



CHSPA Scholarships

About the scholarships

Deadline

Postmark February 15

One application is used for both of the CHSPA Scholarships. The scholarship committee will determine who will receive each scholarship based on the application and portfolio material submitted.

DOROTHY GREER SCHOLARSHIP

Dorothy D. Greer co-founded the Colorado High School Press Association in 1970, and served as volunteer executive secretary until 1989. CHSPA directors named her executive secretary emeritus. While serving as executive secretary, she was instrumental in establishing most of CHSPA's major activities, including the newspaper and yearbook contests, the student scholarship, and the Teacher of the Year award. Mrs. Greer passed away March 9, 2004 in Estes Park. She was 104 years old. Her many accomplishments include being named the National Journalism Teacher of the Year in 1962, and designated in March 1974 as one of the 12 highest contributors to the field of Scholastic Journalism over the past 50 years. Each year CHSPA awards a scholarship in her name to a graduating high school senior who demonstrates exceptional journalistic abilities.

The winner represents Colorado as a JEA National High School Journalist of the Year nominee. The JEA Journalist of the Year is eligible to win an additional scholarship. Additional portfolio work may be required to meet JEA Journalist of the Year requirements.

Terms: The Dorothy Greer Scholarship opportunity is offered to any Colorado high school senior whose school is a member of the Colorado High School Press Association. It is a one-time award of \$2,000 for an in-state college or \$1,000 for out-of-state. The scholarship award must be claimed within two years of graduating from high school or it is forfeited.

Eligibility: Any Colorado high school senior who has worked on at least one of the following: yearbook, broadcast, video media, Web or newspaper for at least two years. The applicant must plan to attend a junior college, college or university. Breadth of experience is important as well as depth. Applicants must have a 3.0 GPA or better.

ERIC BENSON SCHOLARSHIP

Eric Benson's passion was journalism – in all its forms. By the time he graduated from Alameda Senior High School in 1991, he had served four years on the Paragon newspaper as reporter, sports editor and editor-in-chief. He won local and state awards for his writing, served his Scout Troop nationally and internationally as a scribe and was an Eagle Scout. In high school he lettered in golf and baseball. Eric started piano lessons in first grade and continued to play through his illness. His favorite was classical music except for "Take Me Out to the Ball Game." Eric's goal was always to be a journalist and he received a journalism scholarship to Indiana University. It was not to be. He became ill with a rare cancer, Ewing's Sarcoma, his senior year and died three years later. This scholarship was established by his teachers, parents and friends in his memory. CHSPA took over this scholarship in 2010.

Terms: The Eric Benson Scholarship opportunity is offered to any Colorado high school senior whose school is a member of the Colorado High School Press Association. It is a one-time award of \$600 for an in-state college or \$300 for out-of-state. In addition, this scholarship award carries a need-based criteria as well as journalism experiences. The scholarship must be claimed within two years of graduating from high school or it is forfeited.

Eligibility: Any Colorado high school senior who has worked on the yearbook and/or newspaper of a Colorado High School Press Association (CHSPA) member publication for at least two years and is planning to attend a junior college, college or university is eligible to apply. Applicants must demonstrate a financial need and intellectual capacity.



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Application procedures

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Application Process:

- Scholarship applications must include the following items:
 - Scholarship application form;
 - Student letter (a self-analytical evaluation of the applicant's "journalistic" life; may be creative);
 - Five-semester transcript that includes GPA (official copy);
 - Three to four letters of recommendation, including one from the student's publication adviser and one from an English teacher who has taught the student; a letter from your principal is desirable but not mandatory;
 - No more than 12 selected samples of published work that best illustrate contributions to the journalism program(s) (more information found on next pages);
 - An action photo of the applicant doing something journalistic (i.e., interviewing someone, taking a photograph, designing a page, talking to the staff, etc.).
- All application materials must be bound in a portfolio or three-ring notebook. The applicant's name and the name(s) of his or her publication(s) must appear on the front cover.
- Application materials must be mailed to CHSPA. Use insured first-class mail only. Mailing by a verifiable method is recommended as is retaining copies of all materials submitted. All entries become property of CHSPA.
- Incomplete entries will be disqualified, as will those that fail to meet the deadline or do not follow directions.
- Applicants who wish to be considered for the Eric Benson Scholarship must also include a letter (separate from the letter outlined in Step 1) that explains their financial need.

Judging:

- Scholarship applications are judged by a committee comprised of CHSPA board members. No board member whose student has applied for the scholarship may serve on the judging committee.
- Judges may name first and second alternates to act as recipients in the event that the winner forfeits.
- Judging Criteria:

♦ Neatness of application	0-10 points
♦ Quality of work	0-40 points
♦ Applicant's letter(s)	0-20 points
♦ Letters of recommendation	0-20 points
♦ Grades (official transcript)	0-10 points
♦ Total possible:	100 points

Receiving the Award:

- Each scholarship recipient will be notified in the spring of his/her senior year, but money will not be transferred to the recipient's qualified post-secondary school until the recipient has submitted proof to CHSPA of enrollment in that school. Check with the CHSPA office for specific deadlines by which proof must be submitted. Money must be claimed within two years of graduating from high school.
- Winner accepts responsibility for contacting CHSPA with proof of enrollment (including college's address and office to which the check should be mailed) and notifying CHSPA of his/her college address, home address, course of study and any name change.
- The scholarship must be claimed within two years of graduating from high school. A scholarship not claimed within this time limit will be forfeited.
- Upon receiving proof of enrollment from the recipient, CHSPA will pay the scholarship funds directly to the school on behalf of the recipient. CHSPA will not pay the recipient directly.
- One winner will receive the full scholarship amount if attending a Colorado school, half that amount if attending school out-of-state.

Guidelines for Samples of work

- Select samples that show quality and diversity of reporting, writing, photography, design, etc.
- The samples of student work must be bound in a portfolio or three-ring notebook. The samples should be arranged in reverse chronological order, most recently published sample first.

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CHSPA Scholarships

Application procedures – continued

3. Each sample must be attached (stapled, taped or glued) or printed directly to an 8.5” x 11” sheet with the following information neatly printed or typed on it: name of applicant, name of publication and name of adviser.
4. Originals preferred, but clear photocopies will be accepted if verified with adviser’s initials.
5. Include at least one issue of your newspaper or magazine or photocopies of relevant spreads from your yearbook so the judges can see the context of your work.
6. In addition, follow the guidelines below:
 - Newspaper Stories:** Submit only stories written by the applicant (no co-authored stories). Include any accompanying headlines, photos, cutlines and/or graphics produced by the applicant.
 - Yearbook Stories:** Submit only stories written by the applicant (no co-authored stories). Include any accompanying headlines, photos, cutlines and/or graphics produced by the applicant. In the case of yearbook copy and layouts not back from the publisher by the scholarship application deadline, graph paper reproductions of double-spreads or computer printouts of the DPS as sent to the printer may be submitted. Each submission must be verified and initialed by the adviser as the one that will appear in the upcoming yearbook. Clear photocopies of photographs (not necessarily scaled to size) should be included in all cases.
 - Photographs:** Submit only photographs shot by the applicant. Include an original print or halftone as well as the photograph as published. Include any accompanying cutline (caption) written by the applicant.
 - Graphic Design:** Submit only work done by the applicant alone. Applicants may submit newspaper and/or yearbook pages, double-page spreads or graphic elements. If the applicant must submit a sample that includes work of another, please identify which elements the applicant created. For example, if the applicant designed and laid out the page but did not write the stories and headlines on it, make this clear.
7. Samples should show one or more of the following characteristics and should be grouped according to what they represent. These groupings should be labeled. Neatness and organization count.
 - Skilled and creative use of media content – writing, production, photography, etc.
 - Inquiring mind and investigative persistence – in-depth study or studies of issues important to the local high school audience, high school students in general or society.
 - Courageous and responsible handling of sensitive issues – local or societal.
 - Variety of journalistic experience, each handled in a quality manner – newspaper, yearbook, broadcast, photography etc.
 - Sustained and commendable work with community media – internship, published work, etc.

2010 Dorothy Greer Scholarship recipient

Marcela Palefsky, Montrose High School
For previous winners, see www.chspaonline.org

2010 Eric Bensen Scholarship recipient

Heidi Gruber, Hotchkiss High School

Incomplete entries will be disqualified, as will those not following directions.

Mail to: CHSPA Scholarships • c/o Jack Kennedy, Executive Director • 9253 Sori Lane • Highlands Ranch CO 80126



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Application Form

Deadline
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Instructions: Enclose this application form as the first page of the folder in which you include your letters of recommendation and samples of work. Please type or print neatly.

Name _____

Home address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Home phone (____) _____ E-mail _____

School name _____

School address _____

City _____ Zip _____

School phone (____) _____

Principal's name _____

Publication(s) (name/type/date) served _____

Years of service on newspaper staff _____ yearbook staff _____ broadcast staff _____ other _____

Adviser(s) name(s) _____

Adviser(s) e-mail(s) _____

Which college(s) do you plan to attend? _____

What major do you anticipate? _____

“I verify that all the above information is accurate and all of the enclosed work is my original work.”

Student signature _____ Date _____

“To the best of my ability, I certify all of the enclosed student work is the original work of the applicant.”

Adviser signature _____ Date _____

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