

McHenry County Historical Society

2020 Nancy Fike Scholarship Checklist and Application

INSTRUCTIONS: The application packet must be complete and arranged in the order listed below. All original transcripts, letters of recommendation, and other required documents must be received by MCHS by April 10 in a single package. The application package must be stapled or paper clipped in the top left hand corner. **Incomplete or nonconforming applications will not be considered.**

ELIGIBILITY: The Nancy Fike Scholarship is open to graduating seniors attending any McHenry County high school who have a **minimum GPA of 3.0** and who plan on **studying history, education or the social sciences**. Children and grandchildren of MCHS Board members and staff are not eligible.

CHECKLIST:

Scholarship application

Essay of at least 500 words – Topic:

This April marks the 50th anniversary of Earth Day. On April 22, 1970, 20 million Americans – 10 percent of the population at the time – took to the streets, high school and college campuses, and hundreds of cities to advocate for the protection of our planet. The first Earth Day is credited with launching the modern environmental movement.

A half century later it is worth evaluating how far this movement has come, where it has fallen short, and where it is headed. Students, such as Greta Thunberg of Sweden, have taken the lead in demanding new environmental action on issues such as global warming, over-reliance on fossil fuels, degradation of ground water, and urban sprawl. This is particularly true here in McHenry County, where ecotourism and agriculture can be at odds with economic development and the promise of new jobs.

Analyze some of the environmental challenges still facing our county and state. How have our towns and county dealt with environmental issues previously? What should we be prepared to do in terms of conservation and stewardship, and what are the tradeoffs? What sacrifices can we realistically make to protect our planet? If applicable, what are you and your school doing to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Earth Day?

PLEASE CITE YOUR SOURCES.

Original high school transcript

Letters of recommendation (at least two, one from a faculty member or administrator at the applicant’s school, and another from a community representative)

Documentation of community service and involvement

List of extra-curricular activities, honors received and scholastic achievements

APPLICATION

Name of Student: _____

Email address: _____

Telephone numbers: Home: _____ Cell: _____

Address, City, State, ZIP: _____

Intended major or field of study: _____

College/university (if known): _____

GPA (also class rank and SAT/ACT if known): _____

AWARD PROCEDURES: Applicants will be notified of the Society’s decision by May 1. The decision regarding the award is conditional until the applicant meets all the following requirements: The applicant must be accepted to a college or university by May 1, and notify MCHS where he or she will attend, as MCHS will pay the scholarship

funds directly to the school on behalf of the scholarship winner. All applicants consent to the use of their name, image and story for MCHS press releases, presentations and other materials. All applicants further agree, should they be selected as the winner, to attend one MCHS board meeting for a presentation ceremony as well as to invite a MCHS representative for a presentation at their high school's honors event. If the conditional scholarship winner does not fulfill the above requirements, MCHS reserves the right to award it to another worthy applicant.

The McHenry County Historical Society does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, creed, national origin, sex, sexual conduct or orientation, gender identity/expression, disability, or any other legally protected class under state or federal law when considering scholarship applications.

Date submitted: _____

FOR OFFICIAL MCHS USE ONLY:

Date received: _____

By: _____

DNQ and reason: _____