

THE WIESENTHAL SCHOLARSHIP



“Freedom is not a gift from heaven...
You must fight for it every day.”

- Simon Wiesenthal

Scholarship Application Deadline: Friday, March 31, 2017

ABOUT FRIENDS OF SIMON WIESENTHAL CENTER FOR HOLOCAUST STUDIES

Friends of Simon Wiesenthal Center (FSWC) is a nonprofit, human rights organization that promotes tolerance, justice, and human rights. FSWC supports international efforts to counter antisemitism, hate, and intolerance through education and advocacy efforts.

Simon Wiesenthal was an author, a human rights advocate, and a Holocaust survivor who dedicated his life to pursuing Nazi war criminals. He fervently believed in the importance of creating a more peaceful world wherein human rights are protected and promoted. He understood the need for **tolerance** and **respect** for all human beings regardless of age, gender, race, religion or sexual orientation. Most importantly, Simon Wiesenthal believed in the importance of **education** as a means toward positive change.

DESCRIPTION OF AWARD

The Wiesenthal Scholarship, established in 2010, recognizes students who exemplify the ideals which guided Simon Wiesenthal: **tolerance, justice, and human rights. There are eight (8) awards available at \$1,800 each.**

To be considered, applicants must have demonstrated initiative and strong leadership skills in these areas within their respective schools and communities.

Friends of Simon Wiesenthal Center for Holocaust Studies will award eight entrance scholarships to students who will be commencing post-secondary education during the 2017-2018 school year. Each recipient will be expected to become an FSWC ambassador by continuing to build community awareness and by maintaining meaningful involvement with the organization.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Students must have demonstrated the following:

- Volunteer work that is relevant to the Center's mandate of promoting social justice and human rights, and countering racism, antisemitism, bullying, and all other forms of hate (e.g., social justice clubs, GSA, human rights projects/missions, specific action taken in your community, etc.)
- Strong leadership skills and involvement in school and community initiatives
- Personal characteristics and goals that align with the mandate of FSWC
- Innovative ideas for continued ambassadorship in university or college

ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must meet the following criteria to qualify:

- Currently in Grade 12
- An average of 80% or higher
- Evidence of community involvement or leadership connected to social justice, tolerance, and/or human rights
- Willingness to take part in a scholarship interview (either in person or via conference call) to discuss eligibility
- Willingness to act as a Friends of Simon Wiesenthal Center ambassador by way of contributing meaningful involvement with the organization

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

To be considered, applicants must submit the following materials BY MAIL to the below address:

- Official high school transcript from each institution attended
- Copy of acceptance letter to a post-secondary institution (if applicable)
- 1000 word essay – must be typed
- Two (2) reference letters with at least one from a teacher or staff member who has considerable knowledge of the student's experiential background, community involvement, and notable qualities (a third reference letter is optional)
- Completion of the entire application package, including a signature and date – please print neatly on the application package. All short-answer and essay questions must be typed in 12-point font.

Please mail completed application package to:

**2017 Wiesenthal Scholarship Application
Friends of Simon Wiesenthal Center for Holocaust Studies
5075 Yonge Street, Suite 902
Toronto, Ontario
M2N 6C6**

Application packages must be received by **FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 2017**
APPLICATIONS RECEIVED AFTER THIS DATE WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED

FURTHER INQUIRIES

Please contact Melissa Mikel at 416-864-9735 ext. 40 or mmikel@fswc.ca

2017 WIESENTHAL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

LAST NAME: _____ FIRST NAME: _____

DATE OF BIRTH: _____ GENDER: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/PROVINCE/POSTAL CODE: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

ACADEMIC HISTORY

Please list all schools you have attended starting with the most recent.

School	City	Years Attended

Name of Current School:

School Mailing Address:

School Phone Number: _____ School Fax Number: _____

Post-Secondary Institution to attend (if known): _____

Address: _____

City/Province/Postal Code: _____

Intended Area of Study: _____

SIGNATURE:	DATE:

VOLUNTEER ACTIVITY

LOCATION/ACTIVITY	
YOUR ROLE AND START/END DATES (MM/YYYY)	
WHAT PROMPTED YOUR INVOLVEMENT?	
IMPORTANCE/IMPACT	

LOCATION/ACTIVITY	
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WHAT PROMPTED YOUR INVOLVEMENT?	
IMPORTANCE/IMPACT	

TOTAL VOLUNTEER HOURS IN HIGH SCHOOL: _____

ADDITIONAL VOLUNTEER HOURS (OPTIONAL)

Please describe any additional volunteer experiences below.

SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS

Please type answers to all questions below in 12-point font. Ensure that your name is at the top of each page submitted.

TELL US ABOUT YOURSELF

1. What characteristics describe you? Why are issues surrounding human rights important to you? What career do you wish to pursue, and why? (Maximum 500 words)
2. How do you plan on fulfilling your role as FSWC campus ambassador? (Maximum 250 words)
3. How has your involvement in community or school-based action programs benefited you or others? And, how will you act to ensure such programs continue to flourish once you have graduated? (Maximum 250 words)
4. Please describe any obstacles you have had to overcome to achieve the successes you have today. (Maximum 250 words)

ESSAY QUESTION

The following is a quote by Simon Wiesenthal. Please describe what it means to you in 1000 words or less. Your answer must be typed and attached to this package. Please ensure that all pages include your name at the top of the page.

“The history of man is the history of crime, and history can repeat.

So information is a defense.

Through this we can build, we must build, a defense against repetition.”

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www.fswc.ca