The Benjamin Rosenberg Cohen Scholarship provides funding for undergraduate students at the University of Montana who are pursuing Wilderness Studies through the Wilderness and Civilization program. This scholarship was established in loving memory of Ben Cohen by his wife, Connie Cohen. Ben contributed tremendously to the state of Montana. After taking forestry and geology courses at the University of Montana, Ben worked both as a wilderness guard in the Bitterroot National Forest and as an engineer for the Forest Service in Whitefish. While in Whitefish, Ben was elected to the state House of Representatives and served four terms from 1984 to 1992. In addition, Ben owned, operated, and “grew” North Valley Refuge for twenty years, where he pioneered curbside co-collection of trash and recyclables in the Flathead Valley. Ben loved the outdoors—to ski, swim, hike, and play soccer and rugby. Ben contributed generously to Montana, his community, and his family.

The Wilderness and Civilization program is interdisciplinary semester-plus program designed to complement any major. In this program, students learn how the ecology, politics, history and culture of a place interact and shape conservation efforts. The program combines classroom and field learning, small class size, and internship experience for an in-depth exploration of wildland issues and human/land interactions. The program leads to a Wilderness Studies minor.

Scholarship and Application Details:

Amount Available: One award up to $700 - $1000 each year.

Available to: An incoming student to the Wilderness and Civilization program who demonstrates academic ability. Any major is eligible.

Application Must Include: (1) A cover letter that explicitly addresses your interest in this scholarship and academic ability. (2) A completed Wilderness Institute General Scholarship Application. (3) Two letters of recommendation. One letter must be from a university-level faculty member. If applying for multiple Wilderness Institute scholarships, the same two letters of recommendation may be used for all applications.

Application Due: May 15, 2015

Send Completed Applications to: Wilderness Institute, College of Forestry and Conservation University of Montana, Missoula, MT 59812

For More Information: Rachel James, Wilderness Institute 406-243-6916 rachel.james@umontana.edu