
The James H. Rice Memorial Scholarship

Sponsored by the Ontario-Seneca-Yates District

Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New York

2021

The James H. Rice Memorial Scholarship offers financial assistance and recognition to high school seniors in the counties of Ontario, Seneca and Yates. The scholarships are designed to assist graduating seniors in pursuing a post-secondary education in any state at an accredited institution which provides a two or four year college program. The scholarship may be used for any bona fide school related expense such as tuition, fees, books and room and board.

This scholarship requires the student to be a 2021 graduate from any one of the fifteen public High Schools in the counties of Ontario, Seneca or Yates, possess a minimum of a 3.3 GPA (4.0 scale) or an 87 numerical grade average during their high school career, complete an application and provide two letters of reference.

There will be a minimum of **two (2)** scholarships awarded in the amount of **\$1,000 each**.

Applicants need not have a Masonic connection, nor does race, creed, religion, color, sex or national origin have any bearing in the selection process. Recipients are selected after completing the comprehensive written application.

A broad-based criterion is used in the selection process. The principal criterion is service to school and community with a special emphasis upon leadership in these areas. Freemasonry in the Ontario-Seneca-Yates District is looking for those students who exhibit the greatest potential to be not only of service to their communities in the future but also leaders in these communities. An applicant's academic record, communication skills and need for financial assistance are also carefully considered as is an evaluation of the applicant by school officials. The organization, appearance and completeness of the application are also factors considered by the selection committee.

APPLICATION DEADLINE IS FRIDAY, MAY 7, 2021

The following materials must be submitted together when applying:

- 1. The completed application form**
- 2. A copy of your high school transcripts**
- 3. Two (2) letters of reference from teachers, counselors, school officials, employers, etc. who might have insight as to your qualifications.**

Letters of reference should indicate personal experience with the applicant

Applications received without the accompanying materials will not be considered.

Application materials should be mailed to:

Thomas C. Abraham

P.O. Box 32

Bellona, NY 14415

t.abrahamtl@roadrunner.com

About James H. Rice

Mr. Rice was all about family and community. He served his community in many roles. He was the village of Rushville and town of Potter Justice of the Peace. He served as the Mayor of Rushville. He was on the Board of Deacons for the Rushville Congregational church for 30 years as well as its secretary. He had is amateur radio operators license and before the time of cell phones, volunteered as emergency communications for many marathons, iron man competitions, bike races and the Ontario County emergency planning committee.

Later in life he found his greatest joy in the Masons as well as his fondness for history. He served on the board of directors for the Yates County Historical Society. Volunteered at the Ontario County Historical Society. And, was a founding member of the Rushville History Room serving as the village historian. He was instrumental in creating the wall of honor. The wall includes pictures and years of service of men and women from the surrounding area who served in the armed forces from the Revolutionary War until the present. He was also the Grand Historian of the Grand Lodge of Free and accepted Masons of the State of New York. He enjoyed mentoring and teaching his fellow brother Masons in the history of the Masons and the rituals of the Fraternity.

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Application Form

2021

Applicant's Name _____

Applicant's High School _____

Permanent Street Address _____

Village or City _____

Phone Number _____ Email _____

Age ___ Date of Birth _____ Male ___ Female ___

US Citizen or permanent resident YES ___ NO ___ If no, country _____

Parent/Guardian _____

Address (If different than above) _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Household Income: Below \$15,000 ___ \$15,000 to \$50,000 ___

\$50,000 to \$75,000 ___ above \$75,000 ___

Number of people in household ___

Education:

Please list the name, address and your major at the college or university you plan to attend for the fall semester:

College/University name _____

Address _____

Major _____

Please answer the following on the attached pages in the space provided

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A. Please list your leadership experience (maximum of ½ page response)

B. Please list any community service activities you have been involved with (maximum of ½ page response)

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1. Completed Application Form above within the space provided.
2. Attach a copy of my High School Transcript, including GPA and class rank
3. Attach two (2) letters of reference from teachers, guidance counselors, employers ext., who might have insight as to your qualifications. Letterhead stationary is preferred from the sponsor, unless the person is retired. Letters of reference should indicate personal experience with the applicant and where appropriate, financial needs.
4. **I understand that if the packet is incomplete that my application will not be considered for the James H. Rice Memorial Scholarship.**

APPLICATION DEADLINE IS FRIDAY MAY 7, 2021

This application package for the James H. Rice Memorial Scholarship is complete, true and correct.

Applicant's Signature _____ **Date** _____

Submit complete application package to:

Thomas C. Abraham

P.O. Box 32

Bellona, NY 14415

abrahamtk@roadrunner.com