

McHenry County Historical Society

2023 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 – either in a hard copy or digitally. **Incomplete or nonconforming applications will not be considered.**

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

CHECKLIST:

Scholarship application

Essay of at least 500 words – Topic:

As we approach the 250th anniversary of our independence in 2026, the hallmark of our representative democracy – free and fair elections – has come under recent scrutiny and question. Share your thoughts about the importance of fair and transparent elections at every level, and the repercussions should the process be undermined. In other words, what is the importance of free and fair elections to a representative democracy? What should be done to ensure the right to vote? For example, should the Voting Rights Act of 1965 be renewed?

PLEASE CITE YOUR SOURCES.

Official copy of your seventh-semester high school transcript or latest college transcript.

List community involvement/volunteer work

Leadership responsibilities

Work experience

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 5, 2023. The decision regarding the award is conditional until the applicant meets all the following requirements: The applicant must be accepted to or attending a college or university by May 5, 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 *after* the successful

completion of one semester. The scholarship award must be used for the upcoming school term, barring extraordinary circumstances.

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: _____