



THE PATTI & WALTER BLENKO SCHOLARSHIP FUND
FOR THE PERFORMING OR TECHNICAL ARTS

March 2023

I am honored to introduce the **Patti & Walter Blenko Scholarship Fund** for the Performing or Technical Arts. This fund will serve as a legacy to honor my late husband's passion for encouraging and supporting talented high school students who want to pursue an education in the performing arts.

This scholarship was created in 2019, just prior to Walter Blenko's passing. Walter was a generous philanthropist and an avid aficionado of the performing arts. I have also supported the performing arts for more than five decades, through volunteering and a number of leadership positions.

This annual scholarship program is now accepting applicants. Please encourage your 12th grade students with an interest in the performing arts to apply. Scholarships will be awarded in amounts up to \$4,000, and are based on the student's talent, financial need, scholastic merit, and school and community involvement.

Prior to submitting a scholarship application, the student must have applied to an accredited college, university or conservatory that offers a four-year program in music or performing arts. After reviewing the applications, a Scholarship Committee will interview and audition each semi-finalist. The auditions will be held at the end of June.

An application form is enclosed, and must be completed and returned by May 20, 2023.

I would be happy to answer questions that you may have regarding this exciting opportunity for your high school seniors. You are welcome to call me at 412-835-4579, 412-498-8953 (C) or email pattimatty@verizon.net.

Warm regards,

Patricia Matty Blenko



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2023 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Applicant Name _____

Date of Birth _____ Email _____ Phone _____

Permanent Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Number of Siblings _____ Ages(s) of Siblings _____

Indicate the area for which you will audition:

☐ Dance ☐ Drama ☐ Voice ☐ Music (Specify instrument) _____

☐ Costume Design ☐ Set Design ☐ Lighting ☐ Sound ☐ Other _____

High School attended _____

High School mailing address _____

The following must be enclosed with your application:

- ☐ **Transcripts:** Applicant must furnish a high school transcript, either original or copy.
- ☐ **Resumé:** Please list experience you have in areas relating to your interests, including: classes taken, special trainings, performances and competitions; awards and recognition
- ☐ **Narrative Sketch:** Compose a brief statement (400-500 words) defining your reasons for majoring in theater arts and why you believe you are a qualified candidate for this scholarship. Include your aspirations and goals, important influences in your life, and contributions you've made which you believe will make you an exemplary theatre student.
- ☐ **Financial Need Statement:** Be specific about your financial needs. Explain how this scholarship will make a significant impact in your academic life. Please include a copy of the SAR (Student Aid Report).
- ☐ **Letters of Recommendation:** Include two recent letters of recommendation from people familiar with your abilities in your selected performance area.
- ☐ **Two headshots or full-length photos**



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2023 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION CHECKLIST

To be considered for a scholarship, applicants must enclose the following with a completed application:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> High School Transcripts | <input type="checkbox"/> Financial Need Statement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Resumé | <input type="checkbox"/> Letters of Recommendation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Narrative Sketch | <input type="checkbox"/> Two headshots or full-length photos |

Completed applications must be postmarked by May 20, 2023 and mailed to:

Patti Matty Blenko
779 Broughton Road
Bethel Park, PA 15101

Scholarship Amount: Scholarships are awarded in amounts up to \$4,000. Scholarships must be applied towards tuition for the student's freshman year at an accredited college, university, or conservatory that offers a four-year program in theater or performing arts, e.g. dance, drama, music, voice, costume design, set design, lighting, or sound.

Eligibility: Scholarships are limited to high school seniors. Students seeking teaching degrees are not eligible for scholarships. Student must have applied to an accredited college, university or conservatory that offers a four-year program. If a student receives a *full* scholarship from any other source, he or she will not be eligible for the Patti & Walter Blenko Scholarship. However, those receiving a partial scholarship or scholarships are eligible.

Criteria for Determination of Semi-Finalists: Evaluations are based on financial need, student experience and scholastic merit, as well as school and community involvement. All applicants will receive notification of their status after the committee has thoroughly reviewed all applications.

Audition Criteria: Each semi-finalist will be invited to audition for the scholarship committee. Auditions are judged on talent, professional presence, and interpersonal skills. Finalists will be contacted shortly after the audition.

It is the intent that the Patti & Walter Blenko Scholarship Fund will offer scholarships on an annual basis. However, the program officers reserve the right to modify or discontinue the program at any time. The amount and number of scholarships awarded will be determined by the scholarship committee. Scholarships are for tuition only and checks will be made payable to the school specified by the student. All applicants are eligible without regard to race, color, gender, or national origin.