

Western Reserve Artist Blacksmith Association

Educational Scholarship Fund

PURPOSE

The intent of the Western Reserve Artist Blacksmith Association Scholarship Fund is to provide member blacksmiths and/or immediate family member of WRABA with a means of assistance toward the development of their interests, skills and abilities. Applicants for the scholarship must possess a strong desire for the continued and serious investigation of the blacksmith craft. Beginner and Novice blacksmiths must demonstrate a history of legitimate interest in the blacksmith craft and commitment to the Western Reserve Artist Blacksmith Association.

ARTICLE I

Background and Funding: WRABA Scholarship funds will be obtained from donations, raffles, membership dues and special fund raising projects. The Board of Directors may transfer funds from the general fund to the Scholarship Fund at its discretion. All scholarship monies shall be deposited and secured in an interest bearing account. No single scholarship monetary award shall exceed \$250.00. Scholarship awards shall be limited to a maximum of two awards within the immediate family of a WRABA member annually. The total number of scholarships to be awarded annually will be determined by the scholarship committee and presented to the Board of Directors for their final approval.

ARTICLE II

Eligibility: Any member in good standing of the Western Reserve Artist Blacksmith Association, who has been a member at least one year prior to his/her application will be eligible for a scholarship. Applicants are responsible for obtaining proper information about the available relevant courses, events and workshops. Applicants for a scholarship award shall submit a written application including a description and scope of what course of study is to be attended. The application may include photographs, slides, drawings or physical examples of their work. In the event that the intended course or workshop is canceled, the recipient must submit a second choice to the scholarship committee for consideration. Scholarship recipients shall not be eligible for another scholarship award for the next two calendar years following fulfillment of the recipient obligations and responsibilities listed below. Scholarships will be considered for award to ABANA and SOFA conferences. Applicant members or family members under the age of 18 must have the approval signature of a parent or guardian.

ARTICLE III

Selection Criteria: (1) Evidence will be presented to the scholarship committee that the applicant possesses a strong desire for continued and serious investigation of the craft. If a

novice or beginner blacksmith, the candidate must demonstrate that he/she has a history of commitment and a legitimate interest in the blacksmith craft. (2) Quality of work as demonstrated by visual materials submitted with application. The level of blacksmithing ability will be given consideration for the possible waiver of this requirement. (3) A record of professional conduct, support activities and achievement in the blacksmith craft [if applicable to the individual]. (4) Demonstrated involvement and personal commitment to the Western Reserve Artist Blacksmith Association. Membership in the Western Reserve Artist Blacksmith Association is required. WRABA is dedicated to availing the Scholarship Fund to all qualified members without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, or pregnancy.

ARTICLE IV

Deadlines: Written applications for scholarship shall be submitted to the scholarship committee chairman in person, by postal mail or by electronic mail. Recipients shall be notified of application status within 30 days and results publicized in the WRABA newsletter. Scholarships must be used within eight months of their initial approval.

ARTICLE V

Scholarship Committee/Board Actions: Scholarship recipients shall be screened and selected by the Scholarship Committee and their application submitted to the Board of Directors for final approval. Board members and Scholarship Committee members applying for a scholarship shall be excluded from the selection and decision process regarding themselves or their immediate family members.

ARTICLE VI

Fund Usage: Scholarship funds shall be used to attend recognized schools, workshops, classes, specific conferences or similar approved events related to the blacksmithing field. Scholarship funds may be used to cover the cost of tuition, travel, and room and board. Travel expenses may be reimbursed up to the maximum scholarship amount awarded. As scholarship funds may not cover all costs associated with the training to be attended, other expenses incurred shall be the sole responsibility of the recipient.

ARTICLE VII

Recipient Obligations and Responsibilities: The scholarship recipient agrees to complete three of the four following obligations: (1) Within four months following completion of the course, conference or workshop, the recipient shall submit a written "How To" article with photos, if possible, for publication in the WRABA newsletter. (2) Recipients shall personally demonstrate some technique(s) learned at a scheduled WRABA hammer-in within six months following completion of the event. (3) Scholarship recipients may personally make and donate a completed project demonstrating course technique(s) and accumulated learned skills to be included in the WRABA "Iron in the Hat" auctions. All proceeds from such sales shall be deposited directly into the WRABA Scholarship Fund. (4) Recipients shall participate in three

separate WRABA volunteer projects during the year. (workday, conference, demonstrations, hammer-in, outreach event, or other similar WRABA approved events at Burton or at other locations defined by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VIII

Penalties for Non-compliance: Failure to comply in a timely manner with the terms and conditions of this scholarship award agreement will subject the recipient member to loss of WRABA membership privileges.

ARTICLE IX

Modifications: The rules established in this scholarship program may under extenuating circumstances be modified or amended by the Scholarship Committee at any time following approval by the WRABA Board of Directors.

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Application Form

Please print or type all application materials clearly so that they can be reproduced for review.

A **Name** _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Telephone - Eve () _____

Telephone - Day () _____

Fax () _____

E-mail _____

Type of blacksmithing most interested in: _____

Skill level: _____

B **Have you applied to WRABA for a scholarship before:** Yes _____ No _____

If yes, date you applied: _____ **Results:** _____

C **Describe the study program for which you are seeking scholarship funding.**

Please include instructor information and location/date of the workshop, etc., along with course brochure.

D Define your objectives in undertaking this study. Include how this study will offer you a potential to enhance your blacksmithing techniques and improve your design and artistic capabilities:

E Detail the costs of the program for which you are asking assistance and how much you are requesting from the WRABA Educational Scholarship Fund:

Amount requested from WRABA (\$250.00 maximum): \$ _____

Your estimated expenses:

Tuition Registration Fees \$ _____

Travel \$ _____

Lodging \$ _____

Meals \$ _____

Other (describe in detail) _____ \$ _____

TOTAL EXPENSES \$ _____

I, the undersigned, have received a copy of the recipient obligations, and understand and agree with the terms and conditions of this scholarship award.

Applicant Signature (WRABA member)

Date:

REQUIRED 3 of 4 OBLIGATIONS

DATE COMPLETED

**1. Written detailed “how to” article
for the WRABA newsletter**

2. Demonstration at a WRABA hammer-in

3. Make and donate a piece to the WRABA auction

4. Complete 3 approved volunteer project/service/workdays
