

PURPOSE

To promote an understanding of the labor movement vital contributions to this nation's economic, social and political fabric.

SCHOLARSHIP ELIGIBILITY

Tom Wagner Memorial AND

Theo Sabin Meyer Memorial:

Students who will graduate from high school in 2025, either accepted, registered or enrolled as a full-time student in a post-secondary program. The applicant must be a union member, dependent of a union member or grandchild residing in the home of a union member in good standing of a local union affiliated with the Erie-Crawford Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO.

John "David" Dever Memorial Scholarship:

Students must be either an incoming first year student or current undergraduate in 2025 at Gannon University and either a member or dependent of a member of a union affiliated with the Erie-Crawford Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO and maintaining a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher.

All applicants shall be required to apply for all other forms of financial aid available at Gannon University.

ESSAY QUESTION

The modern United States Labor movement emerged in 1886 with the foundation of the American Federation of Labor and the Congress of Industrialized Organizations in 1955. Joining the AFL-CIO 1965 is one of the many pro-labor groups who protect people from unfair and unsafe working conditions. Please describe the impact of unions and relevant laws in one of the following areas:

40 hour work week	Job Security
Living Wages	Worker Compensation
Workplace Safety	Health Benefits
Support retired workers	

APPLICATION PROCESS

To enter please submit a 500-word essay answering the topic above. Essays should be submitted as a pdf file or word document and void of identification. The subject line of the email must identify which scholarship is related.

For signature verification and union affiliation, please attach the completed scholarship application and send it to: **ericcrawford CLC@gmail.com** AND printed documents to

**Erie-Crawford CLC, AFL-CIO
32 West 8th St, Suite 502
Erie, PA 16501**

*If you email your application and essay, you must also mail the documents.

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE:
Wednesday, April 30, 2025**

**PRESENTATION:
Wednesday, May 21, 2025**

Erie-Crawford Central Labor Council AFL-CIO



Tom Wagner Theo Sabin Meyer & John "David" Dever Memorial Scholarships Application



Tom Wagner (1952-2010)

Memorial Scholarship, Award-\$500

Tom Wagner served as President of Local 101 of the International Association of Machinists (IAM) – which is now part of IAM 1968.

Shortly after becoming a delegate to the Erie-Crawford Central Labor Council (CLC), Tom served as Erie-Crawford CLC’s Corresponding Secretary. He passionately supported the Community Service Committee as Co-Chair. A “kid at heart,” Wagner’s favorite Community Service activities were the annual Christmas Programs for children, which included the distribution of dozens of wrapped presents. Due to his college study in communications, Wagner served capably as the editor and publisher of the Erie-Crawford CLC newsletter. His hours of effort to perfect the publication (including many late nights) reached well beyond the members of the CLC. Tom’s skillful writing and insights helped the wider community understand the important role which labor plays in the region.

Wagner’s death, after a short illness in March 2010, represented a sad loss for the Erie-Crawford CLC and the region.



Theo Sabin Meyer (1890-1986)
Memorial Scholarship, Award-\$750

Theo Sabin Meyer, began her career in teaching and found success later in life as a union organizer. Theo founded the Erie, PA chapter of the Women’s International League, which

attracted the attention of leaders in the AFL-CIO. The Women’s International League is the oldest active peace organization in the world. Meyer was recruited to use her skills to advocate for labor beyond northwestern



John “David” Dever (1942-1981)
Memorial Scholarship, Award-\$500

David Dever graduated from Cathedral Prep in 1960 and attended Gannon University. He joined Fenestra Corporation and became a member of United Steel Workers Local 3872.

Dever’s photographic memory, love of debate, and commitment to labor led him to serve as a union steward. Dever served for 12 years as USW 3872 President before becoming a Staff Representative and Organizer. Dever collaborated with others and served as delegate to both the Central Labor Union and Industrial Union Council, AFL-CIO. A member of the United Labor Leaders, Dever served on the executive board of the United Way. Dever encouraged community support through public service.

David led by example and served as a member of the Community Service Committee with both his local and council organizations. He worked with the State Police of Erie and Crawford County for 27 years, served as a National Guard Reservist for 14 years, and volunteered with the PA Public Interest Coalition. Dever’s efforts were both pragmatic—he helped to found the Erie Community Credit Union—and symbolic. He advocated for a labor monument to memorialize workers who were injured or died while working. Because he died at age 39, Dever never saw the monument dedicated in Perry Square. David truly “made a difference” for all of us.

organize in Aliquippa, PA, and fought for women’s rights. She challenged the practice of sending children to jobs, instead of to school. She was also a spirited and courageous speaker. It is reported that she delivered remarks to President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, while he led the United States through the Great Depression and World War II (1933-45). Meyer’s 20th-century efforts to champion the rights of workers, women and children inspires social justice reform even today.

PLEASE FILL OUT THIS FORM LEGIBLY AND MAIL IT WITH YOUR ESSAY

NAME:	E-MAIL ADDRESS:	PHONE #:	
HOME ADDRESS:			
HIGH SCHOOL NAME:	HIGH SCHOOL ADDRESS:		
POST-SECONDARY INSTITUTION:			
NAME OF UNION MEMBER:	UNION AFFILIATION: (LOCAL UNION NAME & NUMBER)		
RELATIONSHIP TO UNION MEMBER:			
APPLYING FOR?:	<input type="checkbox"/> JOHN “DAVID” DEVER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP <input type="checkbox"/> THEO SABIN MEYER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP <input type="checkbox"/> TOM WAGNER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP		
LOCAL UNION OFFICIAL’S SIGNATURE:	LOCAL UNION OFFICIAL’S TITLE:		