

## **Doug Watson Scholarship for Performing Arts Tower Theatre Foundation**

### **Scholarship Background**

The Tower Theatre Foundation established the Doug Watson Scholarship for Performing Arts in memory and honor of our longtime friend, member, sponsor, volunteer, and board chair. Doug was a true believer in the performing arts, especially in the power of arts in education. He supported the Tower's LessonPLAN programs and seemed to revel in being surrounded by an audience of enthusiastic school kids!

To continue his legacy and extend the impact of our region's performing arts, the Doug Watson Scholarship will empower students across Central Oregon to actively pursue their creative passions. The Tower Foundation is grateful to Doug's wife Marianne for initiating the funds for this special scholarship. At least \$5,000 will be awarded to three graduating seniors from Central Oregon.

### **Eligibility**

All graduating high school seniors *planning to study a performing arts discipline in college* (film, music, dance, theatre) may apply.

### **Criteria**

Scholarships will be awarded to students with exceptional talent and passion for performing arts. Scoring rubric used by scholarship committee available to help guide applicants.

### **Apply:**

Applications are due by 4 pm on Friday, April 10, 2026, and should include:

- Completed Application Form
- A short (3 minutes or less) sample audio or video that best features your skills. Please include a brief description of the audio or video sample you have provided in the application.
- An essay describing your journey as a performer and describing your plans for pursuing performing arts in the future (college and beyond) (500 words or less)
- 1-2 letter(s) of recommendation from performing arts teacher(s)
- Bring your application and a flash drive with your audio/visual sample to the Tower Theatre's box office or email the application and audio/video sample to [daniw@towertheatre.org](mailto:daniw@towertheatre.org)  
If your file size is too large, we encourage you to send it through [wetransfer.com](https://www.wetransfer.com) to [daniw@towertheatre.org](mailto:daniw@towertheatre.org)

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Tower Theatre Foundation**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

County: Check one:  Deschutes  Crook  Jefferson

School Currently Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Selected College: \_\_\_\_\_

College advisor contact info or student ID number if available: (where scholarship money can be sent to) \_\_\_\_\_

Intended Major: \_\_\_\_\_

Brief description of the audio or video sample you have provided:

Please attach your essay as a separate document.

**Performing Arts Scholarship Scoring Rubric (This will guide the scoring committee while reviewing your application.)**

**Applicant Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Scoring Criteria** Each category will be scored on a scale of 1-10, with 10 being outstanding and 1 being poor.

**1. Passion & Commitment to Performing Arts (10 points)**

- 10-9: Deep passion evident; significant dedication to their craft
- 8-7: Strong commitment with clear aspirations
- 6-5: Shows interest but needs clearer direction
- 4-3: Limited passion or unclear commitment to the arts
- 2-1: Minimal interest in the field

**Score:** \_\_\_\_ **Comments:** \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Artistic Sample (10 points)**

- 10-9: High-quality, well-prepared, and showcases exceptional ability
- 8-7: Strong performance with minor technical issues
- 6-5: Adequate but lacks polish or depth
- 4-3: Needs improvement; lacks clarity or preparedness
- 2-1: Does not effectively showcase skills or effort

**Score:** \_\_\_\_ **Comments:** \_\_\_\_\_

**3. Essay (10 points)**

- 10-9: Well-written, compelling, and clearly outlines artistic journey and future goals
- 8-7: Engaging, clear, and detailed with minor issues
- 6-5: Adequate but lacks depth or clarity
- 4-3: Unclear, lacks structure or insight
- 2-1: Poorly written, lacks focus on performing arts journey

**Score:** \_\_\_\_ **Comments:** \_\_\_\_\_

#### 4. Letters of Recommendation (10 points)

- 10-9: Strong endorsements, providing specific examples of talent and dedication
- 8-7: Positive with minor gaps in detail
- 6-5: Generally supportive but lacks depth
- 4-3: Weak support or lacks specificity
- 2-1: Little to no support or relevance

**Score:** \_\_\_\_ **Comments:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Score:** \_\_\_\_ / 40

**Final Comments:** \_\_\_\_\_