



Rhoda Psaty Holzer
January 16, 1951 – August 10, 2016

Rhoda Holzer Memorial Fine Arts Scholarship

January 21, 2026

Dear Scholarship Applicant,

Attached is an application to apply for the annual scholarship in memory of Rhoda Holzer.

Rhoda and her husband, Stuart, moved to Briarcliff Manor in 1975 and raised their three children here, all of whom graduated from Briarcliff High School. A talented artist, Rhoda earned her BFA from The Tyler School of Art at Temple University, and, later, a certificate in Botanical Illustration from the New York Botanical Garden (NYBG). She then went on to teach courses in botanical illustration at the NYBG. Over the years she had several solo exhibitions of her work, including exhibits of her botanical watercolors at the Greenwich Audubon Society and at the Rockefeller State Park Preserve.

In the fall of 2015, Rhoda led a workshop for the Briarcliff High School AP Art students. She loved teaching art and sharing the creative experience, and especially loved her time with the AP art class. It reminded her of her own time as a girl and young art student learning to express herself and her appreciation of nature through her artwork. **We invite you to visit www.RhodaHolzerFund.org to read more about Rhoda and her artwork, to see past winners of the Scholarship, and to learn more about the Rhoda Holzer Memorial Fine Arts Fund.**

The Rhoda Holzer Memorial Fine Arts Scholarship, supported by the Memorial Fine Arts Fund, was established to serve as a lasting tribute to her in the community where she lived for over 40 years, raised her family, formed close friendships, and enriched so many lives. **The Fine Arts Scholarships help graduating BHS seniors who have demonstrated a love and appreciation of fine arts primarily through their own artwork, as well as through cultural interests, to pursue their Fine Arts studies.**

Each year one (or more) student(s) from the Briarcliff High School senior class will be chosen to receive (or share) a \$8000 scholarship award in Rhoda's memory.

Please complete the attached application along with the items listed on the Application Checklist of Requirements and return to the Briarcliff High School Guidance Office by March 20, 2026.

On behalf of Rhoda's family and friends, thank you for your interest in the Rhoda Holzer Memorial Fine Arts Scholarship.

Sincerely,
The Holzer Family –
Stuart, Brooke, Craig & Leah

Rhoda Holzer Memorial Fine Arts Scholarship

Award:

A \$8000 scholarship will be awarded annually to one (or more) qualified graduating senior(s) from Briarcliff High School to be used towards the costs of their accredited 2- or 4-year educational institution. If two or more students are chosen, the \$8000 award will be shared.

Eligibility:

- Applicant must be a graduating Briarcliff High School senior
- Applicant must have a demonstrated commitment to fine arts, primarily shown through their own artwork and school coursework
- Applicant must be accepted as a full-time student at an accredited 2- or 4-year college or university, preferably as a fine arts major or minor concentration
- Applicant must complete all parts of scholarship application by the stated deadline

Selection Process:

A Scholarship Selection Committee comprised of BHS faculty and administrators will select recipient(s) based upon subjective criteria, including:

- Evaluation of traditional portfolio
- Artistic craftsmanship (attention to detail, ability to problem-solve and develop creative solutions, mastery of skills and techniques)
- Demonstrated interest in the fine arts
- Academic record
- Extra-curricular activities
- Written essay and personal goals
- Demonstrated financial need may be considered, but is not a requirement

Application Process:

Eligible students should submit a scholarship application along with the required documents to the Briarcliff High School Guidance Department **no later than Friday, March 20, 2026** to be considered.

Notification:

The Briarcliff High School Guidance Office will notify recipients of their selection during the annual BHS Award Ceremony to be held in May 2026, or during the annual Art Salon (usually held in April of each year).

Payment:

The scholarship will be paid directly to the Bursar's Office of the college or university which the recipient will be attending in the fall.

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2026 Scholarship - Checklist of Requirements

This checklist and all items on this checklist must be submitted to the Briarcliff High School Guidance Department no later than March 20, 2026.

- Scholarship Application Information - *This section must be completed by the student and typed (not hand-written).*
- Traditional art portfolio - *a portfolio of 15-20 pieces presented in a powerpoint presentation. Each piece should have a title, a description of what medium was used and the size of the piece itself.*
- Applicant Verification - *This section must be signed by a Briarcliff High School Guidance Counselor.*
- Copy of Briarcliff High School Transcript
- Resume or High School Activities List
- Written Essay - *Please see Application for essay topic.*
- Letter of Acceptance from college or university (if available by March 20th scholarship application deadline). *Must be submitted before scholarship award is made.*
- Certification and Release Authorization - *This section must be signed and dated by both the applicant and their parent/guardian.*

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2026 Scholarship – Applicant Information

Student's Name: _____

Student's Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Telephone Number: _____

Student's Email Address: _____

Name of college/university you plan to attend (if available before March 20th): _____

Short Answer Questions

Please type your responses to the following questions on an additional sheet of paper with your name at the top:

- 1. Please describe your involvement in and/or love of the fine arts, including any formal classes you have taken at Briarcliff High School or outside of school. Please list any high school accomplishments, honors or awards. You may also list any art shows/competitions to which you have submitted your artwork, but please indicate outcome of submission.*
- 2. Please list 3 or 4 of your most recent and/or meaningful extracurricular or community service activities, as well as the years or grades you participated in them. These activities do not have to be art related.*
- 3. Please list any summer or school year work experience.*
- 4. Please briefly describe your future educational and/or career goals.*

Essay/Artist Reflection –

Please choose ONE of the following prompts. Your typed essay should be 250-500 words and attached on a separate piece of paper with your name included on the top.

(A) Rhoda found inspiration everywhere, especially in the beauty of nature, in other artist work, and in her daily life. Please tell us about what inspires you.

OR

(B) How has art influenced or impacted your life?

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2026 Scholarship – Applicant Verification

To be completed by Briarcliff High School Guidance Counselor only:

I hereby certify that the application is correct to the best of my knowledge:

Guidance Counselor Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

2026 Scholarship – Certification and Release Authorization

I certify that all information I have provided is true, complete and accurate. I authorize release of this information to confirm/verify this application. In addition, I give permission to the Scholarship Selection Committee to duplicate my application packet for processing and evaluation purposes. If selected to receive a scholarship, I give my permission for publicity release.

Student signature: _____

Date: _____

I certify that all information provided by my child is true, complete and accurate. I authorize release of their information to confirm/verify this application. I give my permission for publicity release.

Parent/Guardian signature: _____

Date: _____