

Student Scholarship Application

for the
Alaska Writers Guild (AWG) 2016 Fall Conference

This scholarship is awarded in memory of Doris J Dearborn (1916 – 2011) who devoted her life to helping others, especially in Alaskan horticulture. For many years, she grew and sold vegetables and fruit nurtured on a Matanuska Valley farm. Her apple orchard was a late summer draw for many elementary school classes. As with her greenhouses, Doris was as much a teacher as a gardener. She kept copious notes, daily work task sheets, ordered seeds and managed the associated finances. While in her seventies, she wrote a memoir of her life and her late husband’s including immediate family, extended family, and genealogy dating prior to the Revolutionary War. The finished work is the result of untold hours of research, combing through letters, photos and ancestral history. Although she earned a college degree in bacteriology forty years prior, she completed her work without any formal writing training. Despite her heavy workload, she raised five children, played violin (first chair, Palmer Orchestra), mothered a Cub Scout den, served as PTA president, State Fair volunteer and was active in helping her younger children through 4H. As a tribute to her rugged life, Doris said her greatest honor was being selected as the figure of a woman pioneer for the wall mural at Palmer High School.

One college student enrolled in an Alaskan educational institution for the 2015-2016 school year shall be awarded the full cost of admission to the AWG Fall Conference, held in Anchorage, September 24. Additionally, the student may choose one or more of the following: 1) a one-year student membership with AWG, 2) one Conference workshop, or 3) a manuscript review by a professional during the Conference. The amount awarded will not exceed \$250, therefore all of the electives above may not be funded — please list by priority. The selected student does not receive the monetary difference.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Enrollment

You must be an Alaska student currently enrolled, or have completed at least one term in the 2015-2016 school year, in good standing with at least a C average. Applicants should have a major or minor in English, literature or related curriculum. Upon request and with good reason, exceptions may be granted by the sponsor. Please submit a copy of your most current transcript or a letter of recommendation from an English or literary professor who is knowledgeable concerning your writing interest and ability.

(Optional) Non-fiction Writing Sample

Please submit a writing sample (500–1500 words), double spaced, 12 pt. size, and in Times New Roman font. The submission must be an original, unpublished story about a significant life event, experience or realization that happened to you or someone close to you. If you want to submit something that falls outside this area, please contact the sponsor (see below) for acceptance.

Please include the following, left-justified above your title, followed by two blank lines:

“DJD Scholarship Application”,

Your name,

The name of the institution you attend or attended during this school year,

Email address,

Phone number.

Questions

Please answer the following questions (within the body of your email):

1. Are you currently taking any writing or literature courses?
2. What is your past writing training, if any?
3. What are your writing goals, short-term and long-range?
4. What genre (fiction, nonfiction, poetry, documentary ...) most interests you?
5. How do you think attendance at this conference will benefit you?

Please submit your completed application to Barry Dearborn at bcdearb@gmail.com. Please put ‘DJD Scholarship’ in the subject line, and attach your story as either a PDF file (preferred) or a Microsoft Word document or equivalent.

Applications are due by July 31, 2016. The scholarship will be awarded during the second week of August.

May your writing efforts always be rewarding, personally or otherwise,

Barry C Dearborn

Sponsor for the Dearborn family