

SAHS Alumni Association Scholastic Awards Program

Procedural Document

Updated 6/17/18

At the culmination of the school year the HS seniors assemble for a Scholastic Awards Program where over 100 awards and recognitions are unveiled and given out to deserving seniors. 25-30% of the awards are maintained and given out by the SAHS Alumni Association. The outgoing SAHS President should coordinate the efforts to assure that they, or their designee (the VP, or maybe a SAHS teacher involved with the SAHS Alumni Association) is present to represent the alumni association, describe the award, announce the winner/recipient and hand out the monetary award. Ideally this would be done by the outgoing president with the alumni VP (incoming president) assisting. This way the VP will get some experience observing while participating in the event. The following steps are suggested to assure a smooth process during the busy evening:

- During one of the winter meetings obtain the Scholastic Awards Program date from the HS Principal and get this date on your calendar.
- Review the document on the SAHS Alumni website under: Subject/Scholarship Awards - to determine if that document is current and up to date. Occasionally a new fund gets added or an old one is eliminated after the funds are exhausted. At times the name of the course is changed to reflect current curriculum naming conventions (e.g. 'culinary arts').
- Apply any changes to that document as well as updating the information below in this document.
- The funds for these awards are maintained by the alumni treasurer usually in one or two large funds and the proportional interest accrued is rounded and dispersed as the award.
- The alumni treasurer is responsible for calculating the award amount, and creating the 30+ checks for the program, filling in the dollar amount.
- The HS principal, or designee, will try to provide ahead of time, as many names as possible, of the students who will be receiving the awards, for the treasurer to fill in on the check. However due to the timing of final exams and determining highest grade points for the award recipient, many of the names are not known until the day of the awards program.
- The alumni treasurer is responsible to assure the checks (some with names filled in and some without) are sent to the school in a secure manner in time for the program, preferable at least a day prior to the program.
- The school representative (principal, guidance counselor, teacher or class advisor) will try to fill in the remaining names prior to the program. The alumni president or designee should follow up on this to assure the checks are received by the school in time for the event, and that someone is able to fill in the remaining names. If the names cannot be filled in ahead of time the alumni president or designee will need to fill in the names that night.
- The alumni treasurer also provides a "schedule" (i.e. list of all the alumni awards with a space to fill in the student's name) that is prepared and included with the checks. It is imperative that the schedule be then forwarded back to the treasurer with all recipient names included, to become the documentation for the funds

disbursement detail. The alumni president or designee needs to assure this document gets sent back to the alumni treasurer after the program completes. The school representative may have taken care of this but the alumni president should assure that this task is complete.

- In addition to the financial schedule mentioned above, some of the awards include some bank paperwork to be filled out by student. The alumni president or designee will also need to assure this paperwork is completed and forwarded back to the treasurer at the conclusion of the event. Note, there are no checks associated with these awards. Once the paperwork is received the bank or treasurer disperses the funds.
- As you present the award to the student that has this bank paperwork, be sure to emphasize to the student that you need the paperwork back at the end of the program.
- If you are mailing the paperwork to the alumni treasurer, it is recommended you make copies before mailing the schedule or bank paperwork.
- Prior to the meeting, to facilitate an orderly flow for the event, the alumni president (or designee) should print out the information regarding each award below, cut the paper so each award is on one strip of paper. Take these strips of paper with you to the program. The treasurer/school will have the checks in a labeled envelope with the name of the award and student name receiving the award. You will have one check/envelope per student. Attach the strip of paper with the award description to the envelope with a paper clip (or put the strip of paper in the envelope). Arrange the envelopes in the order as outlined in the awards program the school will provide that night. Note: the envelopes may already be arranged in the correct order by the school prior to your arrival.
- Note: another alternative to cutting the award descriptions into strips of paper, is to just use the schedule provided by the treasurer that accompanies the checks, or the list provided by the school that night. Usually this has all the information you need to describe the award to the audience.
- The night of the program the alumni president/VP (or designee) should arrive at least 1 hour before the program to finish up the check/envelope system outlined above.
- As the event progresses, the president/VP (or designee) will get up and, using the labeled envelop, read the brief description/background of the award, then announce the winner and dollar amount. The student(s) will come up on stage where you will greet them, recognize them and give them their check/award. Frequently a photographer is there to take a picture of you giving the student the award.
- This is a good opportunity to help promote the alumni association to the HS staff, parents, community and especially the students (the future alumni leaders). So take advantage of the time to promote our alumni association in the most positive light.
- Feel free to mingle after the event with the students and their family.
- Make sure you collect the bank paperwork you asked the students to fill out.

ALUMNI SUBJECT AWARDS

The Shamokin Area High School Alumni Association gives and awards to the students with the highest averages with the most courses taken within the subject area. The exception is for that of the vocational student who is identified as the vocational student (3 years enrollment) who is ranked the highest in the class.

Business

The Shamokin Area High School Alumni Association gives and awards to the students with the highest averages with the most courses taken within the subject area. The exception is for that of the vocational student who is identified as the vocational student (3 years enrollment) who is ranked the highest in the class.

English

The Shamokin Area High School Alumni Association gives and awards to the students with the highest averages with the most courses taken within the subject area. The exception is for that of the vocational student who is identified as the vocational student (3 years enrollment) who is ranked the highest in the class.

Foreign Language

The Shamokin Area High School Alumni Association gives and awards to the students with the highest averages with the most courses taken within the subject area. The exception is for that of the vocational student who is identified as the vocational student (3 years enrollment) who is ranked the highest in the class.

Science

The Shamokin Area High School Alumni Association gives and awards to the students with the highest averages with the most courses taken within the subject area. The exception is for that of the vocational student who is identified as the vocational student (3 years enrollment) who is ranked the highest in the class.

Social Studies

The Shamokin Area High School Alumni Association gives and awards to the students with the highest averages with the most courses taken within the subject area. The exception is for that of the vocational student who is identified as the vocational student (3 years enrollment) who is ranked the highest in the class.

Art

The Shamokin Area High School Alumni Association gives and awards to the students with the highest averages with the most courses taken within the subject area. The exception is for that of the vocational student who is identified as the vocational student (3 years enrollment) who is ranked the highest in the class.

Vocational

Albert Fecko Award

This award was established by a generous donation of Exxon Mobile stock from Mr. Albert Fecko. The awards is to be presented to a student accepted to and enrolled in an accredited registered nursing major program

Leona Adams Rothermel Award

This award was established by Leona Adams in memory of Issac and Louise Rothermel. This award is presented to a student entering the field of nursing, who has a 90% cumulative average.

Leona Adams - Charles and Lulu Venn Award

This award was established by Leona Adams in memory of Charles and Lulu Venn
Two awards are presented. Each student receives 50% (1/2) of the total award.

1) Culinary Arts Award:

The student is selected from the Culinary Arts Program at the Vo-Tech School with the recommendation of the instructor.

2) Family and Consumer Service: This student should have attained the highest average

Richard Hilbush Award

This award was established through contributions upon the death of Mr. Richard Hilbush, English teacher at Shamokin Area High School, and dedicated Alumni member.
The Richard Hilbush award is given to the male and female student who earned the highest combined average in Applied English 10, 11, and 12.

Peter J. Malafi Award

This award was established through contributions upon the death of Peter J. Malafi who was still on the teaching staff at the time of his death. Mr. Malafi was a very popular and dedicated Business Education teacher.

This award is made to four (4) students (2 male, 2 female) whose postsecondary plans must be within a business-related major. Preference is given to the students who completed an accounting course in high school and/or are declaring an accounting major in college. Students receiving this award should not necessarily be the highest rank or those who will receive many other awards. This is for the students who would not otherwise be recognized.

Malvin Paul Wrestling Award

This award was established upon the death of Mr. Malvin Paul. Mr. Paul was a social studies teacher and then Principal of Shamokin Area High School. He was also one of the most successful wrestling coaches in the state of Pennsylvania. His family, former wrestlers, former students and friends honored him by establishing this award.

This award is given to the senior wrestler who embodies many of the personal qualities that was expected by Mr. Paul and who is continuing his education after high school. The wrestling staff makes this selection.

Gillespie Family Publication Awards

These awards were established by the Gillespie Family

These awards are given to the editors of the school's publications. The Totem Pole (Yearbook) and Indian Times (School newspaper.)

Names of these recipients are provided by the advisors of these publications.

Class of 1913 Salutatorian Award

This award was established years ago by the class of 1913.

This award is given to the Salutatorian of the graduating class.

Scott Bramhall Salutatorian Award

This award was established in Scott's memory by his mother and brother's.

The award is given the Salutatorian. The amount of the award is \$100.

Rachel Van Gasken Schrider Award

This award was established to provide financial help to a student who must pursue a postsecondary major in a business-related field, have completed at least four (4) business courses during grades 9-12, with a preference given to students who have also volunteered 30-45 hours in health related setting.

Robert Metzner Awards

This award was established by the estate of Robert Metzner.

The awards are given to two students (one male, one female) who earned the highest math average with the most math courses taken in grades 9-12.

Stella Olcese Award

This award was established in 2004 with an initial contribution from the Tom Olcese family (nephew of Stella's).

This money is invested along with other accounts with M & T Bank.

The amount of the award will be the annual interest earned on the investment.

The criteria for this award is for the male or female student with good grades and dependable character enrolled in the business curriculum. The award was established by the Olcese family in memory of their Aunt Stella Olcese for her business acumen, dependability and generosity.

The guidance department will provide the names of these winners to the association treasurer. Checks to these students are distributed at the senior awards program by a representative of the alumni association.

Sara Wiest Hall Award

Established by her son Garth.

Graduating senior selected by the director of the musical/vocal teacher.

Harry Strausser Award

Parameters of the award are TBD.

THE VINCENT P. DEPIANTE JR. and ELVIRA MIRARCHI-DEPIANTE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Alvie Mirack: Sweet and quiet are the words that describe Alvie. Goes in for new look in a big way. Enjoys dancing and hiking, basketball, fun. Girls review 2-3-4. Excels in typing.

Ambition: Secretary As listed in the 1949 yearbook. Mrs. Elvira (Mirarchi) DePiante, Class of 1949 died July 15, 2007. In her will she designated that after all expenses paid by the estate, one half (1/2) of the remainder of the estate be given to SHAMOKIN AREA HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION EDUCATION FUND to be placed in an endowment fund for scholarship purposes. The fund shall be designated as the VINCENT P. DEPIANTE, JR. AND ELVIRA MIRARCHI DEPIANTE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND. The amount received by the EDUCATION FUND is \$422,425.27. This money will be invested by the Education Fund and as instructed in the will, the income each year will provide college scholarships for graduating seniors of Shamokin Area High School. Mrs. DePiante graduated from Shamokin High School in 1949.

Upon graduation she immediately began working as a secretary for the Shamokin School District. In Nov. 1982, she was appointed acting Business Manager. On Jan. 12, 1983 she was appointed Business Manager. She continued to work for the School District until her retirement on Aug. 8, 1984. It seems that Elvira used her typing skills to great advantage and evidently was a very successful secretary. The Shamokin Area High School Alumni Association greatly appreciates the generosity of Mrs. DePiante. The students of Shamokin Area High School will benefit for years to come.

CQ McWilliams II Memorial Award

Award is presented to a senior majoring in environmental science, forestry, wildlife conservation or related field. Established in memory of C.Q. McWilliams II (VP of Roaring Creek Water Company) by his children - Dawn McWilliams Kotanchik and C. Q. McWilliams III

Garnett-Willow Award

Jane Bastress Award

Mildred Sharp Memorial Award

Miriam Birchard Memorial Award

Weidenhamer Family Award - Award would go to a female senior who has the highest GPA in STEM related subjects - science, technology, engineering, and math - who expects to enter a STEM field in postgraduate work.