

East Tennessee History Day Scholarships

Sponsored by the East Tennessee Historical Society and Randy and Jenny Boyd

The East Tennessee History Day Scholarships are made possible through a gift to the East Tennessee Historical Society from Randy and Jenny Boyd. A first and second place scholarship are presented annually to high school students who participate in East Tennessee History Day (a district competition for Tennessee History Day and the National History Day program) with an entry on an East Tennessee History topic which features quality primary sources.

First place will be presented with \$3,000. It will be awarded \$1,500 per college semester for one year in September and January upon receipt of proof of enrollment. The second \$1,500 will be contingent upon satisfactory achievement for the first semester (3.00 grade point average as documented by transcript).

Second place will be presented with \$2,000. It will be awarded \$1,000 per college semester for one year in September and January upon receipt of proof of enrollment. The second \$1,000 will be contingent upon satisfactory achievement for the first semester (3.00 grade point average as documented by transcript).

These scholarships are not limited to graduating seniors in high school. However, they are not payable until the winning students are enrolled in college and fulfill the above requirements. It is the responsibility of the winning students to keep the East Tennessee Historical Society informed of any permanent address changes between the time of award and college enrollment.

PROCEDURES: Applications and Awards

I. Immediately following East Tennessee History Day, all high school students who participated will be notified of their eligibility for the scholarships by the District Coordinators. A summary of requirements will also be provided when they receive their awards, as well as being available online at www.easttnhistory.org. The students will be encouraged to apply for this award.

II. Each applicant for the scholarships shall submit his/her application to East Tennessee History Day Coordinator, East Tennessee Historical Society, P.O. Box 1629, Knoxville, TN 37901-1629 at least ten days prior to the Tennessee History Day state competition. The date for Tennessee History Day can be found at www.tennesseehistoryday.org.

III. Each applicant shall include the following letters:

* A letter to the East Tennessee Historical Society requesting consideration for the scholarships. The letter must contain the student's future academic plans, an explanation of their reason for choosing their East Tennessee History topic and what they learned from the experience with their project, a general discussion of their interest in history, and a discussion on the impact of the National History Day program on their interest in history and future plans.

* At least two and no more than three letters of recommendation; one from a teacher or administrator in the applicant's school and one from a person active in the applicant's community. One additional letter may be included. References should detail their knowledge of the applicant's interests, community service, activities in the historical community, future goals, and other strengths.

IV. Each application shall include an official transcript from the student's high school.

V. Each application shall include a copy of the student's process paper and annotated bibliography from his or her National History Day entry, a digital or photographic representation of his or her entry, and any other supplemental materials relative to the entry.

VI. All applicants shall be available for an interview if requested (at a time convenient for applicants).

VII. In the event the first place scholarship winner does not fulfill the requirements, the second place scholarship winner will move to first place. The Scholarship Committee will select an alternate who will receive the second place scholarship.

VIII. Certificates describing the scholarships shall be awarded at the Annual Meeting of the Membership of the East Tennessee Historical Society if scheduling allows.

IX. Upon registration for their college freshman year—in August or September—the scholarship recipients shall provide the East Tennessee History Day Coordinator with evidence of enrollment. A check for half of the scholarship amount will then be mailed to the recipients at the permanent address on file with the Society. The same process shall be followed for the second semester provided the students maintain a 3.00 grade point average in the first semester and provide both proof of registration and a transcript in the second semester.

X. All information submitted by the applicants will be kept confidential by the Society and the Scholarship Committee.

PROCEDURES: Judges and Judging

I. The East Tennessee Historical Society's Scholarship Committee shall act as judges for this scholarship. A Boyd family representative and an appointee from the East Tennessee Historical Society Board of Directors shall chair the committee.

II. The East Tennessee History Day Coordinator shall forward applications for the scholarship to members of the committee to review in advance of a final decision for the scholarship awards.

III. The Scholarship Committee will formally meet as many times as necessary to consider the applications, select finalists, interview finalists if required, and make the final decision for the scholarship awards.

IV. Substitute judges may be appointed by the East Tennessee Historical Society Executive Director, if regular committee members are unable to fulfill their commitments.

V. Judging will be on the basis of the information presented in the applications plus a possible personal interview of applicants by the committee. In addition to participation in the East Tennessee History Day competition the year of the award, previous participation in History Day projects on the district and state levels can be considered by the judges. Previous as well as the current year's Tennessee History Day competition results can also be considered by the judges.

VI. Judging Criteria:

- 50% of the judging will be based on the strength of the current year History Day entry and research, as documented in process paper and annotated bibliography.
- 25% of the judging will be based on the student's application letter (i.e. their explanation for choosing their topic and what they learned from the experience with their project, as well as a general discussion of their interest in history and the National History Day program), letters of recommendation, and any previous participation in the National History Day program.
- 25% of the judging will be based on the applicant's transcripts and future academic plans.

VII. Besides the scholarship recipients, the judges shall select one alternate who shall meet all of the qualifications and who will receive the second place award if the second place winner advances to first or is unable to fulfill the requirements. Contact information for the alternate will remain on file at the East

Tennessee Historical Society for seven years. Alternates are asked to make sure they update permanent address information if necessary.

VIII. Scholarship awards will be finalized by late spring unless extended by action of Scholarship Committee.

IX. Judging will be fair and objective. Judges' decisions will be final.