

West Branch Friends Church Peace Scholarship Application

I. Goal of Scholarship:

West Branch Friends Church (WBFC) is inviting applications for its 10th annual Peace Scholarship. The \$1000 scholarship is intended to encourage and support high school seniors in their use of nonviolent means to build the tools for peace and eliminate war, poverty, inequality, and intolerance.

II. Expectations, eligibility and requirements

1. To be eligible, applicants must be a graduating student in 2018 who is from West Branch High School, Scattergood Friends School, a home school in the West Branch district, or a family of someone who attends WBFC. Applicants do not have to be college-bound. The scholarship can support education, service, or other post-high school endeavors.
2. Applications will be assessed for their publicly demonstrated interest in and commitment to nonviolent conflict resolution or peace-encouraging community involvement. Examples include, but are not limited to, supporting disaster relief; distributing food and working against hunger; political involvement for peaceful solutions; providing services and/or shelter for the needy; domestic violence intervention, support, and outreach services; international cooperation, diplomacy, and exchange programs; providing counseling and support for alternatives to military service; environmental preservation and improvement; support for immigrants and immigrant rights; and human rights work.
3. After the term of service/educational year of support, the recipient has the option (not required) to give a presentation to WBFC regarding their activities supported by this scholarship.
4. Applicants will complete application materials and a typed 600-word essay with clear writing skills, demonstrating support for nonviolent ideals and commitment shown to these. Whole essays or excerpts may be published in WB Friends Church Connections, WB Times, Iowa Friend, or other publications as decided by West Branch Friends Church.
5. One or two signed letters of recommendation are required (from a teacher or a community leader such as volunteer/work supervisor, pastor, etc.) noting motivation, commitment, and accomplishments (see Recommendation Letter).
6. Interview with pastor and 2 members of WBFC. These three persons will make the decision as to who will receive the scholarship.
7. The completed application, recommendation letters and typed 600-word essay will be sent together (postmarked by March 31) to: Clerk, Peace and Social Concerns, PO Box 153, West Branch, Iowa 52358
8. Questions can be directed to: westbranchpeace@gmail.com. This application is also available on our church website: <http://www.westbranchfriendschurch.com>.

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III. General Information:

1. Name _____ Age _____

2. Address _____

3. Phone number: _____

4. Email address: _____

5. Name and address of high school

6. Name of Principal _____

7. What are your plans after graduating: are you planning to attend college, trade school, join AmeriCorps, Peace Corps, etc.?

8. How will you use this scholarship money?

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IV General Activities

- A. Leadership positions and offices. Indicate school, church, or community volunteer activities, noting name of organization, years of involvement (9-12), position or office held and approximate monthly time commitment.

Examples:

"Bear" school paper editor (12)

35 hours/mo.

(Church name) youth group leader (10-11-12)

20 hours/mo.

- B. Memberships and extracurricular activities. List organization, years of membership, monthly time commitment

Example:

Habitat for Humanity volunteer (11)

10 hours/mo., for 2 months

- C. Honors and awards. List by name and year any awards received (*example: National Honor Society (11-12)*)

- D. Hobbies and interests.

V. Employment

List names of employers, including family business/self-employed, full time/part time, and hours worked. Example: window washing, self-employed, summer part time (9-11), 10 hrs. /mo.

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VI. Essay

Please write a 600-word essay explaining how this scholarship will assist you in promoting a peaceful world. As you do, please answer at least one of these questions:

The typed, 600-word essay (separate sheet of paper) will be judged on:

- Demonstrated understanding and basis of knowledge in use of nonviolent means working towards the elimination of the causes of war (see Scholarship Goal, section I and Expectations, II-2)
- Ability to grasp the wide implications inherent in working for peace
- Insight, clarity of expression, effectiveness of style
- Organization
- Originality of approach and treatment of topic
- Adherence to this format and maximum of length of 600 words
- Citation of sources

Keeping these standards in mind, answer at least one of these questions:

1. What have you done to promote peace in your life, community, and society?
2. What do you plan to do with your future that will encourage peace?
3. What can an individual do to make this world a brighter place for everyone as well as encourage peace?
4. In the quest for peace, conflict is inevitable. Please give personal examples of conflict you have faced (e.g., bullying, discrimination, injustice, violence) and how you productively addressed them.

Mail the signed application form, essay, bibliography and at least one (1) recommendation letter (letters are at the back of this packet) as noted in Section II (7) above.

Student signature _____ date _____

Parent/guardian signature _____ date _____

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VII. About the Award

The \$1000 scholarship (increased to \$1250 if attending William Penn University), is payable to the appropriate organization with whom the recipient will be involved. Examples include: university, college, Christian Peacemaker Teams, Amnesty International, Oxfam, American Friends Service Committee, Friends Committee on National Legislation, Habitat for Humanity, etc. (see II -2).

The application deadline is March 31, 2018 (postmarked). The award is presented by a WBFC representative at the WB public school awards ceremony, Scattergood Friends School, or at another mutually agreeable public location in case of a home-schooled recipient or a student of the WBFC family from outside the West Branch Community School District.

The recipient is expected to present their essay during Sunday morning worship at WBFC and is invited to be present after worship for a period of fellowship. In addition, after the term of service/educational year of support, the recipient is invited give a presentation to WBFC regarding their activities supported by this scholarship.

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Recommendation Letter

I. Applicant's name _____

II. How long have you known the applicant and in what capacity?

III. Please rate the applicant on the following characteristics:

	Excellent	Above Avg.	Average	Below Avg.	Poor
Probability of success	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Dependability	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Initiative	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Ability to get along with others	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Communication skills	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

IV. Please describe the applicant's demonstrated motivation, public commitment and accomplishments regarding peace-encouraging community involvement or nonviolent conflict resolution.

Examples may include, but are not limited to: working in disaster relief, community food collection or distribution/working against hunger, political involvement for peaceful solutions/diplomacy, health/helping services for the needy, domestic violence intervention/support/outreach services, international cooperation /diplomacy exchange programs, providing shelter for the needy, providing counseling/support for alternatives to military service, environmental preservation/improvement, support for immigrants and immigrant rights, and human rights work.

Your name (print and sign) _____

Your position _____

Your address/phone _____

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Recommendation Letter

I. Applicant's name _____

II. How long have you known the applicant and in what capacity?

III. Please rate the applicant on the following characteristics:

	Excellent	Above Avg.	Average	Below Avg.	Poor
Probability of success	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Dependability	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Initiative	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Ability to get along with others	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Communication skills	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

IV. Please describe the applicant's demonstrated motivation, public commitment and accomplishments regarding peace-encouraging community involvement or nonviolent conflict resolution.

Examples may include, but are not limited to: working in disaster relief, community food collection or distribution/working against hunger, political involvement for peaceful solutions/diplomacy, health/helping services for the needy, domestic violence intervention/support/outreach services, international cooperation /diplomacy exchange programs, providing shelter for the needy, providing counseling/support for alternatives to military service, environmental preservation/improvement, human rights work.

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