

St. Andrew Scottish Society of New Mexico

Scholarship Policy

OVERVIEW: The St. Andrew Scottish Society of New Mexico, hereinafter referred to as “the Society” or “SASSNM,” seeks to perpetuate an interest in the culture of Scotland and to encourage the study of Scottish history, literature, and the performing arts. It maintains a scholarship fund, separate from general funds for accounting purposes, and provides financial support to individuals who seek to further his or her education in areas including, but not limited to, singing, dancing, piping, drumming, reciting poetry, and speaking Scots Gaelic.

APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY: Applicants must be New Mexico residents. Both members and nonmembers of the SASSNM may apply and are equally eligible. Successful applicants who are nonmembers may be also given a free one-year Individual or Student membership to the SASSNM. Current board members are not eligible, and a board member who resigns early will remain ineligible until his or her elected term of office would have ended. Scholarship recipients and their immediate families are not eligible to apply again for three years.

PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY: Any workshop, course, or school program related to Scottish arts and culture is acceptable, including singing, dancing, piping, drumming, reciting poetry, or speaking Scots Gaelic. The SASSNM will contribute only to the actual course fee; no travel, books, or supplies will be covered. The payment by the SASSNM will be made directly to the school/training institution; individual applicants are not eligible for reimbursement to them for tuition or fees that they have already paid.

CRITERIA: An intermediate or advanced course of study is preferred to a first-time/beginner one, the intention being to support those who are developing skills rather than trying something new.

AMOUNT: Scholarships will be up to a \$500 maximum per recipient. The Board will set a limit on funds distributed per year to avoid depleting the Scholarship Fund.

APPLICATION PROCESS: An application form is provided for applicants to supply information about themselves, the planned course/workshop, etc. Personal references will also be requested.

TIMELINE: The application must be postmarked at least 60 days before the start date of the course/workshop etc. to allow time for processing and payment.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE: Applications will be reviewed by a standing committee comprised of the Scholarship Committee Chairperson and the SASSNM Board of Directors.

RATING: Applicants who meet the eligibility requirements (as stated in APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY) shall be rated based on the following criteria:

Does the applicant have good references (from teachers/fellow artists) for dedication, talent, and potential? 0–20 pts

Is/are course/workshop/school, curriculum, and teachers well-respected? 0–20 points

Is course at least intermediate level? 0–10 points

Total of 50 points possible; in general, applicants who receive fewer than 35 points will be rejected.

PAYMENT/FOLLOW-UP: Payment will be made directly to the school/training institution, with no exceptions. A letter will accompany the payment that describes the scholarship and states that the funds should be refunded directly to the Society if the course is not participated in or completed for any reason. The recipient is responsible for providing the necessary information for payment to the SASSNM Treasurer. Recipients are expected to report back on what they have learned, for example, by giving a report at a general or Board meeting or other Society gathering, and/or an article for the Society newsletter. If this is not practical, the recipient may instead submit official paperwork showing that the course/workshop was satisfactorily completed.

REJECTED APPLICATIONS: An applicant whose application is ineligible or rejected will receive notification in writing with an explanation of the reason.

March2013

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Scholarship Application

APPLICANT INFORMATION: (Applicants must reside in New Mexico)

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

SCHOOL/WORKSHOP/SEMINAR INFORMATION:

Name of School: _____

Location: _____

Course: _____

Dates: _____

(Please attach a brochure/flyer/catalogue page/advertisement that would be helpful in the evaluation of your request.)

REFERENCES: Please list three people the Scholarship Committee may contact who can address your present skill level or knowledge/interest in the subject to be studied, e.g. your dance instructor, music teacher, college professor, etc.

Reference #1:

Name: _____ Email: _____ Telephone: _____

How does this person know you? _____

Reference #2:

Name: _____ Email: _____ Telephone: _____

How does this person know you? _____

Reference #3:

Name: _____ Email: _____ Telephone: _____

How does this person know you? _____

In the space below, or attached as a separate page, please write a short paragraph in 100 – 300 of your own words explaining how you would use the experience of attending the school, workshop or seminar for which you are applying for this scholarship to benefit others interested in Scottish cultural preservation, and particularly members of the St. Andrew Scottish Society of New Mexico.

____ Yes, I have read the accompanying Scholarship Policy.

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please mail completed application to: St. Andrew Scottish Society of New Mexico
Attention: Scholarship Committee
P.O. Box 37288
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87176-7288