words alive
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THE WORDS ALIVE WESTREICH SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM OFFICIAL APPLICATION ACADEMIC YEAR 2017-2018

MISSION:

Words Alive and philanthropist Ruth Westreich jointly created the Words Alive Westreich Scholarship (WAWS) program. The program was established to provide current and past Adolescent Book Group program participants with funds to help them pursue higher education at the college or trade/vocational school level.

INFORMATION:

Number of awards:	*Minimum of six per year*
Amount of each award:	*Up to $5,000*
Mentorship Program:	*Each scholarship recipient is assigned a Words Alive mentor and participation in the mentorship program is a required part of the program.*

CRITERIA NECESSARY TO APPLY:

- Applicants must have participated in at least three Words Alive Adolescent Book Group discussions by the application deadline of April 21, 2017.
- Applicants must be high school seniors, high school graduates, must have obtained a General Education Degree (GED) or passed the High School Proficiency Examination.
- Applicants must be between the ages of 17-27 years old.
- Applicants must plan to attend an accredited two-year, four-year college/university and/or licensed trade/vocational school in the United States.
- Applicants must plan to enroll in a minimum of six college units or equivalent if enrolled in a licensed trade/vocational school.
- Applicants must have a current overall grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 or better from high school and 2.0 from college/university.
- All applicants are strongly encouraged to apply for other forms of financial aid including scholarships and federal student aid.

Words Alive Westreich Scholarship program funds may only be used for the cost of tuition, fees and educational supplies. Applying funds to other expenses is subject to review and approval by the WAWS committee.

WAW SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION TIMELINE:

April 21, 2017	Deadline for submission of WAWS program applications. Application must be postmarked by this date to be considered.
April 28, 2017	Application receipt acknowledgement notifications emailed.
May 5, 2017	Finalists notified.
May 16-18, 2017	Scholarship program finalist interviews.
June 1, 2017	Scholarship award notification letters mailed.

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WORDS ALIVE WESTREICH SCHOLARSHIP TERMS & CONDITIONS:

In order to retain WAWS funds beyond the first semester, each scholarship recipient is required to participate in a mentorship program where s/he is expected to meet at least three times during each semester with a Words Alive appointed mentor to complete progress reports. Recipients are highly encouraged to secure a 5-10 hour per week internship to enhance their skill and experience. Recipients must attend at least one developmental workshop throughout the scholarship program year. Recipients must agree to enroll in a freshman level college study and/or time management skills development course his/her first semester, to be approved by the committee. Recipients must also agree to mail or fax their grades to the Words Alive office at the end of each semester, as well as a list of the courses they are enrolled in for the following semester. If at the end of any semester a scholarship recipient's G.P.A. has fallen below a 2.0, his/her scholarship funds may be subject to withdrawal pending committee and mentor approval.

REQUIREMENTS FOR COMPLETING YOUR APPLICATION:

Please pay careful attention to scholarship criteria. Incomplete applications will not be considered. You are responsible for the completeness and accuracy of your application. If you have any questions about this application, contact Theresa Tolentino at (858) 274-9673 or theresa@wordsalive.org.

Submit your completed application with the following supporting materials:

- An official copy of your high school transcripts
- Two letters of recommendation. Letters must be written by a current teacher, guidance counselor and/or current employer. The letters of recommendation MUST BE mailed directly from the recommender to the Words Alive office. *In addition to the two required letters, Words Alive Adolescent Book Group program volunteers with whom you are acquainted may also submit a recommendation on your behalf.*
- Your signed certification and release form (the second half of this page)
- Completed FAFSA for the following academic year.

Completed application with **all other supporting materials** should be submitted to:

Words Alive
Attn: WAWS Selection Committee
5111 Santa Fe Street, Suite 219
San Diego, CA 92109

Applications must be received or postmarked by 5:00 p.m., Friday, April 21, 2017

REQUIRED CERTIFICATION AND RELEASE:

Applicant Certification: I understand that the information provided within this scholarship application is voluntary and will be used only to determine eligibility for the Words Alive Westreich Scholarship program award. I certify that all information provided in this application is true and factual to the best of my knowledge, and that any scholarship award I receive because of this application process may be revoked without appeal if any information contained herein is found to be false. I understand that an incomplete application and/or inaccurate information will disqualify my entire application and that all data included may be verified by a Words Alive representative for accuracy, therefore I hereby authorize the review of the enclosed information.

Agreement of Terms: I understand the terms and conditions of the Words Alive Westreich Scholarship program and agree to adhere to them should I be chosen as a recipient.

Applicant Signature: Date: / /

Signature of Parent/Guardian: Date: / /
(If applicant is under age 18 or a dependent)

Media Release: If selected to receive a scholarship, I authorize Words Alive to use my name, school photograph and pre-approved biographical information for press and media purposes.

Applicant Signature: Date: / /

Signature of Parent/Guardian: Date: / /
(If applicant is under age 18 or a dependent)

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SECTION 1: APPLICANT INFORMATION

Please print legibly:

Name:
Last First Middle Initial

Current Address:
Street Apt/Suite # City State Zip

Date of Birth: / / SSN#: - -

Gender: Ethnicity *(optional)*:

Home Phone: ( ) - Mobile Phone: ( ) -

Email: @ .

Emergency Contact:
Name Number Email

If you currently have an academic mentor and would like him/her to be approached to serve as your Words Alive Westreich Scholarship mentor, please provide his/her information below:

Name:
Last First Middle Initial

Phone: ( ) - Email: @ .

SECTION 2: ACADEMIC HISTORY & FUTURE PLANS

Are you currently enrolled in school? *(Please check response)* ☐ *Yes* ☐ *No*
If so where?

SAT Scores or ACT Composite: Cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA):

At what location(s) did you participate in the required three Words Alive Adolescent Book Group (ABG) discussions?
Please list the months and years you participated in the ABG sessions referenced above:

What was your teacher's name?

Name of school you will attend in fall 2017:

This is a ☐ 2-year college ☐ 4-year university ☐ Trade/Vocational School ☐ Other

Fall 2017 status: ☐ Freshman ☐ Sophomore ☐ Junior ☐ Senior ☐ Other

How many units/hours do you plan to enroll in for next semester?

Will you live ☐ on campus ☐ off campus – in an apartment ☐ off campus – with family

What degree/certification will you be pursuing in fall 2017?
☐ Associate (AA) ☐ Undergraduate (BA, BS) ☐ Trade/Vocational ☐ Certificate ☐ Other

What is your intended major? Career?

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SECTION 3: FINANCIAL INFORMATION

List the name(s) and amount(s) of each scholarship, grant, or financial aid (including FAFSA, PELL and CAL Grants) you have received, applied for or are planning to apply for the 2016/17 academic year:

Are you classified: ☐ Independent ☐ Dependent Are you: ☐ Single ☐ Married ☐ Other

Total number of family members in your household (including you but excluding roommates) claimed on your 2016 federal taxes, if filed:

List any financial hardships or unusual circumstances in your household that you feel should be considered when determining your financial need:

If you are chosen for this scholarship, what are the top three financial needs you will also need to address beyond your tuition, educational supplies and books in order to be successful academically? Please list the need and approximate cost below:

1. /$ 2. /$ 3. /$

SECTION 4: EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES, COMMUNITY SERVICE, WORK EXPERIENCE, AWARDS & HONORS

Please list your extra-curricular activities and volunteer service for the past three years with your most recent activities and service first:

Date from/to	Average # hours/month	Activities/Organization	Position Held

Please list your paid work experience for the last three years with most recent employment first:

Date from/to	Average # hours/month	Activities/Organization	Position Held

Please list any awards and honors you have received over the last three years:

Date	Awards/Honor Received

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SECTION 5: ESSAY

Instructions: Submit one typed, double-spaced essay that addresses each of the following questions/prompts. Please do not exceed 1,500 words (approximately 3-pages). Make sure to check your spelling, grammar and context. And please include all three prompts in your essay.

1. How has your education contributed to who you are today?

2. Who in your life has been your biggest influence? Why?

3. Where do you see yourself 10 years from now?