



Smoky Mountain Home Education Association

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The SMHEA Richard and Nancy Brown Alumni Scholarship

The purpose of this scholarship is to honor Richard (Dick) and Nancy Brown for their years of outstanding service to home educating families in the eighteen counties served by the Smoky Mountain Home Education Association and other families throughout the state of Tennessee.

Richard and Nancy Brown served on the SMHEA (Smoky Mountain Home Education Association) Board of Directors for ten years until health related issues forced their retirement in 2005. They served as SMHEA graduation coordinators, and as church related school liaisons during their tenure on the board. Dick and Nancy also were instrumental in the development of the home school registration program at Berean Christian School. Nancy served as the administer of the program and mentored those who have become administrators for other such programs in area schools. This scholarship is established to honor their sacrificial contribution to the SMHEA area, and to perpetuate their commitment to the long-term success of Christian home education, SMHEA, and area home educating families.

Who Qualifies: Each applicant must apply during the school year in which he or she intends to graduate, and be planning to pursue college, vocation-technical, or apprenticeship experiences within two years of graduation. The applicant must be a Christian and have been home educated for at least three years of high school with senior year counting as one of those years. He/she must have been registered with a local education agency or a church related school according to Tennessee state law and must also have been a member of the Smoky Mountain Home Education Association (SMHEA) during all of his/her high school years. An exception may be made for an applicant who completed accelerated high school studies. We reserve the right to consider eligibility of such applicants on a case by case basis. The \$750 scholarship will be awarded at the SMHEA graduation ceremony, and the applicant must attend the ceremony to receive the award.

Scholarship Criteria: Because this scholarship focuses first on life goals, leadership, and character as well as academic achievement, applicants will be evaluated by the information they provide in the application and the essay. An impartial committee of SMHEA alumni will review each application and essay. In some cases, an interview may also be requested. After praying for each applicant and seeking God's wisdom, the committee will determine who will receive the award. The \$750 scholarship will be awarded during the SMHEA graduation ceremony. The applicant must attend the ceremony to receive the award. Scholarship funds will be paid directly to the college, educational institution, or to the individual providing apprenticeship training.

How to Apply: Applications may be obtained from **SMHEA Alumni Scholarship Fund, 925 View Harbour Road, Knoxville, TN 37934-7007**. Please enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope when making an application request. Applications may also be requested by email by writing smheapres@gmail.com. Completed applications are due no later than May 1st in order to allow time for careful review and selection. They may be submitted via U.S mail or by email. The time limit for usage of the scholarship is two years after the recipient's graduation date. If the funds are not applied to a college, vocational /technical institution, or apprenticeship program by that time, the funds will be returned to the scholarship fund.

How to make donations: This scholarship is to be funded by the donations of home educators, alumni, and friends of home education. The intent is to eventually endow the scholarship so that it will fund itself. Tax deductible donations of any amount may be made payable to the SMHEA Scholarship Fund and mailed to the address above.