

FRIENDS Founder Lynn Davis Scholarship Student Eligibility Information

FRIENDS Mission Statement:

Friends of the Blue Ridge exists to help preserve, promote, and enhance the outstanding natural beauty, ecological vitality, and cultural distinctiveness of the Blue Ridge region in Blue Ridge Parkway communities for future generations.

Lynn Davis was a leading force behind the creation of FRIENDS of the Blue Ridge Parkway (now FRIENDS of the Blue Ridge) in 1988 and has remained active with FRIENDS since then. In honor of her dedication, the Lynn Davis Scholarship Program has been established to assist students from Blue Ridge communities where our volunteer chapters operate who plan to study natural resources, which includes studies in sciences, engineering, land management, etc., relative cultural and art studies and more after graduating from high school. Lynn is a lifelong learner and spent her career pouring her energies into serving communities and government agencies with an education focus so we can be good stewards of our natural world.

Requirements

Applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Be a high school senior at a high school in the local FRIENDS Chapter's service area
 - To verify, a list of schools can be found on our website (www.blueridgefriends.org)
- GPA of at least 3.0 out of a 4.0 scale or equivalent
- Plan to attend an accredited two-year or four-year institution of higher learning
- Plan to pursue a degree/career in science, environmental or cultural studies
 - FRIENDS has a broad definition of environmental studies, which includes studies in natural resources, sciences, engineering, land management, relative cultural studies (such as Old Time and Bluegrass music), and more. The intention is to support a student with a passion to help preserve, promote, and enhance natural beauty, ecological vitality, and cultural distinctiveness for future generations.
- Align with the mission of FRIENDS of the Blue Ridge by demonstrating a commitment to help preserve, promote, and enhance the natural beauty, ecological vitality and cultural distinctiveness, such as cultural music or history, for future generations
- Complete the entire application process:
 - Compilation of the scholarship packet requirements
 - Submitting the packet on or before February 28

Required materials

1. Provide a personal letter/statement (typed, 500 words maximum)
 - On a separate sheet of paper, please prepare a letter/statement telling the selection committee about:
 - career and educational goals
 - passion for the preservation of natural resources and/or cultural heritage
 - hopes to impact the preservation of natural resources and/or cultural heritage in the future
2. Provide one (1) letter of recommendation
 - On a separate sheet of paper, based on the mission of FRIENDS stated on the first page of the application, the person writing a recommendation to the selection committee should explain why the student applying for this scholarship is a strong candidate to receive the award.
3. Provide an activity sheet (or equivalent such as a resume)
 - On a separate sheet of paper, please outline:
 - participation in extracurricular activities including dates of participation
 - level of involvement including leadership roles
 - any awards and honors received
4. Provide a recent high school transcript

Applicant must plan to pursue a degree/career in environmental or cultural studies—what does that mean?

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Scholarship Application Deadline and Award Notification

Scholarship application deadline	February 28
Award notification	April 15

Is the scholarship one-time or renewable?

Scholarship recipients who are in good academic standing with a GPA of 3.0 or higher are eligible to reapply for the scholarship during subsequent years of study. Information about reapplying will be distributed directly to previous scholarship recipients.

Selection Process

Selection process shall be a committee composed of members of the local FRIENDS of the Blue Ridge Chapter and/or members of the Board of Directors.

Administration of Scholarship

Scholarship awards in either the amount of two (2) \$1,000 or one (1) \$2,000 scholarships will be presented by the local FRIENDS chapter yearly. The award will be applied to college expenses.

Scholarship Recognition

With permission, recipient names will be listed on the FRIENDS of the Blue Ridge website and printed materials.