

Nantucket Book Foundation Scholarship ~ In Memory of Tharon Dunn

On behalf of the Nantucket Book Foundation, a scholarship fund was created to honor the life and legacy of Tharon Dunn. Tharon's time on Nantucket was fiercely dedicated to the promotion of books, literacy, and language learning on the island. As Vice President of the Nantucket Book Foundation, she spearheaded efforts to raise and celebrate the caliber of our island reading culture. In 2005, she co-founded the English Learners Program at the Nantucket Atheneum to help meet the needs of our growing and expanding demographics. She remained involved and active in the program until her health prevented her from doing so. Her devotion to and advocacy for those learning English as a second language led many newcomers to not only language acquisition, but also access to vital public resources. She lived a life of purpose with integrity and an unwavering care for her community, perpetually aware of an underlying call of service to others.

This scholarship will be offered annually to a qualifying member of the graduating class of Nantucket High School in the amount of \$1,000. The spirit of this award encourages its recipient to become the best version of themselves and it holds forth a promise to provide at least one of the tools necessary to do so. Applicants should be an English Language Learner. Consideration may also be given to a student wishing to pursue studies in Literature and/or English Learner Education in the event no English Learners apply.

The winner will be announced and honored at the Nantucket Book Festival Celebration Event each June.

PROCEDURE

Upon receipt of **all** of the following, the Nantucket Book Foundation Scholarship Committee will determine the recipient.

1. **Application form** – completed, signed and dated.
2. **Cover letter** describing academic accomplishments, work accomplishments and career goals, addressing one or more of the following criteria: financial need, demonstrated academic excellence, work or volunteer duties, relevance of the education to the objective and purpose of the specific scholarship (i.e., student in the English Learner Program at Nantucket Public Schools and/or pursues study in the fields of Literature and/or English as a Second Language). This cover letter must be dated and signed.
3. **One or two recent confidential references** - one from a direct supervisor or faculty member or a personal reference from a non-family member. (Must be signed and dated within the past year). (See Reference Form that can be used in lieu of a letter.)
4. Copy of **transcripts** from the last most recent academic session.

Please Note: Only a **complete** application (i.e., **all 4 items** – application form, cover letter, transcript and reference(s) as listed above) will be eligible for consideration. Incomplete applications, applications not relevant to the scholarship's purpose and late applications will not be accepted for consideration. Hand deliver or send required materials by the deadline of **5:00 pm May 1, 2026 to Mrs. Hickman or Mrs. Surprenant in the CPS/NHS Library.**

For an application, questions or further information, please email hickmanre@nspk.org and surprenantj@nspk.org

NBF Tharon Dunn Scholarship-Student Application Form

Name: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Parents:

- Name: _____
- Email address: _____ Phone Number: _____
- Mailing Address: _____

Name and address of college/school which you plan to attend: _____

Please specify the degree or accreditation you are pursuing: _____

_____ Anticipated Year of completion: _____

ANTICIPATED COSTS

Tuition: _____ Room and Board: _____

Transportation: _____ Books & Lab Fees: _____

Other (Please specify): _____ **Total:** _____

FINANCIAL RESOURCES

What percentage of your expenses do you anticipate will be paid for by:

A) Parents/Guardian: _____ C) Self: _____

B) Scholarships: _____ D) Loans: _____

C) Other resources/assets (trusts, savings, etc): _____

What do you plan to do following the completion of your course of studies?

APPLICANT AUTHORIZATION AND ATTESTATION: Please mark Yes or No as applicable.

Yes	No	
☐	☐	I have checked this form for errors and omissions
☐	☐	To the best of my knowledge, the information reported is complete and correct
☐	☐	I grant permission to reveal my name in connection with scholarship, award promotion or publicity.

Date: _____ Signature: _____

Completed Application must include the following documents and must be received at the CPS/NHS Library by 5:00 pm May 1:

- ____ ***A signed, dated and completed application***
- ____ ***Cover Letter (current, signed and dated)***
- ____ ***Grade Transcript from your last most recent Academic Session (or explanation why not available)***
- ____ ***One or two recent Letter(s) of Recommendation (dated within the past year from a teacher, educational personnel, or community/non-family member)***

Incomplete or Late Applications will not be considered.

NBF Tharon Dunn Scholarship
% Rebecca Hickman & Jill Surprenant
CPS/NHS Library
10 Surfside Road
Nantucket, MA 02554

For additional information or questions, please contact: hickmanre@nspk.org and surprenantj@nspk.org

NBF Tharon Dunn Scholarship Reference Form (This is an optional form that can be used in lieu of a letter of recommendation).

Applicant's name: _____

The above applicant is applying for a scholarship from the Nantucket Book Foundation Tharon Dunn Scholarship Program. In lieu of a reference letter, you are welcome to use this form to discuss this individual with respect to the following areas of interest to the NBF Scholarship Committee (you may use additional paper, if necessary.)

1. The context in which you know this individual.

2. This individual's professional potential (i.e., personal integrity, commitment to their field, plans to continue education, etc.).

3. Your recommendation for this scholarship and applicant with any reasons you wish to add.

Name: _____

Title: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____ Email: _____

All submissions must be received by 5:00 pm May 1

Please send to the attention of:

Rebecca Hickman & Jill Surprenant

CPS/NHS Library

10 Surfside Road,

Nantucket, MA 02554

508-228-7280 x1210; Email: hickmanre@nspk.org and surprenantj@nspk.org