

DONALD PHELPS CHRISTMAS GRANT

PURPOSE

The ***Donald Phelps Christmas Grant (DPCG)*** is a philanthropic endeavor of Christmas Décor by Utopian Landscapes, started in 2009. Each year a deserving member of the community in which Utopian Landscapes operates will be selected to have the exterior of their home lit for the holidays free of charge. Candidates for the ***DPCG*** may be nominated by any member of our community who would like to recognize a friend or neighbor who deserves a helping hand and a useful honor.

CRITERIA

The ***DPCG*** is not a conventional philanthropic gift or donation and it can not necessarily be awarded under the same criteria as one. Utopian Landscapes looks to help individuals or families who are considered deserving based upon personal hardships, financial or merit conditions depending on the situation. Anyone familiar with the program may nominate any community member who is facing exceptional hardships and could stand to use a helping hand. The annual winner of the ***DPCG*** is chosen from the nominees by a committee including the president, investors, and customers of Christmas Décor by Utopian Landscapes.

BACKGROUND

The ***DPCG*** is named in memory of Donald Phelps, the late grandfather of Christmas Décor by Utopian Landscapes president, Nikos Floros Phelps. Donald Phelps, better known as Pappou to his grandson, was a man who truly loved the holidays and what they represented – a time to celebrate with family and friends. In the summer of 1993, Nikos and his grandparents went on a trip to the West together. Shortly after returning, his Pappou lost his battle with pulmonary fibrosis at the age of 68. The family told Nikos that his Pappou had held on for this trip because of how important it was to be with family. The gesture was one of the best gifts anyone could have ever given and is part of the inspiration behind this award. The style and appearance of the Holiday Lighting is clean-cut and precise – exactly as Pappou would have liked it.

The ***DPCG*** became a reality thanks to the actions of a client who had purchased Holiday Lighting services for a neighbor whose parents had lost their house in a fire and whose daughter was chronically ill, in an effort to ease their burden during the holiday season.

DECORATED FAMILY PROGRAM

PURPOSE

The ***Decorated Family Program (DFP)*** was started by the Christmas Décor organization several years ago to provide some holiday cheer to a family with a loved one serving away from home in the military. Christmas Décor by Utopian Landscapes is bringing this program to the Harrisburg area and is inviting nominations of qualified families.

CRITERIA

Anyone familiar with the program may nominate any community member with a loved one who will be deployed during the Christmas season, particularly those that are facing hardships and need a helping hand. The winner of the ***DFP*** will be chosen from the nominees by a committee including the president, investors, and customers of Christmas Décor by Utopian Landscapes.