

Preserving, Enhancing, and Celebrating the **Blue Ridge Mountains**

Jane Pratt Blue Ridge Mountains Education Award

Friends of the Blue Ridge Mountains was founded nearly a decade ago to preserve and protect the treasured and historic conditions of that mountain range. Jane Pratt helped create and expand FBRM after she had established The Mountain Institute to protect mountains globally by improving the sustainability of their ecosystems and involving the people of mountain cultures in these activities. One of her goals was to encourage local students to become more knowledgeable about the importance of mountains and more involved in protecting the Blue Ridge. This award is one key element in that endeavor and now granted in her memory.

The "Jane Pratt Blue Ridge Mountains Education Award" is presented annually to a High School senior who satisfies the following requirements. An eligible candidate will be required to write an essay on their commitment to environmental stewardship and protection of the Blue Ridge Mountains, and:

- 1. Is currently enrolled in or has completed an environmental studies/biological sciences program with a B grade average or better.
- 2. Demonstrates a clear commitment to environmental stewardship through participation in school projects, internships, and community activities.
- Has performed a minimum of 8 hours of volunteer service during their senior year working directly on projects on the Blue Ridge Mountains sponsored by FBRM or like-minded environmental organizations; opportunities are available through FBRM.
- Receives unanimous endorsement to receive the Award from representatives of the High School and FBRM at least three weeks prior to the Award ceremony in the Spring.

Award Benefits

- 1. Award winner receives a framed prize certificate presented at the High School at a time determined to be convenient. This event will be covered in local papers.
- 2. Award winner receives a \$1000 scholarship toward college tuition.