

The Christine Erin Stamile Youth Award Winner Miss McKenzie Williams

by Judy Heath

I am very proud to introduce you to Miss McKenzie Williams. McKenzie became the seventh recipient of the Christine Erin Stamile Youth Award at the AHS National Convention in Cincinnati this year.

McKenzie is the 16-year-old daughter of Eric and Judy Williams and the granddaughter of Don and Lea Ann Williams. McKenzie is a junior at Mater Dei high school in Evansville, Indiana and lives with her parents and two brothers. McKenzie stays very busy with many school activities and has two part time jobs. She is a Youth member of the Daylily Enthusiasts of Southern Indiana.

McKenzie is no stranger at the Region 2 and AHS National meetings. She has been attending with her grandparents for many years. As a youth member, she is always ready to help and talk to everyone. If you hear laughter, it is very possible McKenzie is there!

The Christine Erin Stamile Youth Award gives the winner a Life Membership in the AHS. McKenzie submitted an essay and pictures of her daylily collection and explained why she enjoys growing daylilies. A panel of judges evaluated and selected the winning application.

Our hats are off to McKenzie, "a super young lady."



McKenzie Williams
Image: Allen McLain

The AHS Youth Committee Members vote for the following award: Christine Erin Stamile Youth Award (1996)

The Christine Erin Stamile Youth Award was initiated by Patrick and Grace Stamile to honor the memory of their daughter Christine. She was a Life Member of the AHS who once expressed the thought that a Life Membership gives, to its holder, daylilies for that person's "whole life." In keeping with this thought, the award presently funds one Life Membership in AHS each year to a qualified AHS Youth Member.

The rules of eligibility and application are as follows:

- ◆ The applicant must be a current Youth Member and must have held AHS membership for at least two consecutive calendar years prior to receiving the award.
- ◆ The applicant must grow and maintain a personal collection of daylilies; no minimum number of cultivars is required.
- ◆ The applicant must submit the following material:
 - √ An essay of any length, in the Youth Member's own words, explaining how the collection began.
 - √ A statement, in the Youth Member's own words, telling of the personal enjoyment of growing daylilies.
 - √ Ten photographs from the Youth Member's own collection. These photographs must include
 - one example of an individual bloom.
 - one example of a clump.
 - one example of a garden view which includes a part of the Youth Member's collection.

The remaining photographs may be of the Youth Member's own choosing.

Instructions for applying are published in the Winter issue of The Daylily Journal and the Fall/Winter issue of the Youth News newsletter. All material (essay, statement, and photographs) should be mailed to the current AHS Youth Committee Chairman, postmarked no later than March 31 of the year in which the award selection will be announced. If requested, all material will be returned upon completion of the judging.

The AHS Youth Committee members will evaluate the entries and select the winning applicant by vote. The award will be presented at the AHS National Convention.

Source: AHS *Judging Daylilies* Handbook, A1-3, Personal Awards.