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NARA Launches 2nd Annual Rendering Scholarship Program

ALEXANDRIA, VA, April 28, 2026 – The North American Renderers Association (NARA) is proud to announce the launch of its 2nd Annual Rendering Scholarship Program, continuing its commitment to supporting and developing the next generation of leaders in the rendering industry. Building on the success of the inaugural program, which awarded a single scholarship, NARA is expanding the initiative in 2026 to recognize up to three outstanding students pursuing careers connected to sustainability, agriculture, and related fields.

The NARA Rendering Scholarship is designed to encourage students to explore the important role of rendering within the agricultural supply chain and circular economy. Open to students enrolled in or accepted to a college, university, or trade school across the United States, Canada, and Mexico, the program welcomes applicants from all disciplines, with a strong emphasis on those studying agriculture, environmental science, animal science, food systems, or sustainability-related areas.

Each selected recipient will receive a \$2,500 scholarship, awarded based on academic achievement and demonstrated interest in the rendering industry. Applicants are required to submit a completed application, academic transcript, proof of enrollment, and a 500-word essay exploring the importance of rendering in today's world. The program aims not only to provide financial support, but also to raise awareness of the industry and inspire students to consider careers that contribute to sustainability and resource efficiency.

“NARA is proud to invest in the future of our industry by supporting students who are passionate about sustainability and innovation,” said Kent Swisher, NARA President, and CEO. “Expanding the scholarship program in its second year allows us to recognize even more talented individuals who will help shape the future of rendering.”

With this expanded scholarship program, NARA continues to strengthen its commitment to education, outreach, and workforce development - helping ensure a strong future for the rendering industry while promoting its value across the broader agricultural community.

For more information and to apply, visit: <https://nara.org/about-us/nara-rendering-scholarship/>.

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About the North American Renderers Association

The North American Renderers Association (NARA) represents the interests of the North American rendering industry to regulatory and other governmental agencies, promotes the greater use and beneficial reuse of animal byproducts and UCO, and fosters the opening and expansion of trade between foreign buyers and North American exporters. In addition to its U.S.-based headquarters, the association maintains offices in strategic locations around the world. NARA publishes the bi-monthly trade magazine *Render* and provides research, policy development, and educational resources on rendering and recycling operations. For more information, visit www.nara.org