

NEW YORK STATE RIFLE & PISTOL ASSOCIATION, INC. MATTHEW J. STOFF MEMORIAL JUNIOR SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Each year, the New York State Rifle and Pistol Association, Inc. (NYSRPA), offers scholarships to qualified college-bound high school seniors who are active in the competitive shooting sports. In September 1988, NYSRPA renamed its Junior Scholarship Award in tribute to Matthew J. Stoff of Oceanside, NY, who was tragically killed in an automobile accident while returning from the National Matches at Camp Perry, Ohio. Stoff, who was studying at the University of Michigan at the time, would have been one of only 15 Junior shooters invited by the US Army's DCM program to participate in the trials for the 1988 Olympics in California.

By means of awarding this scholarship, NYSRPA wishes to recognize and reward outstanding students who participate in the competitive shooting sports as a part of their athletic program during the high school years. The Scholarship Committee is chaired by a member of the NYSRPA's Board of Directors and composed of members in the shooting fraternity in New York State. Final selection of the scholarship recipient will be made in time for the scholarship to be awarded at the Annual Meeting of Members.

Again this year, NYSRPA will award two (2) scholarships of \$1,200 each to qualified college-bound high school seniors who are active in the competitive shooting sports. Award winners will receive a commemorative plaque to be awarded at the NYSRPA Annual Meeting.

The conditions and stipulations under which the scholarship will be awarded are contained herein. Please review all the materials carefully and note that *all materials must be in the NYSRPA's office no later than July 15*. The Troy office will *not* make follow-up phone calls if your materials are incomplete or not received by the due date. If you have any questions regarding this application, please write to Dr. Russell J. Williams, at the address below:

Send complete application to reach NYSRPA HQ by July 15:
Dr. Russell J. Williams, Chairman
NYSRPA Matthew J. Stoff Memorial Junior Scholarship Committee
PO Box 1023, Troy, New York 12181-1023

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

1. Completed applications/materials must be received in the NYSRPA office **by July 15**. **LATE APPLICATIONS MAY NOT BE REVIEWED.**
2. The three form letters (enclosed) for the required recommendations are to be **mailed directly** by each recommender to the NYSRPA office. Immediately contact each of these individuals and give each person a form, along with a stamped, addressed business envelope, in order for them to meet the July 15 deadline to the Troy office. It is advisable to follow-up with each recommender to make sure s/he has mailed your recommendation. Please ask each person writing you a recommendation to either *type or print legibly* the form you are asking them to fill out.
3. Request **immediately** an official transcript of your high school grades, indicating your grade point average and, if available, your senior class ranking and a record of your SAT or ACT scores.
4. Verification of your submitted shooting scores **by a registered NRA referee, or documented by an official match results bulletin.**
5. Please type or write legibly all your individual materials, *including your scores of competitive activity*. **Syntax and style are important, as well as neatness.**

Each applicant must offer evidence of a consistent record of competitive shooting in at least three (3) of the following competitive shooting events:

*Junior Olympic Rifle Championships
Junior Olympic Pistol Championships (Air Pistol)
NRA Junior Air Rifle Sectional Championships
Northeastern States Championships
New York State International Rifle Championships
Junior Olympic Shooting Championships
at the Olympic Training Center*

*Junior Olympic Air Rifle Championships
NRA Junior Smallbore Rifle Sectional Championships
NRA Junior 3-Position Air Rifle Sectional Championships
National Rifle Championships (Camp Perry)
Empire State Games Shooting Championships
NYSRPA Junior Invitational Championships
Any registered NRA open indoor or outdoor rifle match*

NYSRPA MATTHEW J. STOFF MEMORIAL JUNIOR SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Application Criteria/Guidelines

I. PURPOSES

1. To recognize New York State high school students who are participating in the competitive shooting sports[†] and to encourage academic/athletic programs in the shooting sports.
2. To encourage, promulgate, and inform the public concerning the responsible relationship of the New York State Rifle & Pistol Association to secondary and higher education.
3. To enhance public understanding of the shooting sports as a vital component of our national life and as afforded by the Second Amendment of the Constitution of the United States of America.

II. ELIGIBILITY

1. Each applicant must be a member of the New York State Rifle & Pistol Association, Inc., or a member of a Junior Club affiliated with the New York State Rifle & Pistol Association. *(If not presently a member, call 1-800-4NYSRPA [1-800-469-7772] to join)*
2. Eligibility is effective until July 1st of the applicant's senior year of high school, notwithstanding attainment of age 20 during the spring term graduation is conferred.
3. Each applicant must offer evidence of a consistent record of competitive shooting, whether in a high school program or as an independent shooter, or in both categories.

III. CONDITIONS OF APPLICATION

1. The applicant must be accepted at any **four-year** accredited college or university.
2. The candidate must submit a letter of verification of acceptance at a four-year accredited college/university. The scholarship will be paid directly to the recipient, or to a special account for the recipient when required by special rules of the college/university or athletic governing body, upon receipt of proof of enrollment.
3. The applicant must submit a résumé, *including the scores of competitive activity signed by a Certified Referee or documented in an official match results bulletin.*
4. An **official** copy of the applicant's high school scholastic transcript to date **must** be submitted. The applicant's grade point average and senior class standing must be certified thereon. If SAT and/or ACT scores are available, please submit them as well.
5. The applicant must request three letters of character reference: one each from (a) the school principal/guidance counselor; (b) the primary shooting coach; and (c) another person, not a relative, who knows the applicant well. The applicant is advised to supply his/her three references with pre-addressed stamped envelopes addressed to: Dr. Russell J. Williams, Chairman, Matthew J. Stoff Memorial Junior Scholarship Award Committee, New York State Rifle and Pistol Association, Inc., PO Box 1023, Troy, NY 12181-1023.
6. The applicant must submit a written essay (preferably typewritten) of no more than 700 words describing: (a) the applicant's qualifications for the Junior Scholarship Award; (b) how the applicant has benefited from participation in the shooting sports; (c) how the applicant plans to support and be a proponent of the shooting sports while in college, and beyond; and (d) how the applicant expects to fulfill his/her United States citizenship in support of Second Amendment rights. Please observe an a, b, c, d order of presentation in keeping with the directions in this section.
7. The application deadline is the 15th day of July of the year in which the applicant's eligibility is effective. (See Item II: ELIGIBILITY, Paragraph 2.)
8. All documents must be sent to the Junior Scholarship Award Committee at the address provided in item III, paragraph 5.
9. Review each eligibility requirement carefully before submitting. **Retain a photocopy of all personal materials submitted and send completed applications via CERTIFIED MAIL/RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED.**
10. Nothing contained herein obligates or constrains the Matthew J. Stoff Memorial Junior Scholarship Committee. **ALL DECISIONS OF THE COMMITTEE ARE FINAL.**

[†]The expression "shooting sports" herein refers to organized Rifle, Pistol or Shotgun programs and related competitions sanctioned under the auspices of recognized organizations such as the NYSRPA, NRA, ATA, NSSA, DCM.



**MATTHEW J. STOFF MEMORIAL
JUNIOR SCHOLARSHIP AWARD**

APPLICATION

NAME: _____
Last First Middle Initial

ADDRESS: _____
Street City, State Zip Code

PHONE: () _____ Male Female Date of Birth: _____

EMAIL 1: _____ EMAIL 2: _____

FATHER'S NAME: _____

MOTHER'S NAME: _____

PARENTS' ADDRESS (if different than above): _____

PARENTS' PHONE (if different than above): () _____

APPLICANT'S HIGH SCHOOL: _____

SCHOOL ADDRESS: _____

GRADUATION DATE: _____

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

Attach to this page any supplemental information you wish considered (e.g., scholarships, honors, awards, special experience, community service, and/or organizations in which you have been active).

**NYSRPA MATTHEW J. STOFF MEMORIAL JUNIOR SCHOLARSHIP AWARD
LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION**

(Please type or print)

APPLICANT: This is one of three letters you are to request that must reach the Junior Scholarship Committee by July 15. Please complete the OUTLINED area **before** giving this letter to your reference.

APPLICANT'S NAME: _____ **PHONE:** () _____

Do you waive the right to review the requested letter of recommendation now and in the future?

In accord with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, Public Law 93-380 (as amended), and with specific reference to Section 438 (a)(1)(B), if you waive rights of access to this requested reference's information, you may not read that information or any letter or other accompanying materials pertinent to your application sent to the Scholarship Committee by that person.

Check (x) one: YES NO

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

3. Name and address of the person you have asked to write, and indicate the individual's relationship to you:

- my Principal/Guidance Counselor
- my Primary Shooting Coach
- an unrelated, knowledgeable acquaintance

WRITER OF THE RECOMMENDATION: You have been requested to write a letter of recommendation for a shooter applying for a New York State Rifle & Pistol Association, Inc. Matthew J. Stoff Memorial Junior Scholarship Award, a college/university scholarship. Please complete the following to the best of your ability:

1. Describe your relationship to the applicant: _____

2. Comment, with specific observations/instances, if possible, on the applicant's:
a. Dependability _____

b. Sportsmanship _____

c. Honesty and Integrity _____

d. Qualities of Good Citizenship _____

3. Detail the applicant's personal and academic characteristics:

4. Describe the relative rank of this applicant in comparison with other contemporary applicants for college or university entrance/scholarship with whom you are familiar, or those for whom you may have previously written letters of recommendation:

5. Relate how the family, community, college or university of the applicant, and the reputation of the New York State Rifle & Pistol Association, Inc., would be represented by this applicant if selected as the recipient of the Matthew J. Stoff Memorial Junior Scholarship Award:

6. Offer in this space comments not specifically requested elsewhere in this letter that you think may be helpful to the committee selection process or to direct the committee's attention to additional sheets you may choose to include:

Your name: _____ Signature: _____

Date: _____ Your Title/Position: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (Home) (_____) _____ (Work) (_____) _____

Return this form and any other voluntary supporting materials/documents **directly to the following address:**

Dr. Russell J. Williams, Chairman
Matthew J. Stoff Memorial Junior Scholarship Committee
New York State Rifle & Pistol Association, Inc.
PO Box 1023
Troy, New York 12181-1023
For application clarification, telephone NYSRPA HQ: 800-469-7772 or email
rwilliams@nysrpa.org
Make your inquiry as specific as possible

THANK YOU

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