December 2024

Dear NYSIR Subscriber:

The Board of Trustees of the New York Schools Insurance Foundation and the Board of Governors of the New York Schools Insurance Reciprocal are pleased to announce that we are once again offering the Cristin Ann Bambino, Paul Jensen and Joseph Goncalves scholarship awards for the coming year. These scholarships are for college bound students from NYSIR subscribing districts only. Criteria are outlined in the accompanying pages. A committee will review all applications and the scholarships will be presented at our annual meeting in May.

The Cristin Ann Bambino scholarship will be awarded on a regional basis with one statewide award. Seven regional winners will receive a $3,000 award, one second prize winner will receive a $4,000 award and one statewide winner will receive a $5,000 award. The regional scholarships will be awarded locally, and the $5,000 scholarship will be given at our annual meeting in May.

The Paul Jensen scholarship will be awarded to two individuals on a statewide basis. The overall winner will receive a $5,000 award and the runner up will receive a $3,000 award. The $3,000 scholarship will be awarded locally, and the $5,000 scholarship will be given at our annual meeting in May.

The Joseph Goncalves Student Humanitarian scholarship will be awarded to two individuals on a statewide basis. The overall winner will receive a $5,000 award and the runner up will receive a $3,000 award. The $3,000 scholarship will be awarded locally, and the $5,000 scholarship will be given at our annual meeting in May.

We ask that you share this letter and criteria with your guidance department so that counselors may let all seniors in your district know that the scholarships are available. I have also attached three scholarship application forms that should be attached to the essay when it is returned. Please feel free to make as many copies as you need for interested and eligible students. The scholarship applications can also be downloaded from our website, **www.nysir.org.**

Applications should be received **on or before Friday, March 7, 2025**

Please see page 2 for Submission Guidelines.

If you have any questions, please call Krystel Allen at 516-393-2320.

Sincerely,

Deborah Heppes

Deborah Heppes
President, NYSIR Board of Governors

NEW YORK SCHOOLS INSURANCE RECIPROCAL
333 EARLE OVINGTON BOULEVARD | SUITE 905 | UNIONDALE, NY 11553-3624
Tel: 516-393-2320 | Fax: 516-393-2331 | WWW.NYSIR.ORG

Submission Guidelines

- Please email all submissions and supporting documents required to **kallen@nysir.org.** If student is unable to email the application, please call Krystel Allen at 516-393-2320.
- Submission due date is Friday, March 7, 2025. Application must be received on or before this date.
- All supporting documents must be legible and able to read/view clearly.
- Please read each applications criteria carefully.

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BAMBINO/ GONCALVES/ JENSEN SCHOLARSHIP CRITERIA

The **Bambino Scholarship** is available to a college or technical school-bound special education student with an active IEP or 504 plan from a NYSIR-member school district to reward him or her for working through special challenges to complete high school and obtain acceptance to a college or university. The scholarship is in memory of Cristin Ann Bambino, daughter of NYSIR's Director of Risk Management, Robert Bambino. Cristin was a special education student who persevered through many obstacles and earned a Bachelor's degree and a Paralegal Certificate before her untimely passing.

Applicants for this scholarship must complete an essay, not to exceed 650 words that must answer the following questions:

1. Explain the student's special education challenge(s) by listing and describing what they are.
2. Is the student managed by an IEP or 504 plan?
3. Give examples of how the student overcame his or her challenges.
4. List the student's accomplishments (clubs, athletics, volunteer activities, and academic achievements).
5. How can the student serve as a role model for other young people with special challenges?
6. Which college/technical school is the student planning to attend, and what will the student study?

The **Goncalves Scholarship** is available to a student who demonstrates an involvement and work for a cause or organization that promotes social justice, equal opportunity, relief of human suffering or other aspiration generally understood to be within the meaning of humanitarian activity throughout their high school career. Diversity is encouraged. This scholarship is in honor of NYSIR's former Executive Director, Joseph Goncalves.

Applicants for this scholarship must complete an essay, not to exceed 650 words, that explains:

- ✓ His or her experience serving others during their high school careers
- ✓ How that service has benefited others
- ✓ What that experience has personally meant to the applicant
- ✓ The essay also may include mention of inspirational role models

The **Jensen Scholarship** is available to a student who has excelled in design in his or her high school career. The goal of this scholarship is to reward a student who has shown interest and promise in design and who wishes to pursue this path in college. The scholarship is in memory of Paul Jensen, a marketing representative for NYSIR. Paul was a great craftsman, able to evaluate the best functional attributes of multiple designs and then conceptualize his own creative version. For example, he created canoe designs then converted them to sailing canoes, and then adapted a commercial roof rack to transport the canoes.

Applicants for this scholarship must complete an essay, not to exceed 650 words, that explains:

- ✓ A way they would design, or adapt an existing design, for a specific purpose;
- ✓ How this design or adaptation could be accomplished;
- ✓ Why this design, or adaptation, would be unique.

Schematics or drawings are not required but may be attached to the essay to help explain the design or adaptation.

As a condition of the receipt of any scholarship above, consent must be given to NYSIR for the use of the scholarship winner's name, photograph and a story about the scholarship winner in NYSIR advertisements.

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THE CRISTIN ANN BAMBINO MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
2025 APPLICATION FORM

CRITERIA

This scholarship will be awarded to a college or technical school-bound special education student with an active IEP or 504 plan from a NYSIR-member school district to reward him or her for working through special challenges to complete high school and obtain acceptance to a college or university. There will be nine scholarship winners. Seven recipients will receive a $3,000 scholarship on a regional basis, the overall winner will receive a $5,000 scholarship and the runner-up will receive a $4,000 scholarship.

PLEASE ATTACH AN ESSAY, WRITTEN BY THE STUDENT, NOT TO EXCEED 650 WORDS. THE ESSAY MUST INCLUDE A RESPONSE FOR EACH OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

1. Explain the student's special education challenge(s) by listing and describing what they are.
2. Is the student managed by an IEP or 504 plan?
3. Give examples of how the student overcame his or her challenges.
4. List the student's accomplishments (clubs, athletics, volunteer activities, and academic achievements).
5. How can the student serve as a role model for other young people with special challenges?
6. Which college/technical school is the student planning to attend, and what will the student study?

THIS APPLICATION MUST BE RECEIVED ON OR BEFORE FRIDAY, MARCH 7, 2025

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY & SEE SUBMISSION GUIDELINE CHANGES ON PAGE 2:

Application form must be fully completed and emailed to Krystel Allen at **kallen@nysir.org** with supporting documents, if required.

IMPORTANT: As a condition of the receipt of a scholarship, consent must be given to NYSIR for the use of the scholarship winner's name, photograph, and a story about the scholarship winner in NYSIR advertisements.

MUST BE COMPLETED:

Student's Name: _____

Home Address: _____

Name of High School: _____

Name of School District: _____

_____ _____
Guidance Counselor's Name (Print & Sign) Guidance Counselor's Phone Number

_____ _____
Student's Name Parent/Guardian Name & Phone Number

Submission Guidelines
PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

1. **Please email all submissions to kallen@nysir.org. If you are unable to email your application, please contact Krystel Allen at 516-393-2320.**

2. **Please submit your applications in the formats of pdfs or word documents ONLY. DO NOT include links or files such as google docs, dropbox, sharepoint, one drive etc. Your submissions will not be able to be viewed via these links on our system.**

3. **The application submission deadline is Friday, March 7th, 2025. Applications received after the due date will NOT be accepted.**

4. **Responses are required for each of the six questions on the application form. Essays that do not include responses for all six questions will not be considered.**

5. **Remember – essays cannot exceed 650-word count.**

6. **It is also required that your Guidance Counselor(s) and Parent/Guardian sign the application. Make sure to include their contact information.**

7. **Please note that only the winners of the scholarships are contacted in April.**

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THE PAUL JENSEN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
2025 APPLICATION FORM

I. CRITERIA

This scholarship, one in the amount of $5,000, and other for $3,000, will be awarded to a student who has demonstrated an inspired imagination and creative aesthetic in his or her school career, and who is seeking an opportunity to attend college. The scholarship is in memory of Paul Jensen, a marketing representative for NYSIR, who passed away in 2006. Paul was a resourceful and inventive man who used, found and collected objects to improvise solutions to everyday problems. He was a wood artist, craftsman and enthusiastic amateur boatwright.

Please attach an essay, written by the student, not to exceed 650 words, that addresses the following topics:

- How the student has designed or adapted an existing design for a specific purpose.
- How this design or adaptation was accomplished; and
- What impact this design has had on the student or others.

This scholarship is awarded to a student who has demonstrated resourcefulness and ingenuity to overcome a puzzling obstacle they have encountered in their life, with strong consideration given to designs which utilize commonly available or repurposed items. For example, unable to find commercially available tools which met his needs, Paul Jensen built boats in bottles using instruments he designed and constructed himself from materials left over from other projects. Schematics or drawing are not required but may be attached to the essay to help explain the design or adaptation. Be Practical. Be Creative. Be Original.

II. THIS APPLICATION MUST BE RECEIVED ON OR BEFORE FRIDAY, MARCH 7, 2025

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY & SEE SUBMISSION GUIDELINE CHANGES ON PAGE 2:

Application form must be fully completed and emailed to Krystel Allen at **kallen@nysir.org** with supporting documents, if required.

IMPORTANT: As a condition of the receipt of a scholarship, consent must be given to NYSIR for the use of the scholarship winner's name, photograph and a story about the scholarship winner in NYSIR advertisements.

III. MUST BE COMPLETED BY STUDENT:

Student's Name: _____

Home Address: _____

Name of High School: _____

Name of School District: _____

_____ _____
Guidance Counselor's Name (Print & Sign) Guidance Counselor's Phone Number

_____ _____
Student's Name Parent/Guardian Name & Phone Number

Submission Guidelines
PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

1. **Please email all submissions to kallen@nysir.org. If you are unable to email your application, please contact Krystel Allen at 516-393-2320.**

2. **Please submit your applications in the formats of pdfs or word documents ONLY. DO NOT include links or files such as google docs, dropbox, sharepoint, one drive etc. Your submissions will not be able to be viewed via these links on our system.**

3. **The application submission deadline is Friday, March 7th, 2025. Applications received after the due date will NOT be accepted.**

4. **All supporting documents must be legible and able to read/view clearly.**

5. **It is also REQUIRED that your Guidance Counselor(s) and Parent/Guardian sign the application. Make sure to include their contact information.**

6. **Please note that only the winners of the scholarships are contacted in April.**

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THE JOSEPH GONCALVES STUDENT HUMANITARIAN SCHOLARSHIP 2025 APPLICATION FORM

I. CRITERIA

This scholarship, one in the amount of $5,000, the other for $3,000, will be awarded to a graduating senior from a NYSIR subscriber district who plans to attend college in New York State. Applying students should be able to demonstrate a record of involvement and work for a cause or organization that actively promotes social justice, equal opportunity, relief of human suffering or similar aspirations generally understood to be within the meaning of humanitarian activity. Diversity is encouraged. The scholarship is in honor of NYSIR's former Executive Director, Joseph Goncalves.

Please attach an essay written by the student, not to exceed 650 words, that addresses the following topics:

- His or her experience serving others during their high school careers
- How that service has benefitted others
- What that experience has personally meant to the applicant
- The essay also may include mention of inspirational role models

In addition, submission packages must include evidence of plans to attend college in New York, as well as a letter from the applicant's school counselor, a civic or religious leader or other non-family member who can vouch for the graduating senior's activities and worthiness as a student humanitarian.

II. THIS APPLICATION MUST BE RECEIVED ON OR BEFORE FRIDAY, MARCH 7, 2025

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY & SEE SUBMISSION GUIDELINE CHANGES ON PAGE 2:

Application form must be fully completed and emailed to Krystel Allen at **kallen@nysir.org** with supporting documents, if required.

IMPORTANT: As a condition of the receipt of a scholarship, consent must be given to NYSIR for the use of the scholarship winner's name, photograph and a story about the scholarship winner in NYSIR advertisements.

III. MUST BE COMPLETED BY STUDENT:

Student's Name: _____

Home Address: _____

Name of High School: _____

Name of School District: _____

_____ _____
Guidance Counselor's Name (Print & Sign) Guidance Counselor's Phone Number

_____ _____
Student's Name Parent/Guardian Name & Phone Number

Submission Guidelines
PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

1. **Please email all submissions to kallen@nysir.org. If you are unable to email your application, please contact Krystel Allen at 516-393-2320.**

2. **Please submit your applications in the formats of pdfs or word documents ONLY. DO NOT include links or files such as google docs, dropbox, sharepoint, one drive etc. Your submissions will not be able to be viewed via these links on our system.**

3. **The application submission deadline is Friday, March 7th, 2025. Applications received after the due date will NOT be accepted.**

4. **All supporting documents must be legible and able to read/view clearly.**

5. **It is also REQUIRED that your Guidance Counselor(s) and Parent/Guardian sign the application. Make sure to include their contact information.**

6. **Please note that only the winners of the scholarships are contacted in April.**