

2024 Oregon Straw Hat Players Scholarship Notice

Oregon Straw Hat Players intends to confer a single college scholarship of up to \$1,000 and two scholarships applicable to camp or class attendance of up to \$500. Applicants must satisfy the eligibility criteria to qualify as voting members.

College scholarship applicants are required to be pursuing undergraduate studies in any major field, an associates degree program at an accredited technical college, or a technical diploma with an accredited technical college.

Camp/Class Scholarship applicants must meet the criteria to qualify as voting members and should be 18 years of age or younger.

Applicants in each of these categories will be evaluated and awarded separately. The application email should contain the following details:

FOR COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS:

- A comprehensive list of all OSHP productions in which the applicant has actively participated.
- A description of the roles or responsibilities undertaken by the applicant in the context of OSHP productions.
- The applicant's current grade point average on a 4-point scale (high school GPA for senior applicants seeking college assistance and college GPA for those who are currently enrolled in college).
- An essay containing a maximum of 500 words, chosen from one of the prompts contained in this notice
- The specific field(s) of study that the applicant intends to pursue and the name of the college where the applicant is currently enrolled (or intends to enroll).

FOR CAMPS AND CLASSES:

- A comprehensive list of all OSHP productions in which the applicant has been actively involved.
- An outline of the roles or responsibilities undertaken by the applicant in the context of OSHP productions.
- The applicant's present grade point average on a 4-point scale (high school GPA for camp and class)
- The financial expenditure associated with the intended activity.
- A narrative, limited to 300 words or fewer, describing the curriculum of the proposed activity and explaining the applicant's aspirations and objectives for participating in the said activity.
- The applicant's current grade point average on a 4-point scale.

Examples of Eligible Camps or Classes, not an exhaustive list

- Youth Theatre Camp
- Voice Lessons
- Acting Lessons
- Dance Classes
- Sewing Classes
- Conferences/Workshops related to production aspects of theatre

The final determination on if an experience is eligible for a scholarship will be made by the Scholarship Review Committee.

The funding limit for a Camp/Class Scholarship is the allocated amount for the individual Camps/Class Scholarship or the cost of the Camp/Class, whichever is lower. Transportation/Lodging costs are unable to be included in a Scholarship Application

2024 Essay Prompts

Prompt 1: The Power of Storytelling in Theatre Scholarship Essay Prompt: "In 500 words or less, share a personal anecdote or experience that highlights the transformative power of storytelling in theater. Explain how this experience has influenced your decision to pursue post-secondary education and how you hope to contribute to the theater community in the future."

Prompt 2: Diversity and Inclusion in Theatre Scholarship Essay Prompt: "Discuss the importance of diversity and inclusion in the theatre world. In 500 words or less, share your vision for how you will contribute to making theater more inclusive and representative of all voices in your future career."

Prompt 3: Theatre's Role in Society Scholarship Essay Prompt: "Explain how you believe theater can address pressing societal issues. In 500 words or less, describe a theater project or initiative you envision that can make a positive impact on your community and the world at large."

Prompt 4: The Intersection of Theater and Your Field of Study Scholarship Essay Prompt: "In 500 words or less, describe how your pursuit of a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) or Business degree intersects with your passion for theatre. Explain how your involvement in theatre has influenced your academic and career aspirations, and how you envision bridging the gap between your chosen field and the performing arts."

Prompt 5: Artistic Vision and Impact Scholarship Essay Prompt: "Describe your artistic vision as a theatre artist and the impact you hope to make in the world of performing arts. In 500 words or less, articulate how your unique perspective and creative contributions will shape the future of theatre."

DISQUALIFYING FACTORS

- Immediate family of a member of the Scholarship Review Committee will be ineligible

- Having been asked to leave a production or having been removed from a production in the last five calendar years
- Having been paid an honorarium in the last two calendar years
- Current service on the Board of Directors

Scoring of Applicants

In addition to the essay, applicants for both scholarships will be assessed on the following categories:

1. Academic Achievement:

- Criterion: The candidate's overall academic performance, including GPA and standardized test scores (if applicable).
- Rating Scale:
 - 4 - Excellent: Demonstrates consistently high academic achievement.
 - 3- Good: Maintains a solid academic record.
 - 2- Fair: Shows room for improvement in academic performance.
 - 1 - Poor: Academic performance is significantly below expectations.

2. Theatre Involvement:

- Criterion: The candidate's level of engagement and commitment to theater-related activities, such as school productions, community theater, or theater workshops.
- Rating Scale:
 - 4 - Exceptional: Shows outstanding dedication and involvement in theatre.
 - 3 - Strong: Demonstrates a solid history of participation in theatre-related activities.
 - 2 - Adequate: Has some involvement in theatre but with room for growth.
 - 1 - Limited: Has minimal or no involvement in theatre.

3. Potential for Contribution to the Theatre Community:

- Criterion: The candidate's potential to make meaningful contributions to the theatre community, including diversity, inclusion, and innovation.

- Rating Scale:
 - 4 - High Potential: Demonstrates a clear vision for contributing positively to the theatre community.
 - 3 - Moderate Potential: Expresses interest in contributing but lacks a well-defined plan.
 - 2 - Limited Potential: Shows limited understanding of how to contribute to the theatre community.
 - 1 - Low Potential: Does not demonstrate an understanding of the importance of contributing to the theatre community.

The essay shall also be scored on a scale of 1 - 4, what criteria the essay will be judged on is at the discretion of the individual members of the committee, no category will hold any more weight than another. The Committee shall meet to discuss applications and score in the three listed categories. The essay score shall be the average of the Committee members scores. Scores will be unpublished and not available for review outside of the Board of Directors and the Committee.

Scholarship Committee Makeup

The Scholarship Review Committee shall be made up of five members - ideally these committee members shall be two representatives from the production staff from each of the last two productions (Ex: Director/Producer/Stage Manager) and a member of the Board of Directors. If a production staff member is unable or unwilling to be a member of this Committee, a member of the Board of Directors will fill the position.