

VALLEY PRESS CLUB SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION INFORMATION

In June, the **Valley Press Club** will award scholarships of \$1,000 each to students planning careers in journalism. They are available to high school seniors in Western Massachusetts and Northern Connecticut who are planning to attend accredited institutions of higher education. Applicants must be **seriously committed to careers in journalism**. This marks the 54th year that the scholarships have been given.

- The **Valley Press Club Scholarships**, funded by contributions and dues to the Press Club, are for students planning careers in print, online or broadcast journalism.
- The **Republican Scholarship**, funded by *The Republican* newspaper and administered by the club, is for students living within the newspaper's circulation area who are planning careers in print journalism.
- The **22News Scholarship**, funded by *WWLP-22News* and administered by the club, is for students planning careers in broadcast journalism.
- The **Edward J. Malley Jr. Memorial Scholarship**, established in memory of a chief photographer for the Springfield Newspapers, is for students planning careers in photojournalism.
- The **Rhonda Swan Memorial Scholarship**, established in memory of the award-winning journalist, editor and author, is for students who are underrepresented, in the Springfield, Mass. area, planning careers in journalism.
- The **Al Jaffe Scholarship**, funded by Mr. Jaffe, the Valley Press Club's first scholarship recipient in 1964, is for students planning careers in broadcast journalism or sports journalism.

Primary emphasis is placed on **career goals, writing ability, scholastic aptitude and overall achievement** as measured by applicants' high school transcript, class rank, academic awards, SAT scores, and extracurricular activities. **Emphasis will be given to field experience**, including work on a school newspaper or yearbook, and employment or courses in journalism. **Recipients must also be able to demonstrate a financial need**. Finalists are interviewed by the committee.

No application will be considered without the following:

- The **completed application**
- A copy of **that portion of parents' tax return that shows Adjusted Gross Income**
- A **high school transcript**
- One (1) letter of recommendation**
- Resume**
- One to three examples of the applicant's journalistic work**

The application should be **typed** or completed on a computer. An **electronic version, which can be filed by e-mail, is available at www.valleypressclub.com**. However, **financial information** should be sent by regular mail. The pages of your application **should be numbered and each page should contain your name**. Please, no two-sided copies. Do not include original newsprint clippings; photocopy them on letter-sized paper.

For more information or assistance, contact Noreen Tassinari, scholarship committee chair, at 413-205-5037.

Applications must be **postmarked** by April 1, 2018.
They should be sent by e-mail to **ntassinari@TheBigE.com** or by postal mail to:

**Noreen Tassinari, VPC Scholarship Chair
Eastern States Exposition
1305 Memorial Avenue
West Springfield, MA 01089**

No supplemental material will be accepted after the April 1 deadline.

VALLEY PRESS CLUB APPLICATION CHECKLIST

In order for your application to be considered you will need to submit:

- 1. Completed 2-page application with attached
 - News story**
 - Personal statement (optional)
- 2. **Financial Information** (Please send by regular mail)
 - Only the portion of **parents' income tax return** that shows **Adjusted Gross Income**. (Please black out any social security numbers)
- 3. **High school transcript.**
- 4. One **letter of recommendation** from an educator, community leader, employer, or someone acquainted with your character, abilities and career goals. We want to know about your intelligence, your interests and your character – not how you behave in class.
- 5. **Resume:** This should include your activities inside and outside of school, work experience, special training such as writing or photography classes, offices held in school or student organizations and some key accomplishments.
- 6. **One to three examples of your journalistic work.** Videos and other material accompanying the application **will not be returned.**
- The material, including this application, should be typed.** Electronic versions of the forms can be downloaded from **www.valleypressclub.com**

If you have difficulty downloading the application, you may photocopy the questions and type in your responses, without using the form.

- Every page of your application should be **numbered** and each should **contain your name.**
- Applications must be **postmarked by April 1.**
Application, resume and examples of your work may be sent by e-mail to **ntassinari@TheBigE.com** Files should not exceed 10MB. If necessary, please send separate emails. **Financial information should be sent by regular mail.**

Or hard copies may be mailed with your financial information to:

**Noreen P. Tassinari, VPC Scholarship Chair
Eastern States Exposition
1305 Memorial Avenue
West Springfield MA 01089**

For more information or assistance, contact Noreen Tassinari, Scholarship Committee Chair, at 413-205-5037 or ntassinari@TheBigE.com.

VALLEY PRESS CLUB SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

I. Personal and Family information

Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____ Home Phone _____

Student's email _____ Student's Cell _____

School _____

Father or Guardian _____ Occupation _____

Father's Employer _____

Mother or Guardian _____ Occupation _____

Mother's Employer _____

2. List ages and year in school of brothers and sisters who are financially dependent on your parents or guardians:

3. List colleges to which you have applied - indicate those which have accepted you.

Have you made a final choice? If so, which?

4. SAT Scores: Evidence-Based Reading and Writing Math Essay

Rank in class

Out of how many?

5. Describe your career goals (use a separate sheet if necessary)

6. If you are planning a career in photography, describe the camera equipment you have used:

VPC Application – Page 2

7. News Story – Please write a 300-word or less news story – not an essay – about yourself or an incident at school. If you choose to write about yourself it may be about one or more of your real or hypothetical experiences or career plans. If you are seeking the photojournalism scholarship, also describe, or include, two photos to illustrate the story.

Please use a separate sheet.

8. Personal Statement - You may provide the Scholarship Committee with any additional information you want us to consider, such as extraordinary family circumstances which might impede attendance at the college of your choice or other information on your background or experience which will help the Committee.

Please use a separate sheet.

9. Financial Situation – Include costs for *freshman year* only. If you already know which college you will be attending, provide financial information for that school. If you are undecided, submit a college budget for all schools you are considering.

Use separate sheets if necessary

School _____

Savings you will use the first year _____

Contribution from parents/guardians _____

Amount you expect to earn this summer toward college _____

Financial aid offered you by the school _____

Grants _____

Work Opportunity _____

Loans _____

Other _____

Total available funds first year \$ _____