



LOWELL THOMAS SWEENEY & NINA G. SWEENEY SCHOLARSHIP

In the spring of 2021, the Clarinda Foundation will be awarding for the first time the *Lowell Thomas Sweeney and Nina G. Sweeney Scholarship* to a Clarinda High School 2021 graduate. Nina had made provisions for this scholarship within her estate planning.

Lowell Thomas “Tom” Sweeney was born on January 28, 1915 in Tappen, North Dakota, and passed away on December 17, 2000 in Clarinda, Iowa. Tom attended school and two years of college in Sheldon, Iowa. He was a boxer in the Golden Gloves and won the Iowa Title, Bantam Weight in 1935. Tom was active in the arborist profession over 50 years. He practiced mainly in the Chicago suburban area. He studied the profession at Davey Tree and went on to operate his own business.

Nina Grace (Damewood) Sweeney was born on December 4, 1919 in Clarinda to George Alfred and Grace (Rogers) Damewood. After Nina’s graduation from high school she joined her sister-in-law in the Chicago area finding work as a bookkeeper. She met Lowell “Tom” Sweeney and they were married on March 2, 1942, and she was his bookkeeper. They lived in the Chicago area until retiring to Clarinda in the mid-1990’s. Nina enjoyed gardening, canning and baking. This scholarship was established through Nina’s estate planning and will continue award scholarships for many years to come.

The following guidelines will be used in making the scholarship selection:

1. The scholarship shall be used to assist with the cost of tuition at an accredited trade/vocational school, college or university.
2. The Clarinda Foundation shall disburse the scholarship grant to a trade/vocational school, college or university indicated by the recipient in one payment prior to the beginning of the fall semester of year in which the scholarship is awarded.

3. The selection committee shall consist of a minimum of five individuals: 1) one individual named by the Clarinda Foundation (who shall serve as chair of the committee); 2) the Clarinda Community High School Principal; and 3) three Clarinda High School faculty.
4. The selection committee reserves the right to not award the scholarship should they determine that no applicant is worthy.
5. The application must be typed or computer generated and shall include an essay addressing the following:
 - a. Trade/Vocational school, college or university the graduate plans to attend or those that they are considering.
 - b. The intended major of the graduate and why they have chosen this as their major.
 - c. The graduate's contributions to their high school and the community.
 - d. Any work history the graduate may have.
 - e. The graduate's extracurricular activities.
6. The scholarship shall be awarded without regard to race, color, creed, gender, nationality, origin or physical handicap.