

## Ohio State offering new scholarship for Fremont Ross students

[Daniel Carson](#), Fremont News-Messenger Published 1:30 p.m. ET Jan. 8, 2019 | Updated 5:35 p.m. ET Jan. 9, 2019



*(Photo: Contributed by the Ohio State University College of Education and Human Ecology)*  
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COLUMBUS - Fremont Ross High School students who wish to attend the Ohio State University and study to become elementary school teachers got a welcome boost to their efforts this week, thanks to a former student known for her previous philanthropy.

The Ohio State College of Education and Human Ecology announced that Wanda Neeley Coldiron, a 1948 Fremont Ross graduate and also an OSU alumni, had donated money for a new scholarship geared toward freshmen education majors from Ross HS.

Robin Chenoweth, OSU's College of Education spokesperson, said Monday this is the first Coldiron scholarship fund set up at Ohio State.

Coldiron and her husband, Arnold, have made several high profile donations to Terra State Community College, including a \$1 million gift in 2013 toward the college's Ronald L. Neeley Conference and Hospitality Center.

The couple live in Aurora.

Chenoweth said the school's development officer approached Coldiron about funding the scholarship in 2017.

In the OSU Board of Trustees June 8 meeting minutes, it is noted that the scholarship was set up with a \$1,008,472 endowment from Coldiron.

It will be called the Wanda Neeley Coldiron Education Endowed Scholarship Fund.

According to OSU, Coldiron's 2018 gift to Ohio State's College of Education and Human Ecology will pay for undergraduate tuition plus room and board for college freshmen from Ross High School who are enrolling in education.

Recipients must have a high school GPA of 3.5 or above and plan to study kindergarten through fifth-grade education at Ohio State. (Studies can include English language arts and special education.)

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In a release, the college noted that Coldiron won a scholarship to OSU, studied at the university's College of Education, became a teacher and traveled the world.

"My friend said coming to a college will completely change our lives," said Coldiron. "And she was right. It really broadens you so much."

The deadline to apply for the Wanda Neeley Coldiron Education Endowed Scholarship has been extended to May 1 so that students who apply and are accepted to the university later can still be considered.

Chenoweth said the scholarship includes tuition plus room and board. Priority for the scholarship will be given to freshmen.

She said the overall value of the scholarship varies depending on the courses taken and the dorms where students live.

[Collegesimply.com](#) calculates it at about \$22,000 for Ohio State, Chenoweth said.

She said students can reapply for the scholarship in successive years if they continue to meet the criteria.

The scholarship is available to students who will be enrolled in the fall semester of 2019.

The Coldirons gave Terra State Community College its largest donation ever recently in December 2013 with their \$1 million donation.

The Coldirons donated the money in memory of Wanda Coldiron's brother, former graphics professor Ron Neeley, who died in 2006.

That \$1 million was to be used to maintain the center and pay for equipment used in all of Terra's academic programs

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