

## PURPOSE

To foster an understanding of the labor movement's vital contributions to this nation's economic, social and political fabric.

## SCHOLARSHIP ELIGIBILITY

### **Tom Wagner Memorial & Theo Sabin Meyer Memorial:**

Students who will graduate from high school in 2023. Award recipient must be accepted or registered as a full-time student in a post-secondary program. The applicant must be a union member, or a dependent child of a union member, or grandchild residing in the home of a union member in good standing of a local union affiliated with the Erie-Crawford Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO.

### **John "David" Dever Memorial Scholarship:**

Recipient of this scholarship must be an incoming freshman of undergraduate student in 2023 at Gannon University, who is either a member of or dependent of a member of a union affiliated with the Erie-Crawford Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO and maintaining a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher.

All applicants shall be required to apply for all other forms of financial aid available at Gannon University.

## ESSAY QUESTION

The labor movement in the United States was born in the early 20th century to protect workers from unfair and unsafe working conditions. Please describe the impact of unions and any relevant laws in one of these areas: (choose one)

- |                        |                 |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| Aid to injured workers | Living wages    |
| 40 hour work weeks     | Job protection  |
| Workplace safety       | Health benefits |
- Support for retired workers

## APPLICATION PROCESS

To enter please submit a 500-word essay answering the topic above. Essays must be typewritten (in Blue or Black ink), double spaced on 8 1/2" X 11" white paper, and void of identification. Please attach the completed scholarship application form to your essay and mail to:

**Erie-Crawford CLC, AFL-CIO  
32 West 8th St, Suite 502  
Erie, PA 16501**

Essays can be e-mailed (if typed in MS word) to [ericrawfordclc@aol.com](mailto:ericrawfordclc@aol.com) but the original printed essay & application form with signatures must still be mailed for verification of union affiliation.

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE:  
FRIDAY APRIL 21, 2023**

**PRESENTATION:  
SATURDAY MAY 13, 2023**

## **Erie-Crawford Central Labor Council AFL-CIO**



## **Tom Wagner Theo Sabin Meyer & John "David" Dever Memorial Scholarships Application**





**Tom Wagner (1952-2010)**

**Memorial Scholarship, Award-\$500**

Tom Wagner, served as President of Local 101 of the International Association of Machinists (IAM) – which is now part of IAM 1968.

Wagner, shortly after becoming a delegate to the Erie-Crawford Central Labor Council (CLC), demonstrated his willingness to advocate on behalf of all labor by serving as Erie-Crawford CLC’s Corresponding Secretary. Passionate in his support of Community Service, Wagner served as that committee’s Co-Chair. A “kid at heart” Wagner’s favorite Community Service activities were the annual Christmas Programs for children, which included the distribution of dozens of wrapped presents. Due to his college study in communications, Wagner served capably as the editor and publisher of the Erie-Crawford CLC newsletter. His hours of effort to perfect the publication (including many late nights) were not known beyond a few members of the CLC. However, his skillful writing attracted readership beyond CLC membership and helped the wider community understand the important role labor plays in the region. Wagner’s death, after a short illness in March 2010, was a sad loss for the Erie-Crawford CLC and the region.



**Theo Sabin Meyer (1890-1986)**  
**Memorial Scholarship, Award-\$750**

Educator Theo Sabin Meyer, after her marriage to Ludwig G. Meyer, left teaching and began organizing. Her success in founding the Erie, PA

chapter of the Women’s International League, attracted the attention of leaders in the AFL and the CIO. Meyer was recruited to use her skills to advocate for labor beyond northwestern Pennsylvania.

Meyer helped coal miners organize in Aliquippa, PA, and fought for women’s rights. She challenged the practice of sending children to jobs, instead of to school. She was also a spirited and courageous-speaker. It is reported that she delivered remarks to President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, while he led the United States through the great depression and World War II (1933-45). Meyer’s 20th century efforts to champion the rights of workers, women and children inspires social justice reform today.



**John “David” Dever (1942-1981)**  
**Memorial Scholarship, Award-\$500**

In 1960, after graduating from Cathedral Prep, Dever attended Gannon, then joined Fenestra Corporation and USWA 3872.

Dever’s photographic memory, love of debate and commitment to labor led him to serve as a union steward. Dever served for 12 years as USWA 3872 President before becoming Staff Representative- & Organizer. Willing to collaborate with others, Dever served as delegate to both the Central Labor Union and Industrial Union Council, AFL-CIO. A member of the United Labor Leaders, Dever served on the executive board of the United Way Labor Leaders. Aware of labor’s growing struggles during the latter part of the 20th century, Dever encourage- aged community support through public service.

Leading by example, Dever served as a member of the Community Service Committee with both his local and the council organizations; he worked with the State Police of Erie and Crawford County for 27 years, served as a National Guard Reservist for 14 years and volunteered with the PA Public Interest Coalition. Dever’s efforts were both pragmatic he helped to found the Erie Community Credit Union - and symbolic - Dever advocated for a labor monument- Because he died at 39, Dever never saw the monument dedicated in Perry Square. Though his life was short, Dever “made a difference.”

**PLEASE FILL OUT THIS FORM LEGIBLY AND MAIL IT WITH YOUR ESSAY**

<b>NAME:</b>	<b>E-MAIL ADDRESS:</b>	<b>PHONE #:</b>	
<b>HOME ADDRESS:</b>			
<b>HIGH SCHOOL NAME:</b>	<b>HIGH SCHOOL ADDRESS:</b>		
<b>POST-SECONDARY INSTITUTION:</b>			
<b>NAME OF UNION MEMBER:</b>	<b>UNION AFFILIATION:</b> <small>(LOCAL UNION NAME &amp; NUMBER)</small>		
<b>RELATIONSHIP TO UNION MEMBER:</b>			
<b>APPLYING FOR?:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>JOHN “DAVID” DEVER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>THEO SABIN MEYER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>TOM WAGNER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP</b>		
<b>LOCAL UNION OFFICIAL’S SIGNATURE:</b>	<b>LOCAL UNION OFFICIAL’S TITLE:</b>		