NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND PERFORMING ARTS DIVISION

Presents

THE 2015 MARY ANNE PARKS PERFORMING ARTS SCHOLARSHIP

2015 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM

For High School Seniors through Grad School Students

Who Are Legally Blind

One scholarship (value ($1000))

Dear Scholarship Applicants:

This July at our national convention, the Performing Arts Division of the National Federation of the Blind will award a scholarship to recognize achievement by, and to offer support of, a blind individual interested in pursuing an education in, or pertaining to, the performing arts. All applicants for this scholarship: (1) must be legally blind; (2) must be pursuing or planning to pursue a full-time, post-secondary course of study in a Performing Arts degree program, or are pursuing, or plan to pursue, a degree in a field related to the performing arts, at an accredited institution, in the United States, in the fall of the 2015-2016 academic year; and, (3) if chosen, applicants must participate in the entire NFB national convention, with particular emphasis on all Performing Arts Division activities. In addition to the award, the winner is brought to the convention at Performing Arts Division expense. The application deadline is 9:00 P.M., April 5, 2015, EST.

The National Federation of the Blind is an organization dedicated to creating opportunity for all blind people. To that end, recipients of the Mary Anne Parks Performing Arts scholarship need not be members of the National Federation of the Blind. Each applicant will be considered based upon performing arts achievement and excellence, performing arts-related aspirations and goals, academic excellence and community service endeavors. Finalists will be contacted, via telephone conference, for a final interview with the Scholarship Committee. Individuals who have previously applied are encouraged to apply again.

The Scholarship Committee, consisting of successful blind college graduates and performing artists, reviews all applications and selects the scholarship winners. Winners will be notified of their selection by telephone no later than May 15, 2015. All decisions of the scholarship committee are final.

The National Federation of the Blind convention is the largest gathering of blind people (more than 2,500) to occur anywhere in the nation each year. If chosen as the scholarship recipient, you will have the opportunity to network with other blind students to exchange information and ideas. You will be able to meet and network with successful blind artists in the performing arts, and you will meet and talk with hundreds of blind people who are successfully functioning in many occupations and professions, along with federal officials, members of Congress, and the makers and distributors of new technology. Above all, a broad cross-section of the most active segment of the blind population of the U.S. will be present to discuss common problems and plan for concerted action. (To learn more about the National Federation of the Blind, use the Topics Index link on www.nfb.org.)

To learn more about the Performing Arts Division of the NFB, please call: (317-643-1890)

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Cordially,

Dennis Sumlin, Scholarship Chairmen

E-mail: nfbpad@gmail.com

Performing Arts Division Scholarship Committee

APPLICANT INSTRUCTIONS and SUBMISSION CHECKLIST

A complete application consists of the 2015 Scholarship Application Form plus the documents listed in the Submission Checklist (below). The Mary Anne Parks Performing Arts Scholarship Committee takes no responsibility for notifying you if required information is missing from your application. Complete the application in print, Braille, or by e-mailing the complete application to nfbpad@gmail.com

Send questions about the Scholarship Program to Dennis Sumlin at: drsumlin@gmail.com

Or by phone: 347-875-7469

Deadline: 9:00 p.m. EST, April 5, 2015

To complete the Mary Anne Parks Performing Arts Scholarship Application Form

1. Fill in every blank on the 2015 Mary Anne Parks Performing Arts Scholarship Application Form. If a question does not apply to you, mark it NA for Not Applicable. Add additional pages if you need more room.

2. See the Submission Checklist below to learn how to complete your application.

3. Send the form with the other required documents to the Scholarship Committee.

8259 Harcourt RD, suite 127, Indianapolis IN, 46260

SUBMISSION CHECKLIST

Review your application for completeness by using the following checklist.

[ ] Completed 2015 Scholarship Application Form

All of the information requested on the form is required to process your scholarship application. Mark each field. Use “N/A” or “Not Applicable” in instances that do not apply to you.

[ ] one Letter of Recommendation

You are required to provide one letter of recommendation from an individual who can describe your performing arts abilities and achievement, academic ability, leadership skills and/or community involvement.

[ ] Required Transcripts

Attach copies of your transcript from the institution you are currently attending and transcripts from all other post-secondary institutions you’ve attended. If you have completed less than one year of higher education, attach your high school transcript.

 [ ] College Entrance Examination Reports

This requirement only applies to high school seniors. Attach a photocopy of your score reports for all standardized tests taken for college admission, (ACT, SAT, or other).

[ ] Proof of Legal Blindness

Provide a letter from a qualified professional that certifies that you meet the definition of legally blind. This can be a letter from an Ophthalmologist, Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor, Special Education professional, Disability Student Services official, or other qualified person.

[ ] Not required, but recommended, if applicable: a quality audio recording, or video recording, that showcases your particular performing arts talent, not longer than five minutes in duration. A performing arts resume, if applicable, may also be submitted if desired.

 To Apply: The 2015 Scholarship Application Form can be completed in print or braille. Mail a print or Braille copy with the required attachments to the Mary Anne Parks Performing Arts Scholarship Committee.

Mary Anne Parks Performing Arts Scholarship Committee

C/O, Jordy Stringer, President, Performing arts Division, National Federation of the Blind

8259 Harcourt RD, Suite 127. Indianapolis IN, 46260

Or e-mail the completed application as well as all of the required documents to: nfbpad@gmail.com

To Contact the Scholarship Committee, contact Scholarship Chairmen Dennis Sumlin at: drsumlin@gmail.com

Or by phone: 347-875-7469

Deadline: All documentation must be received by April 5, 2015.

1. Name (Current name and any maiden name or other names by which you have been known):

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

2. Home address:

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

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

3. Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 4. Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

5. Office phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

6. Email address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

7. Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

8. Name and address of school you currently attend: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

9. School phone number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

10. State your major(s):

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

11. Class (freshman, senior, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

12. Cumulative Grade Point Average at this institution: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

13. Institution you will attend in the upcoming scholastic year, with class (freshman, senior, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

14. Institution’s Address, if not already given. (Notify the Scholarship Committee by separate letter or email if you are admitted to a school after submitting this application.)

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

15. List all post-secondary institutions attended with highest class attained and cumulative GPA:

If you have less than one year of higher education, complete questions 16 through 19:

16. High school attended: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

17. High school address:

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

Along with the years in which you participated,

18. Cumulative Grade Point Average (high school): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

19. College Admission Composite Test Scores: (ACT and/or SAT or other--Attach photocopies of all score reports.)

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

20. List your organizations & clubs, along with the year(s) you were a member, and include any offices or leadership roles you currently hold, or have held, in these clubs:

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

21. List your awards and honors, along with the year in which each was received:

NARRATIVE INFORMATION

The Mary Anne Parks Performing Arts Scholarship is awarded on the basis of scholastic excellence, achievement in, or commitment to, performing arts endeavors, leadership ability, and community service. In preparing your answers to the following items keep in mind that this may be your only opportunity to demonstrate your best qualities to the committee members. Please keep your answers to approximately 100 words.

1. Why are you pursuing a degree in, or pertaining to, the performing arts, and what are your goals for the future in the performing arts field?

2. Describe your most notable quality.

3. Give examples of how you have demonstrated leadership ability.

4. Describe your involvement in community service activities. Explain your reason(s) for your choice of these particular activities.

5. What do we most need to know about you?

CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

By signing below, I confirm that all of the information provided above and in the related attachments is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

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

LEGALLY BLIND (legal definition)

The National Federation of the Blind accepts the federal definition of “blindness” for the purpose of judging eligibility for the NFB’s Scholarship Program:

. . . the term "blindness" means central visual acuity of 20/200 or less in the better eye with the use of a correcting lens. An eye which is accompanied by a limitation in the fields of vision such that the widest diameter of the visual field subtends an angle no greater than 20 degrees shall be considered for purposes in this paragraph as having a central visual acuity of 20/200 or less. 42 U.S.C. § 416(i)(1)(B) (Supp. IV 1986).[1]

http://www.law.cornell.edu/socsec/rulings/ssr/SSR90-05.html