Harry P. Cain Memorial Scholarship
2021-22 Academic Year

Submit completed applications to Student Financial Services by March 31, 2021

Harry Cain was born in January 1906 in Nashville, Tennessee, and moved to Tacoma with his parents while very young. His interest in public administration came from his early education. Harry worked for Franklin Roosevelt’s election and became president of the local Young Democrats. He was elected Mayor of Tacoma in 1940 and served a two-year unexpired term. In 1942, he won reelection by the largest majority ever given a mayoral candidate in the city’s history. Because of WWII, he took a leave of absence and became a major in the U.S. Army. In 1945, with the war over, Harry won a seat in the U.S. Senate. After losing his Senate seat in 1952, Harry taught political science at Yale University and then moved to Florida to become commissioner for Dade County until losing his bid for reelection in 1976 at the age of 70. Harry continued to believe in and work for civil liberties until his death in 1979.

A major underpinning of his public service was his continual interest in individuals and their rights. He believed in causes, unpopular or not. Harry always said what he felt, whether it was in his political best interest. If he believed in something, he supported it without regard to the potential consequences. Because of this interest in helping the “underdog,” this scholarship is awarded to students who have a strong interest in the rights of individuals and a willingness to defend tough positions or causes.

Friends and family of Harry Cain established the Harry P. Cain Memorial Scholarship. A $2,900 scholarship will be awarded for 2021-2022 to a currently enrolled undergraduate student who plans to enter the field of public administration or public service and who demonstrates the following:

- Deep commitment to service in the community, specifically to individuals in need and human rights.
- Proficiency in public speaking.
- Courage to publicly defend personal principles even if opposed by the majority.

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Please attach the following:

1. A brief description of your intended career plans.

2. A brief description of your involvement in extra-curricular activities.

3. A brief essay of approximately 250-500 words on an experience when you spoke in a public forum about beliefs, which may have been unpopular among the majority present. Describe the group, setting, mood, and issues. Were you effective and in what way? How might you approach it differently in a future situation?

By submitting this application, I agree that if I am selected for this scholarship, the university may supply information regarding my academic performance and other information (such as, but not limited to the information submitted with this application) to the scholarship donor or other individuals or groups involved with the administration of this scholarship.

Signature: ________________________________ Date: ________________