

Amici Club

AMICI Naperville Area Italian American Club

2010 Scholarship Program

In recognition of outstanding achievements made by young persons of Italian descent seeking to make a positive impact in our world, this scholarship program is being offered to students who wish to continue their education in any accredited higher learning institution. **The merit based award will be judged on personal initiative and demonstrated character; overall current and past academic achievements and extracurricular involvement; supportive content of recommendation letters; plus strength of the essay as it illustrates applicant's ability for creative thinking as it represents or complements his/her Italian background...in other words, what makes you stand out above the rest? Heaviest consideration (75%) will be given to strength of essay.** It is open to 2009-10 high school seniors of Italian descent in the greater Naperville area who will be entering college during the 2010-11 academic year. Award amount of \$500.00, to be used toward education costs (books, tuition, study abroad, etc.), will be granted to a single student.

SCHOLARSHIP CRITERIA: *This is a merit based award* – that is, the *scholarship is based on achievement and not financial need.* To qualify, applicant must be a current high school senior with some Italian ethnicity attending an accredited Naperville area high school *or* be a high school senior child of Amici Club members living outside of greater Naperville and enrolled in an accredited high school, with a minimum 3.25 grade point average on a 4.0 scale, who has applied for admission to an accredited two or four year degree granting academic or vocational school and who has completed all scholarship application requirements.

**PLEASE DOWNLOAD THE APPLICATION ON OUR WEBSITE –
VISIT www.amiciclub.org TO OBTAIN AN APPLICATION FORM.**

REQUIREMENTS

1. Completed application form and accompanying materials (**original 600-800 word personal essay plus 2 letters of recommendation and sealed official high school transcript**) must be **postmarked no later than April 1, 2010**. *Please note that no applications postmarked or hand delivered after April 1 will be considered.*
 2. **Personal Essay: Make it good! It'll be weighted 75% for overall application evaluation.** Applicant's original written essay and letters of recommendation must accompany scholarship application form. Essay must be typed and double spaced and must address one of the two following topics:
 - **Scholarship committees must choose their winner from among many competitive, top notch essays written by top achieving students. Persuade us with your most creative writing that clearly demonstrates 'the winning essay' on the topic, "Describe the destination to which you think your college experience might take you" in the most persuasive way. Consider personal characteristics deriving from your Italian background. We are looking for imaginative interpretation.**
- OR...**
- **"How does your particular Italian heritage make you unique? Discuss how you feel that distinguishes you from others and makes you stand out as the most deserving candidate for this award."**

Essay will be judged on the basis of creativity, uniqueness, originality and sincerity. Other criteria strongly considered by the scholarship committee will include completeness and accuracy of application form as well as academic and extracurricular achievement. Committee decision will be made on May 1st and winner will be notified by May 15th. Recipient of this year's Amici Club scholarship competition will be announced at the June 17th Amici Club general meeting.

Payment of the scholarship will go directly to the award recipient, but is dependent upon acceptance by and proof of enrollment into the winner's chosen institution.

All scholarship materials must be submitted together in the order shown below. Please note: **Deadline for postmarked submission is April 1, 2010.** Required materials must be postmarked by the deadline. Submissions postmarked or hand delivered *after* April 1st – *fuggettaboutit!* They won't be considered. Completed applications must include:

1. **completed and signed scholarship application form;**
2. **2 letters of recommendation from appropriate sources** (see scholarship criteria);
3. **most current official sealed high school transcript signed by the counselor;**
4. **original personal essay written by the applicant.**

Please submit your application to **Pat Pitula, Scholarship Committee Chairperson**, by April 1st at the address shown below.

Only applications that fully comply with stated criteria will be considered. Decision to award a scholarship will be made by the Scholarship Chair and Co-Chair. The Scholarship Committee will announce the winner by May 15th. Amici Club will arrange direct disbursement of the award directly to the named scholarship recipient upon official notification of documented enrollment submitted by the student. Designated recipient for the 2010 Amici Club Scholarship and his/her immediate family will be invited to attend the club's general meeting on Thursday, June 17th for official award presentation.

Application materials must be postmarked by April 1, 2010 and mailed to:

**Ms. Pat Pitula
AMICI Naperville Area Italian American Club Scholarship Chairman
905 Kennebec Lane Naperville, IL 60563**

Got questions? Contact Pat:

Phone: **630.697.3540**

E-mail: patpitula@gmail.com