

**Sons of Confederate Veterans  
Army of Northern Virginia  
Sesquicentennial Scholarship  
c/o  
Richard G. Williams, Jr.  
PO Box 752  
Stuarts Draft, Virginia 24477  
540-949-7140**

**2009 Rules for Prospective Students:**

The objective of the scholarship program is to acquaint young people with the history of the War Between the States during the Sesquicentennial of the conflict. The 2009 scholarship amount to be awarded is \$1,000.

**ELIGIBILITY**

Any senior in a public high school, private high school, or home school who is also a resident of one of the states of Maryland, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Virginia, or West Virginia may apply. The student must plan to attend college or university in the United States. Students planning to further their education through long distance learning programs are also eligible. Financial need is not a requirement. The recipient of the scholarship will have to sign an “affidavit of intent” prior to receiving the scholarship funds.

**EVALUATION OF ESSAYS:**

The thesis should be well developed and a minimum word count of 2000 and a maximum word count of 2500. Essays should be double-spaced and printed in 12 point type using Times New Roman or a similar font. Judges will be looking for clear, cohesive, well-expressed, and original essays. Students should focus on successful presentation and defense of a carefully defined thesis leading to a well-reasoned conclusion. Students should avoid reports, creative writing, and forms of written expression other than essays.

**The General Topic for 2009 is: Harper’s Ferry - 1859**

The subject matter of the essay should focus on overriding themes applicable to the persons and events of the period, e.g., dedication, leadership, integrity, and personal character of those involved, as well as the issues surrounding the events. Themes such as these will allow the student to choose individual topics and develop ideas thoroughly. Since this is a scholarship funded by the membership of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, special consideration should be given to Southerners. Students should research their topics thoroughly, and attach a comprehensive bibliography to their essays with any necessary footnotes clearly documented. While students are not prohibited from researching their topics via the internet, the bulk of their research should be based on in-

depth book reading and periodical-based research. History and English teachers and parents are asked to provide encouragement and assistance to students as needed, but the work and writing must be the student's own.

The scholarship is intended to reward conscientious students for the hard work required to produce an outstanding original historical essay. All qualifying applicants can expect to have their essays judged fairly and competitively against those of their peers and are encouraged to submit their best work for consideration by the scholarship's panel of judges. Students submitting poorly researched, plagiarized, or hastily written compositions should not expect to receive consideration. Essays should be written for this competition specifically; students may not submit papers written for other contests or prior class assignments. Judges reserve the right to disqualify essays submitted in violation of any of the rules, requirements, or guidelines.

Students are free to select any relevant subject that appeals to them within the theme given by the panel of judges for the applicable year. It is important for students to remember that essays should not impugn the honor of the citizen-soldiers who defended their homes in fighting for the South.

### **IMPORTANT:**

- **Essays are to be sent electronically only and in WORD format only to: [SCVContest@Gmail.com](mailto:SCVContest@Gmail.com)**
- **Any essays sent with the separately mailed application will be deemed ineligible.**
- **Do not put your name on your essay. Doing so will automatically disqualify your essay from consideration.**
- **Identify your essay by typing your social security number or other identifying number in the upper right hand corner of each page. (See application form below.) Number each page of your essay as well.**
- **Deadline for both the application and the essay is 30 April 2009 and BOTH must be received by that date. Any essays and/or applications received after that date will be disqualified.**

### **SELECTION PROCESS:**

Selection of the winner will be based solely upon the merits of the essay including, but not necessarily limited to: content, style, grammar, historical accuracy, originality, and research. Essays will be judged "blind" with judges not knowing the identity of the contestant until the winner is chosen. The scholarship does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, religion, or creed in the awarding of this scholarship.

### **NOTIFICATION OF WINNERS**

The scholarship winner will be notified of their award via US mail to their home address and will be announced in time to permit presentations at graduation exercises. High

school principals are encouraged to provide special recognition during awards ceremonies. Representatives from the Sons of Confederate Veterans may be available to make presentations upon request, if so desired.

**DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS:**

The Sons of Confederate Veterans will send an enrollment verification form to the student winning the scholarship. The college registrar or appropriate official who verifies the student's actual enrollment must complete this form. The completed form must be mailed to the scholarship administrator at the address listed above. Upon receipt of this information, the scholarship check will be mailed to the student. The SCV will issue checks payable jointly to the scholarship recipient and the college.