

Velma Derbyshire Art Scholarship

The act of giving is nothing new, and it is interesting to see the history behind funds. Some funds affiliated with the Northern Indiana Community Foundation were created such a long time ago, that the history behind them can be hidden at times. It is important that these funds be brought into light and acknowledged for the difference they have made in their community.

A great example of history is the Velma Derbyshire Art Scholarship. This scholarship united with the foundation in 2001 but was originally started in 1968 by Harriet Ann Hale. Harriet wanted Velma's love for art and her legacy to live on forever. So, she originally executed a Declaration of Trust with The Peru Trust Company, now known as Well Fargo Bank. Her intention was to award scholarships to Peru High School students who intended to study fine arts or art education at a college-level institution. This scholarship was then transferred to the Northern Indiana Community Foundation under the terms that Harriet administered.

Velma Derbyshire, a loving family woman and a dedicated member of the Peru community. Velma graduated from Manchester college and had a career as a supervisor of art in the Peru City schools. She was an active member in multiple organizations: Delta Theta Sorority, Phi Delta Kappa Auxiliary, Literary Club, and the First Christian Church.

The Velma Derbyshire Art Scholarship is provided to Peru High School students planning to study fine arts or art education at a higher level. At the end of every school year, two scholarships of no less than \$100 are provided to students. The community foundation ensures that Velma's name, and Harriet's desire, are always met. Their legacy will live on forever.