click here to enter text

Hometown: Click here to enter text

Major Department/s: Click here to enter text

Years of study at The University of Iowa: Click here to enter text

Letters of recommendation will be received from:

1. Click here to enter name
2. Click here to enter name