



## **ARTS FOR LIFE!**

### **2014-2015 Scholarship Application**

*Arts for Life!* annually awards \$2,000 scholarships to 25 graduating high school seniors who demonstrate excellence in creative writing, dance, drama, music or visual art. Launched by former First Lady Columba Bush in 1999, the program has awarded scholarships to more than 375 gifted high school seniors.

#### Application Period:

October 1, 2014 – February 2, 2015

#### Eligibility:

Students who are graduating from a public, private, or virtual high school or a home education program in Florida in 2015.

#### Application Process:

Students must submit a completed information form (page 6), signed release form (page 7), brief essay explaining "How the arts have positively influenced my life" and portfolio of work in creative writing, dance, drama, music or visual art. Applications must be postmarked on or before February 2, 2015 and mailed to:

Foundation for Excellence in Education  
Arts for Life!  
P.O. Box 10691  
Tallahassee, FL 32302

#### Selection Process:

A committee of judges for each of the five disciplines, comprised of respected experts, reviews and scores the students' essays and work samples. Students with the top scores in each discipline are awarded a scholarship. Winning seniors will be notified in the Spring of 2015.

#### Award Process:

Scholarships will be awarded to winners at a luncheon in their honor. Recipients are invited to perform or exhibit their artwork during the event.

#### College Matching Program:

In addition to the program's \$2,000 cash award, winners will be automatically eligible to receive a matching in-kind scholarship worth a minimum of \$1,000 if they attend one of the participating Florida institutions for higher education: Broward College, College of Central Florida, Flagler College, Florida Atlantic University, Florida College, Florida Institute of Technology, Jacksonville University, Nova Southeastern University and Stetson University.

#### More Information:

For more information, please contact Lisa K. Raguso, *Arts for Life!* Program Director, at (850) 345-6284 or [Lisa@ExcelinEd.org](mailto:Lisa@ExcelinEd.org).

## **General Guidelines**

### Portfolio:

- Content must be appropriate for general audiences. Submissions with nudity or profanity may be disqualified if deemed in poor taste.
- Content must be original and current (less than one year old).
- All materials must be labeled with applicant's name.
- Submitted portfolios will not be returned to applicants.
- There are specific portfolio requirements for each discipline. Failure to follow these requirements could result in disqualification.

### Essay:

- Applicants are required to submit an essay on "How the arts have positively influenced my life".
- Essay should be 500 words or less.
- Typed double-spaced in standard font, such as Times New Roman, 12 point.

### Resume:

- Applicants may submit a resume to be included with their application, though it is not required.
- Resume may list employment, extra-curricular activities, volunteer activities and awards.

## **Application Checklist**

A completed application includes:

- Originals of the items listed below:
  - Applicant Information Form
  - Artist Release Form signed by the applicant or legal guardian
  - Resume
  - Essay
- Portfolio of work

## Portfolio Requirements

**Visual Art:** All forms of visual art are eligible, such as drawings, paintings, sculpture, photography and mixed media. Film and television production are not eligible.

Parameters:

- Do not send original artwork. Original artwork will not be judged and will not be returned.
- Provide five (5) images of different artwork from the current or most recent school year on a CD-Rom.

Format:

- Save images on a CD-Rom as a JPEG file and label each image with applicant's last name and title of artwork.
- Enclose a sheet of paper with the following information listed for each piece:
  - Applicant's Name
  - Title of work
  - Dimensions
  - Medium
  - Date created

**Music:** Instrumental and vocal performances are eligible.

Parameters:

- Provide two contrasting pieces up to 5 minutes maximum (both pieces together are not to exceed 5 minutes).
  - Applicants may select a movement from a larger work or portion of a single-movement work.
- Recorded performance must be current (within the last year).
- Performance should show command of technique (e.g., appropriate tone, expression, style and performance skills).
- Before the performance begins, state your name and the name of the pieces you are performing.
- Appropriate accompaniment is allowable.
- Electronically enhanced performances will not be considered.
- Group performances will not be considered.

Format:

- Provide performances on CD or DVD.
- Provide written score only if music is your original composition.
- Label CD or DVD with:
  - Applicant's name
  - Instrument or voice
  - Name of selection
  - Date recorded

**Dance:** Forms of dance, such as ballet, modern, jazz and hip hop are eligible. Ballroom dancing and figure skating are not eligible.

Parameters:

- Provide two contrasting pieces up to 5 minutes maximum (both pieces together are not to exceed 5 minutes).
- Recorded performance must be current (within the last year).
- May be original choreography by applicant or any other choreographer.
- Before the performance begins, state your name and the name of the pieces you are performing.
- Costumes are not allowed.
- Group performance pieces will not be considered.

Format:

- Provide performances on DVD.
- Camera should be fixed and stationary with full body visibility.
- Film against a neutral background.
- Label DVD with:
  - Applicant's name
  - Dance genre
  - Date recorded

**Drama:** The drama category encompasses theatrical performances, musical theatrical performances and theater set/costume designers.

Parameters:

- For set/costume designers, provide a slideshow of images with written descriptions from your designs in a production.
- For performers, provide two contrasting pieces up to 5 minutes maximum (both pieces together are not to exceed 5 minutes), either:
  - Two monologues, or
  - One monologue and a piece that showcases singing voice and, if applicable, movement, dance and choreography.
- Recorded performance must be current (within the last year).
- Before the performance begins, state your name and the name of the pieces you are performing.
- Costumes are not allowed.
- Group performances will not be considered.

Format:

- Provide performances on DVD.
- Camera should be fixed and stationary with full body visibility.
- Film against a neutral background.
- Label DVD with:
  - Applicant's name
  - Name of selections
  - Date recorded

**Creative Writing:** Four forms of creative writing are eligible, including creative nonfiction, playwriting, poetry and short story.

Parameters:

- Content must be appropriate for general audiences. Submissions with profanity may be disqualified if deemed in poor taste.
- Content must be original and current (less than one year old).
- Applicants may submit a portfolio in only one category.
- There are specific portfolio requirements for each form of creative writing below. Failure to follow the instructions below could result in disqualification.

Creative Nonfiction: 16 or less pages

- Provide up to three (3) creative nonfiction prose pieces, including memoirs, literary journalism and personal essays. Submissions that resemble term papers, book reports or specific class assignments will not be considered.

Playwriting: 16 or less pages

- Provide up to three (3) scripts for dramatic performance in any medium, including excerpts of scripts that include a brief description of the complete work and how the excerpt fits into the whole piece.

Short Story: 16 or less pages

- Provide up to three (3) short stories.

Poetry: 10 pages

- Provide up to six (6) poems.

Format for all creative writing portfolios:

- Typed single-spaced in standard font, such Times New Roman, 12 point, on white letter sized paper (8½ x 11), using only the front side of each page.
- Stapled in the upper left hand corner and not placed in any type of binder.
- Label each piece with:
  - Applicant's name
  - Title of the piece
  - Date written



## Application Form

**DEADLINE: Postmarked on or before February 2, 2015**

For Office Use Only  
ID# \_\_\_\_\_

**Please type or print:**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: Florida Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (     )                      E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Weighted Grade Point Average: \_\_\_\_\_

**Discipline:** Please check the box for your discipline.

- Visual Art                       Dance                       Music  
 Drama - Circle one: Monologue   Musical   Technical  
 Creative Writing - Circle one: Creative   Nonfiction   Playwriting   Short Story   Poetry

**School Information:** Please check one.

- Public School               Magnet School               Charter School  
 Private School               Virtual School               Home Education               Other

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: Florida Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: (     ) \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher's Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Principal's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Principal's Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please indicate your plans for future study (College/University and Major):**

\_\_\_\_\_



## Artist Release Form

The Foundation for Excellence in Education, shall have the right to reproduce, exhibit, and otherwise use the submitted work, in whole or in part, in any manner whatsoever in all media without limitations. A parent/guardian signature is necessary if the subject is under the age of eighteen.

Artist Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

The release must be signed by a parent or guardian of the applicant. (Please print).

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

The release is entered into with my agreement and consent.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_