

# *Sheldon Historical Society Schoolhouse Museum*

## *Marilyn Smithley Memorial Scholarship*

*Amount Varies – Up to \$500*

The Sheldon Historical Society is awarding this scholarship to a senior with an interest in history. This candidate should be someone of good character, who might in the future belong to a historical society or be involved in giving back to their community in some way. They do not need to be a history major, but they should be planning to enroll in a college or trade school, after their graduation from high school. Preference may be given to applicants who are residents of the Town of Sheldon, or if they are planning a career in history or education.

Applicants should fill out the attached application, describing their interest in history, along with their personal, academic and career goals. Two letters of recommendation are also requested. They will be reviewed by our committee and the scholarships will be given out at the school awards night.

*The Sheldon Schoolhouse Museum was constructed in 1891 as a two-room schoolhouse in Sheldon, Wyoming County, NY. Grades 1-8 were taught in this school for the next 80 years until 1971, when it closed and was merged into the Holland School System.*

*The museum is maintained by the Town of Sheldon Historical Society, whose members spend many hours preserving local history, helping visitors with their family histories, putting on historical programs and giving tours of the museum and authentic schoolroom.*

*The Schoolhouse was built by people who wanted their children to have a good education, and though more than 130 years has passed, that has not changed.*

For questions or to arrange a tour of the museum, contact us at:

townofsheldonhistorian@gmail.com or call 716-474-3156.

Information about the Sheldon Historical Society and Schoolhouse

Museum can be found at:

[http://www.townofsheldon.com/Historical\\_Society\\_2.html](http://www.townofsheldon.com/Historical_Society_2.html)

Or on Facebook: History of the Town of Sheldon, New York



Sheldon Historical Society  
Schoolhouse Museum  
3859 Main Street  
Strykersville, NY 14145

**Please submit applications to the Guidance Office by: April 24, 2026**

***APPLICATION***

***Sheldon Historical Society Schoolhouse Museum***

***Marilyn Smithley Memorial Scholarship***

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Resident of the Town of Sheldon: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please answer the questions below on a separate, typewritten sheet, telling us about yourself, your interest in history, and why you would like to receive our scholarship. Also include at least two letters of recommendation.**

1. Do you enjoy school? What is your best subject?
2. What are your future plans? Do you know what your major will be?
3. What do you do in your free time? Do you have any hobbies?
4. Have you done any volunteer work? Do you foresee yourself volunteering in your community in the future?
5. Our scholarship is intended for someone of good character. What do you think are good qualities for a person to have? Give examples of how you have displayed these good qualities in your personal, school and community life.
6. What do you enjoy about history, and why do you think it is important to preserve history or historical places, like the Sheldon Schoolhouse?
7. Is there anything else you would like to tell us about yourself?

**Thank you for applying for our scholarship. We look forward to hearing from you!**

**RECOMMENDATION FORM**

***Sheldon Historical Society Schoolhouse Museum***

***Memorial Scholarship***

*The Sheldon Historical Society Schoolhouse Museum is offering a scholarship to a student of good character with an interest in history, who will be attending a college or trade school after their graduation from Holland, Attica or Pioneer High School. We would appreciate your assistance in evaluating the candidate named below. Please comment in regards to his/her level of maturity, personal integrity and morality, leadership and commitment.*

*This should be completed by a teacher, employer, church leader or someone knows the applicant well. It should describe how you are acquainted with the student and why you recommend them for our scholarship. These questions can be answered on this form or on a separate document. Thank you for your recommendation.*

Student's name: \_\_\_\_\_

How long and in what relationship have you known the applicant? \_\_\_\_\_

What are the first words that come to mind in describing this individual? \_\_\_\_\_

Why do you feel this student is deserving of a scholarship?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title/position: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_