

Scholarship Recommendation Form

Instructions: Thank you for being a recommender for the PCAFPD scholarship. Recommendations are used as part of the selection process. Please type your information below and provide a digital copy to the applicant for submission. Hand written responses will not be accepted.

Recommender Information

Name: SARMIENTO, LESTER

Relationship to applicant: REGISTRAR

Organization/School: ST. AUGUSTINE COLLEGE

Email address: lasarmiento@amaes.edu.ph

Applicant Information: Use additional pages as needed

Name: HIROTA, KENSHIN D.

Current School: MANUEL S. ENVERGA UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION

Recommendation

Greetings of Prosperity and Peace!

“Thank you, Jomar, for being an irreplaceable piece in my journey. You will always be a part of my story.” These were the final words Kenshin Hirota spoke in his valedictory speech, a speech he hastily rewrote in the dead of night after the world as he knew it was shattered by the sudden loss of his best friend. Jomar’s tragic accident, just one day before their graduation, would have broken the spirit of many. But Kenshin, in his quiet strength, chose to honor his friend not with tears alone, but with a message that resonated with every soul present that day.

As the Registrar at St. Augustine College, I have had the chance of observing many students navigate their educational journeys. However, few have left a mark as indelible as Kenshin Hirota. While his academic achievements are impressive, sure, graduating as valedictorian while leading our student body is great but personally, I believe it is his character which was forged through adversity and demonstrated through acts of kindness, that truly distinguishes him.

His mother and him faced unimaginable experiences. The stress of his mother’s illness took a toll not just financially but emotionally as well. Kenshin became the primary caretaker, balancing his school responsibilities with hospital visits, medication schedules, and household chores. There were nights when he stayed up late, not studying, but watching over his mother, afraid that the next breath she took might be her last. It’s a burden no teenager should bear, but Kenshin did so without complaint, driven by a love for his mother and a determination to make something of himself for her sake. He supported himself through academic commissions, earning just enough to keep the lights on and food on the table. Can you not love this lad? Yet, even as he struggled, he never allowed these problems to overshadow his commitment to his education and community.


Lester A. Sarmiento
Registrar

Date: 8/2/2024

One of the most profound examples of Kenshin's character is his involvement in the *Community Outreach Program 2023*, themed *Extending Love: A Helping Hand Community for the Elderly*. This was a deeply personal endeavor for Kenshin. I remember he was motivated by the memory of his late grandfather, who once told him that "*In the end, only kindness matters.*" He really poured out his heart into this project. He saw in the elderly the wisdom and tenderness that his grandfather embodied and made it his mission to honor them in the most meaningful way possible. Feel free to check this event in our school's student council page managed by our very own president. Its FB name page is 'SAC Lucena – Supreme Student Government.' In this project, he served as a key organizer and contributor to the program. Drawing from his two years of experience as the senior high school president, he took the lead in planning and coordinating the event, to ensure that every detail was arranged properly. From documenting the day's events with photos and creating layouts to purchasing thoughtful prizes for the elderly games and raffle, Kenshin's contributions were irreplaceable. He also played a significant role in packing and distributing goods, making sure that each package was prepared with tender love and care. Kenshin's heart has always been in service of lifting others. If I remember correctly, he was also the Sangguniang Kabataan leader in his respective barangay.

To add, it is undeniable that he has an interesting personality. He is always surrounded by friends, and many students seek his help and attention. I learn something new every time I have a conversation with him and feel fortunate to have had the chance to be his school registrar at his time.

Kenshin Hirota has made history at St. Augustine College with several remarkable firsts. He was the first student leader to successfully advocate for a student body Facebook page, enhancing communication and engagement. He was also the first to implement meaningful projects that supported both students and the community. Most impressively, Kenshin is the first student to graduate with a 99 average, a testament to his exceptional dedication and academic excellence. Undoubtedly, his journey is far from over, and I have no doubt that the chapters yet to be written will be as inspiring as those he has already lived. I therefore wholeheartedly and enthusiastically recommend that he be accepted to this scholarship.


Lester A. Sarmiento
Registrar

Date: 8/2/2024