

GO FOR THE GOLD

**TAGT SCHOLARSHIPS**

# TAGT SCHOLARSHIPS

- Summer Scholarships, including the Carole Vermillion and Ann Shaw Student Scholarships
- Adelle McClendon Young Leaders Scholarship
- Laura Allard Future Vision Scholarship
- Nicholas Green Distinguished Student Award (awarded by NAGC)

# TAGT SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

● Summer Scholarships	\$13,561
● Adelle McClendon Award	2,500
● Future Vision Award	2,500
● Other Awards	4,400
● <u>Nicholas Green Award</u>	<u>500</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT—2009:	\$23,461

# TAGT SUMMER SCHOLARSHIPS

- For academic or artistic programs during summer months
- Awarded to students in grades K-12
- Maximum of \$400 may be requested

# TAGT SUMMER SCHOLARSHIPS

APPLICATIONS  
SUBMITTED

271

APPLICATIONS  
AWARDED

35

12.9% of all Summer  
Scholarship applicants  
received scholarships

# TAGT SUMMER SCHOLARSHIPS

- 21 Elementary Scholarships awarded from 198 applicants (10.6%)
- 14 Secondary Scholarships awarded from 73 applicants (19.1%)

# CAROLE VERMILLION and ANN SHAW SCHOLARSHIPS

- \$500 awarded to highest scoring applicants from Summer Scholarship recipients
- Scholarships go to one elementary student (grades K-6) and one secondary student (grades 7-12)
- The elementary winner is the Carole Vermillion Scholar and the secondary winner is the Ann Shaw Scholar

# ADELLE MCCLENDON YOUNG LEADERS SCHOLARSHIP

- University scholarship of \$2500
- Awarded to a graduating gifted and talented high school senior who has demonstrated outstanding leadership

# LAURA ALLARD

## FUTURE VISION SCHOLARSHIP

- University scholarship of \$2500
- Awarded to a graduating gifted and talented high school senior who:
  - demonstrates outstanding academic achievement
  - possesses a strong sense of purpose and clearly defined goals
  - has a long-term plan for achieving these goals

# NICHOLAS GREEN

## DISTINGUISHED STUDENT AWARD

- Given by NAGC; TAGT makes the recommendation of a statewide winner
- \$500 U.S. Savings Bond awarded
- Student must be in grade 3-6
- Given for outstanding accomplishments in academics, arts, or leadership
- Winner is automatically entered in the national competition

# SUMMER OPPORTUNITY: EXAMPLE

## **SUMMER WONDERS**

Dates: Session I: June 16 - 27      Pre-K – Grade 6  
Session II: July 7 - 18      Pre-K – Grade 6 (All incoming grades for the fall of 2008)

Cost: \$350 for Pre-K, half-day (9:00 a.m. – noon)  
\$400 for Grades K – 6, half-day (9:00 a.m. – noon)  
\$700 for Grades K – 6, full-day (9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.)  
(Extended care available until 5:30 PM, for an additional fee)

Physical Location: ACE Academy, 3901 Shoal Creek Blvd., Austin, Texas 78756

Summer Wonders is a nonresidential, full or half-day program that allows students to explore diverse subjects in a challenging, creative environment through an integrative, hands-on non-traditional approach. While topics are academic in nature, they are presented in a fun, creative manner that inspires critical thinking and enables students to solve problems and effect discovery. Content areas include but are not limited to science, math, art, drama, social studies, literature and economics. The program is non-profit with some scholarships offered. Extended care (3PM – 5:30PM) is available by special arrangement. Our enrollment in years past has included international students, children from other states, and a number of children from Texas cities outside Austin, as well as from every school district in and around Austin.

# THE PATH TO THE GOLD

1. Study Insights and find a passion
2. Carefully review the application process
3. Begin early and allow time to meet deadlines
4. Sell yourself
5. Get great recommendations
6. Complete the application correctly
7. Submit your application on time
8. Be patient
9. Celebrate!

# SUMMER SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

## Student Response, Part 1A

- **Instructions for the applicant:**

Please answer the following question. Your response should include information about you personally, as well as some of your interests and accomplishments. This part is extremely important in the selection process. You may only use pages 8-9 to answer the question.

- **1A. What would you like TAGT's Scholarship Committee to know about you?**

# SUMMER SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

## Student Response, Part 1B

- **Instructions for the applicant:**

Please answer the following question. Your response should include information about some specific interests you have and how this summer program will help meet your needs. This part is extremely important in the selection process. You may use only pages 10-11 to answer this question.

- **1B. Why do you want to attend this summer program?**

# SUMMER SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

## Parent/Guardian Recommendation Form, Part 2

- **Instructions for the parent/guardian:**

To give a strong recommendation for your child, elaborate on your responses, focusing on your child's strengths. Be sure to include specific examples. The TAGT Scholarship Committee is especially interested in supporting evidence **outside** the school environment. You may use only pages 12-13 to answer the question.

- **What would you like TAGT's Scholarship Committee to know about your child?**

# SUMMER SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

## Adult/Professional Recommendation Form, Part 3

- **Instructions for the adult/professional:**

A strong student application is enhanced by a strong adult recommendation. To make a strong recommendation of a student elaborate on your responses focusing on the strengths of the applicant. Include examples, if possible. If you are making recommendations for more than one student, please individualize your responses. You may use only pages 14-15 to answer the question.

- **What makes this student deserving of a TAGT scholarship?**

# EVALUATING APPLICATIONS

- Three different people independently read and evaluate all scholarship applications.
- Written responses on the applications are evaluated holistically on the following 8-point scale:
  - 8—Superior
  - 7—Between Superior and Commendable
  - 6—Commendable
  - 5—Between Commendable and Acceptable
  - 4—Acceptable
  - 3—Between Acceptable and Limited
  - 2—Limited
  - 1—Inadequate

# EVALUATING APPLICATIONS

**Superior:** This response answers the questions very thoroughly and completely. Wording is clear and precise, leaving no doubts about the intended meaning. There are detailed and elaborated responses, providing specific and appropriate examples about the applicant.

# TIPS FOR BETTER APPLICATIONS

- Applicants: Carefully choose who you want to write your adult recommendation.
- \*Select someone who will do a thorough job. It can be any adult—teacher, scout, leader, church leader, family friend, etc.
- \*Be sure to point out to them that what is wanted are specific examples of your strengths.
- \*Don't hand the form to them the day before it is due—people need time to think.

# TIPS FOR BETTER APPLICATIONS

- **Parents and Adults/Professionals:**
  - \* It is best to write about the applicant's interests and/or personality than listing a series of awards. Evaluators want to know more about the individual person.

# TIPS FOR BETTER APPLICATIONS

- For everyone:

- \* Remember that all the scholarship applicants are gifted, and most are also excellent students. Be sure to include specific information and avoid the kind of general comments that are too “generic.”

# COMMENTS THAT ARE “GENERIC”

- “She is great in everything.”
- “He would benefit from this program.”
- “Excellent student!”
- “Highly motivated student.”
- “She has many talents.”
- “He’s a kind young man who gets along well with others.”

***These comments are not specific and could apply to almost any applicant!***

# TIPS FOR BETTER APPLICATIONS

- **Parents:**

\*Information about hobbies and interests outside of school are helpful and provide the evaluator with a fuller picture of your child. This can help distinguish your child from other applicants.

# GOOD COMMENTS—PARENTS

- “He has an intense love for nature and loves learning. Last week he and his brothers dissected owl pellets, and now he is making a book about it.”
- “She has been an assistant to preschool classes at the dance studio for a year, gaining reward as the little ones accomplish steps one by one.”
- “His greatest passion is his computer work. He has set up websites for businesses for profit, and he has done it free for friends, families, and charitable organizations.”

***These give details and specific examples!***

# TIPS FOR BETTER APPLICATIONS

- **Adults/Professionals:**

\*Information about projects and extracurricular activities at school are very helpful and provide a fuller picture of the applicant to the evaluators. This can help distinguish them from other applicants.

# GOOD COMMENTS—ADULTS

- “He learned sign language so he could communicate with a deaf student in the room; now he is begun researching how new signs are developed.”
- “She has natural leadership ability as evidenced by her organization of a support group for abuse victims.”
- “She always demands the best from herself. She often practices long after others have gone home and arrives before anyone else.”

***These give details and specific examples!***

# TIPS FOR BETTER APPLICATIONS

- Read all instructions and make sure that the application is complete and submitted on time:
  - \*Remember that the application must be postmarked by March 1. If not, then it is eliminated from consideration.
  - \*If the application is missing any one of the four sections, or the general information on page 7, it will not be considered.

# OTHER REMINDERS

- ☞ Be sure to include the TAGT Summer Scholarship Application Information (page 7)
- ☞ Stay within space limitations
- ☞ May be handwritten or typed (size 12 font or larger)
- ☞ Do not include any products or work samples
- ☞ Do not include extra recommendations
- ☞ Check to make sure the application is complete
- ☞ A current TAGT member must sign on as a sponsor
- ☞ Apply to summer programs separately from this scholarship application

GOOD LUCK AS YOU GO FOR GOLD

