KALAMAZOO RESA FOUNDATION

2026 Rex and Ken Scholarship Application

The Kalamazoo RESA Foundation proudly announces the Rex and Ken Scholarship Application. This scholarship will be awarded to a High School senior who attends Climax Scotts Schools. This scholarship is in honor of two young men from Climax-Scotts who were lost to their loved ones and community during World War II.

Eligibility criteria:

- Climax-Scotts High School Senior

The scholarship will be awarded as a one-time award. Upon receiving notice in April that the scholarship has been awarded, recipients and their parent(s) will be required to attend an awards banquet if one is held.

To apply, complete and return this application, along with required documents, no later than 3:00 p.m., February 27, 2026 to the Climax-Scotts Counseling office.

We are unable to accept late or incomplete applications.

To be completed by student applicant:

Applicant's name: _____

Applicant's Personal (Non-School) Email Address: _____

Phone: _____

Home Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

College/University/Trade School you plan to attend: _____

Program of studies you plan to pursue at college: _____

Name of High School you attend: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS: The following items must be attached to this completed form:

1. **To apply for this scholarship, you must complete part 1 and part 2 on the next two pages of the scholarship application which are described in detail.**
   a. **Part 1 - Reflection page based on the reflections and writings of Mr. Smith.**
   b. **Part 2 - Thank you letter to Ms. Patricia Smith.**

2. **Unofficial Transcript**

3. **W-9 form* to be completed with student's information attached.**
   (*form is attached to the back of this application – http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/fw9.pdf)

The Rex and Ken – Pride of Scotts Forgotten Heroes- Scholarship

Due Date: February 27, 2026



A graduate of the Scotts High School class of 1942, Francis Max Smith, known to his friends as "Smitty," wanted to create a lasting tribute to two "brave young farm boys", **Rex Smith**, Smitty's little brother, and **Ken Snyder**, Smitty's best friend, who lost their lives in service to their Country. Max Smith's greatest desire was for young people of this generation to remember and HONOR those who gave their lives for this Country, and to understand the sacrifices of these two young men and those like them who never had the opportunity to pursue higher education or a skilled trade. To honor their memories, Max Smith endowed a scholarship through the Kalamazoo Regional Educational Service Agency Foundation before he passed away in 2015. Only students attending Climax-Scotts are eligible to apply and receive this special scholarship.

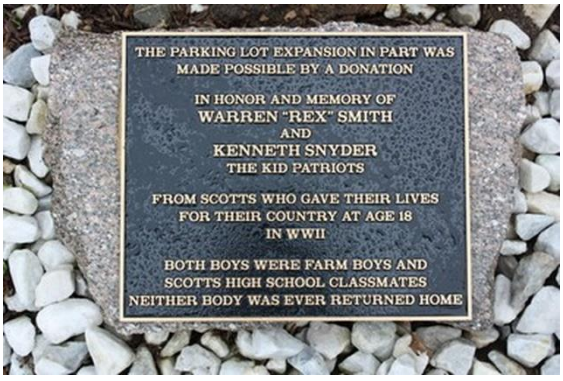
To begin please view Mr. Smith telling you about this scholarship: http://vimeo.com/66074394

Mr. Smith was very passionate about many things but two of the most prominent things were honoring and remembering his younger brother Rex and his best friend Kenny and seeking justice and remembrance for the men on the U.S.S. Indianapolis. This scholarship includes two parts.

Part 1:

You need to read several of Mr. Smith's writings and compilations about his life with Rex and Kenny **or** about the U.S.S. Indianapolis then write a 1 or more-page reflection of the topic you chose. This should include:

- What significance the people and events had in Mr. Smith's life
- How and why Mr. Smith honored the memories of those involved
- How you will use and apply the information and advice Mr. Smith gave to you in his writings
- How you will preserve and honor the memories of those lost to future generations



Part 2:

You also need to write a thank you letter to ***Ms. Patricia Smith***, Mr. Smith's daughter, as if you were one of the winners of this special scholarship. In your letter you should include:

- Why you are grateful for this opportunity.
- How you plan to serve your Country and/or community, as well as, how you have already served your Country and/or community. Examples might include, but are not limited to: your future profession, your work ethic, and how you plan to give back to your Country and/or community in general if given this opportunity.

- Your future plans (what do you plan to study, where, why you chose this field, etc.? If you are undecided, what you will do in your next few years to decide?).
- Why you think it is special that Mr. Smith created a scholarship in honor of his younger brother and best friend, so that you could have this opportunity.

It is expected that your submission is typed, double-spaced, 12-point font, spell checked, and uses appropriate grammar.

Use this link or the links above to access the electronic copies of Mr. Smith's work for part 1 or you may see Mr. Smith's works and several other sources Mr. Smith provided to us in the school library.

Submissions should be sent to the Climax-Scotts High School counselor.

Form **W-9**
(Rev. October 2018)
Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification

► **Go to *www.irs.gov/FormW9* for instructions and the latest information.**

Give Form to the requester. Do not send to the IRS.

Print or type. See **Specific Instructions** on page 3.

1 Name (as shown on your income tax return). Name is required on this line; do not leave this line blank.

2 Business name/disregarded entity name, if different from above

3 Check appropriate box for federal tax classification of the person whose name is entered on line 1. Check only **one** of the following seven boxes.

☐ Individual/sole proprietor or single-member LLC ☐ C Corporation ☐ S Corporation ☐ Partnership ☐ Trust/estate

☐ Limited liability company. Enter the tax classification (C=C corporation, S=S corporation, P=Partnership) ► _____

Note: Check the appropriate box in the line above for the tax classification of the single-member owner. Do not check LLC if the LLC is classified as a single-member LLC that is disregarded from the owner unless the owner of the LLC is another LLC that is **not** disregarded from the owner for U.S. federal tax purposes. Otherwise, a single-member LLC that is disregarded from the owner should check the appropriate box for the tax classification of its owner.

☐ Other (see instructions) ►

4 Exemptions (codes apply only to certain entities, not individuals; see instructions on page 3):

Exempt payee code (if any) _____

Exemption from FATCA reporting code (if any) _____

(Applies to accounts maintained outside the U.S.)

5 Address (number, street, and apt. or suite no.) See instructions.

Requester's name and address (optional)

6 City, state, and ZIP code

7 List account number(s) here (optional)

Part I Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)

Enter your TIN in the appropriate box. The TIN provided must match the name given on line 1 to avoid backup withholding. For individuals, this is generally your social security number (SSN). However, for a resident alien, sole proprietor, or disregarded entity, see the instructions for Part I, later. For other entities, it is your employer identification number (EIN). If you do not have a number, see *How to get a TIN,* later.

Note: If the account is in more than one name, see the instructions for line 1. Also see *What Name and Number To Give the Requester* for guidelines on whose number to enter.

Social security number

			–			–				

or

Employer identification number

		–							

Part II Certification

Under penalties of perjury, I certify that:

1. The number shown on this form is my correct taxpayer identification number (or I am waiting for a number to be issued to me); and
2. I am not subject to backup withholding because: (a) I am exempt from backup withholding, or (b) I have not been notified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) that I am subject to backup withholding as a result of a failure to report all interest or dividends, or (c) the IRS has notified me that I am no longer subject to backup withholding; and
3. I am a U.S. citizen or other U.S. person (defined below); and
4. The FATCA code(s) entered on this form (if any) indicating that I am exempt from FATCA reporting is correct.

Certification instructions. You must cross out item 2 above if you have been notified by the IRS that you are currently subject to backup withholding because you have failed to report all interest and dividends on your tax return. For real estate transactions, item 2 does not apply. For mortgage interest paid, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, contributions to an individual retirement arrangement (IRA), and generally, payments other than interest and dividends, you are not required to sign the certification, but you must provide your correct TIN. See the instructions for Part II, later.

Sign Here	**Signature of U.S. person** ►	**Date** ►

General Instructions

Section references are to the Internal Revenue Code unless otherwise noted.

Future developments. For the latest information about developments related to Form W-9 and its instructions, such as legislation enacted after they were published, go to *www.irs.gov/FormW9.*

Purpose of Form

An individual or entity (Form W-9 requester) who is required to file an information return with the IRS must obtain your correct taxpayer identification number (TIN) which may be your social security number (SSN), individual taxpayer identification number (ITIN), adoption taxpayer identification number (ATIN), or employer identification number (EIN), to report on an information return the amount paid to you, or other amount reportable on an information return. Examples of information returns include, but are not limited to, the following.

- Form 1099-INT (interest earned or paid)
- Form 1099-DIV (dividends, including those from stocks or mutual funds)
- Form 1099-MISC (various types of income, prizes, awards, or gross proceeds)
- Form 1099-B (stock or mutual fund sales and certain other transactions by brokers)
- Form 1099-S (proceeds from real estate transactions)
- Form 1099-K (merchant card and third party network transactions)
- Form 1098 (home mortgage interest), 1098-E (student loan interest), 1098-T (tuition)
- Form 1099-C (canceled debt)
- Form 1099-A (acquisition or abandonment of secured property)

Use Form W-9 only if you are a U.S. person (including a resident alien), to provide your correct TIN.

If you do not return Form W-9 to the requester with a TIN, you might be subject to backup withholding. See What is backup withholding, *later.*