

The St. Olaf Alumni Awards

Statement of Purpose

The St. Olaf Alumni Awards are given to nominated alumni who exemplify the ideals and mission of the College. The statement, which accompanies the award, is:

The Board of Regents of St. Olaf College and the St. Olaf College Alumni Association, in recognition of outstanding achievements, bestow the St. Olaf Alumni Awards on those alumni whose accomplishments have brought honor to self and to the College; whose service and leadership have exemplified its ideals; and whose concern for St. Olaf has supported and strengthened its program.

A. The Alumni Awards serve several purposes:

1. To honor alumni who exemplify fulfillment of the College mission
2. To inspire students and other alumni through role models
3. To exhibit and publicize the success of the College program as reflected in its alumni
4. To encourage support of the College program from alumni and parents who, through the achievements of alumni, are reminded of the strengths and benefits of St. Olaf's liberal arts program.

B. The mission of the college serves as a framework for selecting Award candidates:

St. Olaf, a four-year college of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, provides an education committed to the liberal arts, rooted in the Christian Gospel, and incorporating a global perspective. In the conviction that life is more than a livelihood, it focuses on what is ultimately worthwhile and fosters the development of the whole person in mind, body, and spirit.

Now in its second century, St. Olaf College remains dedicated to the high standards set by its Norwegian immigrant founders. In the spirit of free inquiry and free expression, it offers a distinctive environment that integrates teaching, scholarship, creative activity, and opportunities for encounter with the Christian Gospel and God's call to faith. The College intends that its graduates combine academic excellence and theological literacy with a commitment to life-long learning.

St. Olaf College strives to be an inclusive community, respecting those of differing backgrounds and beliefs. Through its curriculum, campus life, and off-campus programs, it stimulates students' critical thinking and heightens their moral sensitivity; it encourages them to be seekers of truth, leading lives of unselfish service to others; and it challenges them to be responsible and knowledgeable citizens of the world.

C. Award candidates are selected primarily through the evaluation of the individual's accomplishments and qualifications. Secondary consideration is given to the balance among recipients in a given year.