



P.O. Box 6415

North Augusta, SC 29861



**NORTH AUGUSTA CULTURAL ARTS COUNCIL  
&  
ARTS & HERITAGE CENTER OF NORTH AUGUSTA  
2025 FINE ARTS SCHOLARSHIPS APPLICATION**

The North Augusta Cultural Arts Council (NACAC), a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization, was founded in 1996 by a group of North Augusta citizens to support artists and art organizations and sponsor projects that enhance the arts in the North Augusta community. Funds come from patrons of the arts through donations collected throughout the year at local cultural events and solicited from businesses and citizens in the area. The *Fine Arts Scholarship* is awarded annually to a graduating high school senior. Beginning in 2023, this scholarship became jointly funded by the NACAC and the Arts & Heritage Center of North Augusta (AHCNA) which was founded in 2009 with permanent gallery and museum space in the North Augusta Municipal Building. The AHCNA is also a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization, funded through memberships, grants and donations in support of regional artists, arts and historical organizations.

In 2019, the first *Max Gazda Endowed Scholarship* was awarded and in 2023, the first *Bigger Memorial Endowed Scholarship* was awarded. This application will be used to evaluate and select recipients for all three art scholarships.

To-date, thirty-six recipients have been awarded a total of \$34,500.

Scholarship applicants must be attending high school (public, private, charter, or home school) and priority will be given to applicants residing in the Aiken County Area II School District. He/she must demonstrate excellence in an art form. Eligible applicants must intend to enroll in an accredited college, university, or other institution of formal education in the fall of 2025 to pursue a major or minor in one of the art disciplines.

All applications are reviewed by a Scholarship Panel comprised of members of the NACAC Board of Directors. If there is no qualified candidate who resides in the Area II School District, the Scholarship Panel may select a candidate who resides in the greater North Augusta area. Demonstrated artistic talent is the primary criterion for selection.

Application assistance is available through the NACAC website [www.naartscouncil.org](http://www.naartscouncil.org) or by contacting the Scholarship Committee at [wbrucewilson@icloud.com](mailto:wbrucewilson@icloud.com). The submittal deadline for all required material is Friday, March 28, 2025. Scholarship winners will be announced in May 2025.

# 2025 FINE ARTS SCHOLARSHIPS APPLICATION

**Application Submittal Deadline: Friday, March 28, 2025**

**Please submit the following:**

1. Application Information Page found in the application.
2. Two letters of recommendation, one of which must be from a teacher, with both letters being mailed directly to the Scholarship Panel. The second letter should be from an individual with specific knowledge of the applicant's special talents and abilities in his/her art form, and should address the following:
  - Recent accomplishments
  - Demonstrated willingness to work toward improvement
  - Some estimation of potential level of achievement
3. Essay from applicant stating his/her plans for higher education, career goals, and reasons for applying for this scholarship. Include information that would inform the Scholarship Panel about you as an artist.
4. Listing of awards received and activities that applicant participates in, both on and off campus.
5. Current transcript from applicant's high school guidance office.
6. Letter of acceptance from an accredited college, university or other institution of formal training.
7. Work Sample that demonstrates the applicant's abilities:
  - **Music – Instrumental or Voice** – An audio or video file on flash drive, 3-6 minutes in length. Music selection should reflect technical proficiency as well as interpretive skills. Titles and composers of selections must accompany the audio sample. Original compositions may be included. Applicant must be identified if performing in an ensemble.
  - **Dance** – A video file on flash drive, 3-6 minutes in length. The choice of choreography should reflect both technical proficiency and interpretive skills. A brief description of the pieces performed must accompany the video sample. Applicant must be identified if dancing in an ensemble.
  - **Theatre** – A video file on flash drive, 3-6 minutes in length. Other individuals may be in the scene(s), but the applicant's role should be primary. Titles and names of author(s) of selections must accompany the video. Applicant must be identified if performing in ensemble. Original scripts may be included.
  - **Visual Arts** – A portfolio provided on flash drive with 3-6 original pieces showcasing the applicant's talent. The portfolio may contain work from more than one medium. Background information, including medium used, date completed, and awards received should accompany the portfolio.
  - **Literary Arts** – Writing sample of fiction, poetry, or nonfiction, not to exceed 20 pages. Single-spaced for poems, double-spaced for fiction or nonfiction. Also, one-act or full-length plays may be submitted. The work must be original. The manuscripts must be typed. Label the manuscript with your name and list the title(s) and completion date(s) of the piece(s) submitted.

**Return completed application to:**

**Scholarship Panel  
North Augusta Cultural Arts Council  
P. O. Box 6415  
North Augusta, SC 29861**



*By submitting this application, I certify that the information provided is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. If questions about the application occur or the Panel must break a tie in the selection process, applicants could be called for a personal interview. Falsification of information may result in termination of any scholarship granted. I also certify that I have read the instructions and will comply with all requests for transcripts and/or change of plans.*

**Applicant's Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Checklist:**

Have you included the following?

1. \_\_\_\_ Application form
2. \_\_\_\_ Two letters of recommendation (mailed directly to the Scholarship Panel)
3. \_\_\_\_ Essay
4. \_\_\_\_ Awards and Activities list
5. \_\_\_\_ Current transcript from high school guidance office
6. \_\_\_\_ Letter of acceptance
7. \_\_\_\_ Work Sample

**All submitted digital media, manuscripts and portfolios (if requested to supplement digital photos) will be returned to the applicant after the final selection process is completed.**

# Letter of Recommendation

## Fine Arts Scholarships ~ 2025

Scholarship Applicant's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

1. How long have you known the applicant? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Under what circumstances? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. In what capacity? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please write below or attach to this paper your letter of recommendation.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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**Please mail your recommendation directly to:**

Scholarship Panel  
North Augusta Cultural Arts Council  
P. O. Box 6415  
North Augusta, SC 29861

# Letter of Recommendation

## Fine Arts Scholarships ~ 2025

Scholarship Applicant's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

1. How long have you known the applicant? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Under what circumstances? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. In what capacity? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please write below or attach to this paper your letter of recommendation.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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