



Recommendation Form

The Armstrong Scholars Program, sponsored by the Joie Armstrong Memorial Fund*, brings selected participants together for a summer adventure and educational experience in the spectacular Sierra Nevada mountains of California. This extraordinary program seeks to inspire young women, ages 15-18, to reach their highest potential and develop a stronger sense of self, community and connection to the natural world. A 12-day backpacking trip demands participants to challenge themselves both physically and emotionally. Participants hike 5 to 12 miles a day, with a backpack that may weigh up to 40 pounds, over challenging terrain such as rugged trails, boulder fields, high mountain passes and snow slopes. The self-transformation of each participant through these challenges is well supported by our curriculum and two female educators.

Twelve young women will be selected to participate in the program. We are seeking applicants from a variety of ethnic, economic and geographic backgrounds. Participants from last year found the diversity of life experiences represented in the group to be a significant strength of the program. **Demonstrated academic success is less important than a clear sense of how the program will truly benefit the individual.**

Please fill out this recommendation form honestly to the best of your ability. Feel free to use the back or answer questions digitally, then return to the applicant or mail directly to Yosemite Institute: Armstrong Scholars Recommendation, RE: Applicant Name, P.O. Box 194, El Portal, CA 95318.

Name: _____ Student Name: _____

Address: _____ Date: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____ Employer: _____

How long have you known the applicant? In what context?

In what ways is this applicant outstanding compared to her peers? What are her strengths?

How does the applicant get along with others?

How do you think this applicant can benefit from the Armstrong Scholars program?

In what areas do you think this applicant would struggle with the Armstrong Scholars program?

Do you have any special concerns about this applicant's abilities to participate in the Armstrong Scholars program?

Is there anything else you would like to share about the applicant?

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____