

Montour Band Parents Association

Clever Road
McKees Rocks, Pennsylvania 15136



MONTOUR BAND PARENTS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

REVISED: 10/27/2004
RATIFIED: 10/27/2004

ADMINISTRATION

Each year, the members of the Scholarship Committee shall be appointed at the Montour Band Parents Association's September meeting by the Executive Board in accordance with the MBPA, Inc. Bylaws. Members of the Band Parents organization are encouraged to volunteer for this committee. In order to continue growth of the scholarship program and to generate monies, the Scholarship Committee shall conduct various fundraisers approved by the Executive Board. If, by the end of the fiscal year, the Scholarship Account is not sufficiently funded to cover the cost of the scholarships granted for that year, on the last day of the current fiscal year, an amount equal to or greater than the amount of the scholarships to be paid out for that year will be transferred into the Scholarship Account from an account determined by the Executive Board. The board and committee are expected to assure that scholarship funding does not interfere with the board's responsibility to leave \$4000 in the general fund on May 31.

The committee may recommend changes to the program - first to the Executive Board, and then to the membership of the MBPA, at any of the monthly meetings in accordance with the MBPA Bylaws. All changes must be approved by the Band Parent membership before the scholarship packages are made available for that year, which shall be approximately thirty (30) days before the due date. The Executive Board shall also name the committee chairperson.

The program cannot be deferred or rescinded by the Band Parent organization except by an affirmative vote of at least $\frac{2}{3}$ of the members in attendance at the meeting when the vote is taken.

ELIGIBILITY

The program is open to all graduating senior Marching Band members of Montour High School pursuing higher education. "Marching Band members" consist of members of the Montour High School Marching Band, Spartanettes, Majorettes and Color Guards. "Higher education" is any four (4) year college, two (2) year junior college, trade school, secretarial school, nursing school, or other program that leads to a certificate or degree. Scholarship monies will be paid directly to the recipient upon completion of their first semester or equivalent.

THE SCHOLARSHIP PACKAGE

The scholarship package will be announced approximately ninety (90) days prior to the due date of scholarship materials. The announcement will briefly describe the program, the eligibility requirements, and the award(s) available that year. Two \$750 scholarships will be given each year contingent on the availability of funds, but the board must make every effort to fund the scholarships while meeting the obligation for year-end funding. .

A scholarship package will be mailed to each Senior Band member no less than thirty (30) days prior to the due date. The package shall consist of a plain manila envelope

containing an application form (copy attached) and a list of the scholarship criteria that must be completed by the due date. The envelope will be marked only with the word "SCHOLARSHIP" on the outside.

Each applicant will be assessed a unique identifying number and should use this number rather than reference to individual name (particularly for the essay portion), thus keeping the applicant anonymous to the judges.

The due date is the last Friday in April at 3:00 P.M. or the last Friday before the Spring trip should the trip include the last Friday of April. No scholarship packages will be accepted after this date and time. The scholarships will be awarded at the Montour High School Achievement Awards Ceremony or at a similar function.

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING OF SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

The scholarship will be based on the criteria and percentage of total score as set forth herein. The criteria is subject to change in ensuing years as deemed necessary by the Scholarship Committee active at that time; with the consent of the MBPA Executive Board.

1. ESSAY (35% of the total score)
The applicant must submit an essay of 400-800 words. The subject of the essay will be determined by the Scholarship Committee each year and will be made known 30 days prior to the due date. Essays will be rated by judges selected by the Scholarship committee on a scale of 1 to 35; 35 being the highest.
2. HONOR ROLL (5% of the total score)
If the band member has been on the Honor Roll the previous two (2) grading periods, five (5) points shall be given.
3. ATTENDANCE (10% of the total score)
Each applicant starts with 10 points for attendance. For each unexcused absence in the applicant's senior year, two points are deducted until a minimum of zero points for this item is reached.
4. BAND DIRECTOR AND STAFF (25% of the total score)
The band member will be rated by the band director and staff on a scale of 1 to 25; 25 being the highest. They will rate the applicant on participation in mandatory marching band functions, rehearsals, and attitude during the current band year. The ratings of the director and staff shall be averaged.
5. PERSONAL PROFILE / CHARACTER REFERENCE (25% of the total score)
Each applicant will be required to write a short profile of themselves including interests, activities in the community, awards or scholarships received, work experiences (e.g., baby sitting, lawn care, fast food restaurant, etc.), individual goals, aspirations, or anything else that they feel will reflect on them as a total person. Applicants will be rated by judges selected by the Scholarship committee on a scale of 1 to 15 for personal profile; 15 being the highest.

Each applicant will be required to obtain two (2) character references (excluding relatives). One must be from within the Montour High School educational system; such as a teacher, principal, or counselor. The second should be a professional person, or business person, who can attest to the character of the band member. Applicants will be rated on a scale of 1 to 10 for character reference; 10 being the highest.

The rating of the personal profile and the character reference shall be averaged.

SELECTION OF JUDGES

The judges will be selected by the Scholarship Committee with the consent of the Executive Board. The Scholarship Committee is encouraged to develop a list of potential judges early in the school year. However, the judge selection and announcement will be made no sooner than one (1) day after the scholarship application due date to ensure confidentiality. A judge shall not be related to a senior band member who is applying for the award.

Three (3) judges will be selected for the program each year. At least one (1) judge must be from the English Department at Montour High School. The remaining two (2) judges may be faculty, or members of any of the respective communities comprising the Montour School District.

SCHOLARSHIP IMPLEMENTATION

All scholarship applications must be returned to the High School Guidance Office. The due date is the last Friday in April at 3:00 P.M. or the last Friday before the Spring trip should the trip include the last Friday in April. Materials may be turned in earlier, but none will be accepted after this time. On the due date, after the school day ends, the Scholarship Committee will collect the applications.

The individual identifying number will be marked on all included materials. Copies will be made of the essays and personal profiles for distribution to the judges to grade. A Criteria Point Distribution Sheet shall be provided to all judges for their scoring. The judges will know each applicant only by number. Straight point totals shall be applied in all categories versus averaging the score of the judges.

After scoring by the judges, no fewer than two (2) members of the Scholarship Committee shall total all points for each scholarship packet. The identifying number with the highest point total will then be cross-referenced to the scholarship form to obtain the Scholarship winner's name. In the event of a tie, the scholarship shall be divided equally.

If a scholarship winner does not complete their first semester (or equivalent) of post-secondary education, the next-highest scoring applicant will be awarded the scholarship. Rankings of applicants shall be kept confidential.

MONTOUR BAND PARENTS SCHOLARSHIP FORM

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER _____

SCHOOL TO WHICH ACCEPTED: _____

Return this Form and required submittals to the High School Principal's Office.

CRITERIA FOR SCHOLARSHIP

%of Score

Description

- | | |
|-----|--|
| 35% | ESSAY
A 400-800 word essay on: _____ |
| 5% | HONOR ROLL
If the band member has been on the Honor Roll the previous two (2) grading periods, five (5) points shall be given. |
| 10% | ATTENDANCE
Each applicant starts with 10 points for attendance. For each unexcused absence in the applicant's senior year, two points are deducted until a minimum of zero points for this item is reached. |
| 25% | BAND DIRECTOR STAFF
Ratings will be given for participation in band functions, functions rehearsals, and attitude during the current band year. |
| 25% | PERSONAL PROFILE / CHARACTER-REFERENCE
A short profile on yourself including activities in the community, awards or scholarships received, work experiences, goals, aspirations, or anything else that will help determine the type of person you are. (Possible 15). Scoring for this section will be based on content rather than presentation.

Two character references (excluding relatives) for a possible 10 points. These shall include one from within the Montour High School educational system; such as a teacher, principal, or counselor. The second shall be a professional person, businessperson, or other who can attest to the character of the band member. |

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____