



The ABANA Scholarship Committee
Artist-Blacksmith's Association of North America, Inc.
15754 Widewater Drive,
Dumfries, VA 22025-1212
Phone: 703-680-1632 • Fax: 703-680-6222
abana@abana.org • www.abana.org

THE ABANA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Since its founding in 1973, ABANA has been committed to the education of its members. The purpose of the ABANA Scholarship Fund is to provide financial assistance to ABANA members at all skill levels to assist them the development of their blacksmithing skills and abilities.

1. Criteria for Selection

Applicants must show financial need, proven talent and demonstrated ability in blacksmithing. In reviewing applications, the ABANA Scholarship Committee will consider but not be limited to the following factors:

- Documented evidence that the applicant possesses a strong desire for continued and serious involvement in blacksmithing. If a novice blacksmith, the candidate must demonstrate a commitment and legitimate interest in blacksmithing.
- Quality of or potential for work as demonstrated by visual materials submitted in support of the application.
- Record of professional activity and achievement [if applicable].
- Benefit of the award to ABANA's members, affiliates and the blacksmithing community.
- Demonstrated involvement with and commitment to ABANA by the applicant's membership of at least 6 months before the submission date of the application. Generally scholarships funds are not awarded to attend conferences. Recipients of previous scholarship awards are not eligible to submit another application for two years after the completion of the previous course of study and fulfillment of the requirements listed in Section #3.

2. Types & Amounts of Scholarships

The ABANA Scholarship categories are:

- Scholarship A: Affiliate Scholarship matching funds, \$200.00. Members using an ABANA Affiliate's scholarship funds can match those funds up to \$200.00
- Scholarship B: Funds for individual study, maximum of \$500.00.
- Scholarship C: Extended Study of three weeks or longer. Level of support to be determined by the circumstances of the proposed course of study, up to a maximum of \$1,500.00

Note: Any monies received by an individual may be subject to taxes as added income as determined by applicable Federal and State laws.

3. Recipient Obligations

As a condition of receiving an ABANA scholarship, ALL scholarship recipients are required to share results of their learning with ABANA members and/or ABANA Affiliates. The recipient will fulfill this responsibility through at least one of the following forms of presentation:

- a) A public demonstration or workshop.
- b) The submission of an article to both an Affiliate newsletter and an ABANA publication.
- c) A public exhibit of works completed during or after the course.
- d) A lecture demonstrating the results of the course of study.
- e) An article published in a Non-ABANA publication.

This requirement must be fulfilled within 6 months after the course of study.

Additionally, the recipient must submit a short statement to the Scholarship Chair describing their study experience to the Scholarship Chair to be included in some form in *The Anvil's Ring*. This requirement is waived if an article is submitted to *The Anvil's Ring*.

4. Application and Notification Deadlines:

To be considered for a scholarship, applications must be postmarked by the following dates and sent to the ABANA Central Office:

- June 1st
- December 1st

Exceptions to this rule will only be made for applicants who need immediate consideration and in extraordinary circumstances, as outlined by the applicant and approved by the Scholarship Committee and the President of ABANA. Alternatively, applications may be submitted after the completion of the course. Electronic applications are not accepted at this time.

Category A and B scholarship winners will be notified of awards within *one month* of the above application deadlines.

Review of Category C applications will be extensive and take up to *two months*.

Notification of awards will be made either by voice, e-mail or surface mail. Funds will be sent to the recipient within *two weeks* after the notification.

5. Guidelines & Instructions

Be sure to read and understand the rules for application. Partial or improperly completed applications will be rejected without review. Revised applications will be considered no sooner than the next application deadline.

Along with the Scholarship Application Form, applicants must include the following:

- Current resume (updated within one month of application), including summary of relevant prior work or study.
- Three (3) letters of reference, two of which must be from ABANA members. Letters must be dated no more than three months in advance of the application date.
- Three (3) images (digitals, slides, or photos) must be included with the application. In addition you may also submit a concept drawing of current work. All materials must be submitted in protective plastic sleeves or other suitable holders. A novice blacksmith may fulfill this requirement with an essay detailing their interest in blacksmithing and future plans for accomplishment in the craft.
- Support materials describing the program for which the grant will be used: School brochure or catalog, curriculum outline, instructor resume, etc.
- List of all current blacksmith group affiliations.

In addition to the above criteria, Category C applicants must submit detailed documentation, including a plan of study, anticipated results, application of these skills in furthering their career, and letters or reference from all master smiths with whom the applicant wishes to study.

All ABANA scholarships are related to the membership and intended to benefit membership education. ABANA will not favor applications requesting funding for personal development outside a course of study unless that study results in information made available and judged to be of value to the membership.

Application materials will not be returned to the applicant unless a self addressed, postage paid envelope has been included with the application.

ABANA Scholarship Application Form for Scholarship Categories A, B & C

Please print or type all application materials clearly. This form may be completed in electronic form, but must be submitted as hard copy.

A. Name _____

Address _____

City, State & Country if other than U.S. _____

Zip + 4 (or Postal Code) _____

Contact Info—Day, Night and Fax Telephone Number(s) / E-mail address:

B. SS#: ___ - ___ - ___ - ___ - ___ Age: _____

C. Have you applied to ABANA for a scholarship before? No Yes Date of completion of the course and presentation to the blacksmithing community:

D. Which Scholarship category are you applying for (See Section #2): A B C

E. Describe the study program for which you seek grant monies, including the name of the school and/or course or internship opportunity. _____

_____ (attach further information as necessary).

F. Define your objectives in undertaking this study, e.g. how will it allow you to enhance your blacksmithing techniques, improve your design capabilities and further the education of the blacksmithing community?

_____ (attach further information as necessary).

G. Please list reason(s) for seeking financial assistance, e.g. to supplement loss of income due to time away from work, to assist with tuition, etc.?

H. FINANCIAL WORKSHEET

AVAILABLE FUNDS

Personal Contribution Towards the Program Cost: \$ _____

Other Grants/Scholarship Monies:

List Titles & Amounts: _____ \$ _____

_____ \$ _____

_____ \$ _____

Amount Requested from ABANA: \$ _____

Total Resources \$ _____

EXPENSES

Tuition & Related Fees \$ _____

Travel \$ _____

Housing \$ _____

Meals \$ _____

Other—Please List: _____ \$ _____

Total Expenses \$ _____

1. Which of the following presentations will you provide? Please mark all that will apply. At least one below-listed presentation and a written report to ABANA are required:

TO ABANA OR LOCAL AFFILIATE

demonstration workshop lecture newsletter article written report

Other (please describe):

TO THE PUBLIC COMMUNITY

exhibit in a public gallery publish an article in a Non-ABANA publication public lecture

Other (please describe):

J. Application Checklist (See Section #5): ✓ Resume ✓ 3 Letters of reference ✓ 3 Images
✓ Program Description Support Materials ✓ Current Blacksmith Affiliations

K. _____
(signature) (date)

The signature of the applicant indicates the acceptance of the above described conditions of the scholarship application.

Mail all applications to:

The ABANA Scholarship & Grants Committee
Artist-Blacksmith's Association of North America, Inc.
15754 Widewater Drive
Dumfries, VA 22025-1212

Last update: July, 2008