

Application form and announcement of

The Oakes Museum Scholarship

Messiah College is pleased to announce a scholarship in recognition of Dr. Noel Falk, whose vision and leadership shaped the founding of the Oakes Museum at Messiah College. The College and the local community are indebted to Dr. Falk for his vision, enthusiasm, and commitment toward creating a unique and valuable resource for the students of Messiah College, the people of Central Pennsylvania and beyond. This competitive \$1000.00 scholarship will be given annually to a qualified Messiah College student who is interested in natural history and the mission of the Oakes Museum and who will support the Oakes Museum and its staff by assisting with program development, research, or scholarship.

Description

Messiah College students are invited to submit proposals during the spring semester of each year. The School of Health and Natural Sciences Student Award Committee will announce the winning proposal. Proposal-related activities will typically be conducted during the following academic year. Typical activities could include 1) the preparation of educational program materials to better utilize the museum collections, 2) scientific research based on some aspect of the museum's collections, 3) scholarship that would add to the museum collections or enhance them, 4) development of innovative approaches for teaching natural history based on museum resources, and 5) aesthetic enhancement of the museum through the arts. Proposals from students representing all majors at the College are welcome. Regardless of type or setting of scholarship activity, all proposals must be sponsored by a Messiah faculty member. In some cases, an off-campus mentor may be involved in addition to the Messiah sponsor. The scholarship is granted at \$500.00 per semester. The second semester's grant is contingent on the first semester's performance. It is understood that the work of the second semester will be a continuation of the project started in the first semester. The scholarship is renewable for a second year but the student must reapply with no preference given to current scholarship recipients. At the end of the scholarship experience, the student will present the results in an appropriate manner to an audience of students and faculty during the School of Health and Natural Sciences Scholarship Day.

Eligibility and Selection Criteria

1. Class Standing - the applicant must be a current full-time sophomore or junior at the College.
2. Grade Record - applicant should have a minimum GPA of 3.0.
3. Future Goals - preference is given to students intending to pursue a career involving research, conservation, education, the arts or some other aspect of the natural history of animals, plants, or fungi.
4. Feasibility - selection will take into account the likelihood of completion of the proposed project as determined by availability of equipment, time, and faculty.
5. Project proposal - of great importance is the quality and originality of the proposal.
6. Interview - finalists and sponsor(s) will be interviewed by the scholarship committee.

Project Proposal Format and Guidelines

1. Researching and writing the proposal is the student's responsibility. Although the applicant must obtain the sponsorship of a faculty member at Messiah College, the faculty member (or off-campus mentor) is not to edit or revise the proposal. The applicant may, of course, talk with faculty members and others to help clarify thoughts, solicit ideas, and obtain suggestions for methodology.
2. The proposal should include an introduction to the general nature of the scholarship activity the applicant wishes to pursue and a statement of the specific project.
3. List all equipment, materials, methods, and resources required for the project. Indicate the current availability of these resources in the College. Specify the project setting (an on- or off-campus lab, museum prep room, specific museum collection(s) or area, specific field sites, another museum).
4. Include some references to pertinent literature.
5. The proposal should be typed, double-spaced, and no longer than 1000 words exclusive of citations.
6. Include a brief statement of support from the applicant's sponsor and /or mentors. The statement should include an affirmation to provide resources as per #3 above.

Application Information

¹Name _____ ²ID No. _____ ³Major _____

⁴Overall GPA _____ ⁵Advisor _____

⁶Sponsoring Messiah College faculty member(s) _____

⁷Name and institution of off-campus (if applicable) mentor(s) _____

⁸Class standing (So., Jr.) _____

⁹Write a brief statement listing professional goals:

¹⁰Attach your research proposal to this form and submit to office SOHNS Dean -Jordan 157, promptly and no later than April 3, 2009.