



News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Thursday, June 9, 2016

Two Students Awarded Bjugstad Scholarship

PIERRE, S.D. — Sydnie Peters and Wade Gesinger have each been awarded a \$500 Bjugstad Scholarship for the 2016-17 academic year by the South Dakota Board of Regents.

The Ardell Bjugstad Scholarship Program for Native American Students was established by the family of Ardell Bjugstad of Rapid City. Bjugstad, who died in 1990, served as a range scientist with the U.S. Forest Service for 20 years, and held adjunct professorships at South Dakota State University, South Dakota School of Mines & Technology, and Oglala Lakota College. He was a strong advocate for young Native Americans working to educate themselves, and he worked closely with Oglala Lakota College in mentoring Native American students through the U.S. Forest Service.

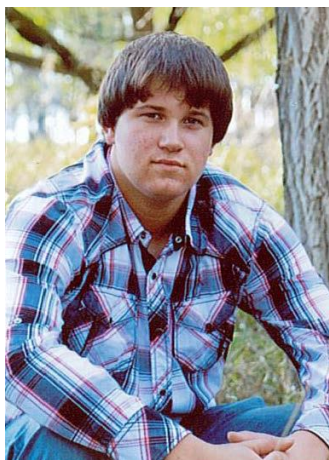
In order to qualify for the Ardell Bjugstad Scholarship, a student must be an enrolled member of a federally recognized Native American tribe with reservations in North or South Dakota, attend a postsecondary institution, and pursue studies leading to a degree in agribusiness, agricultural production, agricultural sciences, or natural resources.

Peters, a member of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe, graduated from Winner High School with a 4.0 grade point average. She plans to major in agricultural education at South Dakota State University. Gesinger, a member of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, graduated from Miller High School. He plans to attend Lake Area Technical Institute to major in energy technology.

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Sydnie Peters



Wade Gesinger