# SDSS Scholarship Workshop

October 1, 2020



## Scholarships vs. Bursaries

- Scholarships based on merit (criteria varies)
- Bursaries based on financial need



# Types of Scholarships

- Offered by <u>Post Secondary Institutions.</u>
  - Entrance Scholarships marks based; often no application required; offered at time of offer of admission
  - Faculty & Presidential Scholarships application required; specific criteria indicated
  - In-course Scholarships found through the student services department of the post-secondary institution;
     apply late August into the fall
- 2. Offered by **Outside Groups** interested in donating money to students.
  - granted by corporations, community groups, and foundations
  - check with your own & your parents' employers, unions, banks, investment companies, insurance companies, anywhere that sends you or your parents addressed mail.

## How to Prepare Yourself for a Scholarship

Earning a scholarship is a process that can start as early as **grade nine**. A typical winner of most scholarships has consistently demonstrated, **over an extended period of time**, that they are involved in a number of activities that illustrate they are well-rounded individuals. Students with the highest marks **do not** automatically win scholarships. Many of the groups awarding scholarships are looking for good overall citizens. The general criteria are:

- Academic Achievement (75% and above)
- Community Involvement (beyond the 40 hours needed to graduate from high school)
- Extra Curricular Participation (athletics, councils, clubs, teams)



## How to Prepare Yourself for a Scholarship

The following chart lists some examples of activities that are considered.

	Academic Achievement	Community Involvement		Extra Curricular Participation
•	Honour Roll	Volunteer Work	•	Student Council
•	Subject Awards	Food Drives	•	Grade / Class Rep
•	Music Competitions	Charity Work	•	School Clubs
•	Art Shows	Tutoring	•	Yearbook
•	Math Contests		•	Athletic Teams
•	Co-op		•	Music Bands
•	Science Olympics		•	Plays / Musicals
•	Exchanges			

## **Initiative and Positive Leadership**

Individual students who look to creatively promote an initiative will get support from teachers, student council and school administrators. The only limitation is your imagination.

Great leaders don't wait for opportunities. They create possibilities where they don't even exist.



#### Letters of Recommendation/Reference

- During your high school career you will meet, and work with, at least 30 different teachers.
- These teachers may also be your activity leaders and coaches.
- Attempt to stay on good terms with at least 2 to 3 adults who you work with.
- Many scholarships <u>require letters of recommendation</u>.
   These contacts will serve you well.



# **School Nominated Scholarships**

- These scholarships call upon the Stouffville District Secondary School Scholarship Committee to submit one or more candidates for consideration.
- The fact that the school has nominated an individual is not a guarantee that the student selected will receive that scholarship.
- The nominated student must still go through a selection process in competition with all other school nominated candidates.
- Scholarship information and timelines can be found here



## **Getting Prepared - Start NOW!!**

#### Have you:

- updated your resume?
- made contact with potential references?
- asked your employer if they offer scholarships?
- checked the SDSS Guidance Google Classroom?
- are you following @stouffville\_guidance on instagram?
- checked the guidance scholarship bulletin board
- asked your parents/guardians to look into scholarships & bursaries through their contacts

## **Scholarship Advice**

- Although scholarship criteria can vary, a general statement of advice still applies.
- Should you be interested in applying for scholarships, it is rare that only academic achievement is sufficient.
- Successful candidates are those who are able to demonstrate extra-curricular involvement either within the school or within the community.
- Such involvement should span a considerable period of time, not just the last year or two.
- In addition to this, leadership experience is strongly recommended, as scholarship committees view this as an asset, and in some cases, as a requirement.

### **Questions?**

- Ask away!
- Make an appointment with your guidance counsellor through Teach Assist



