

Scholarships for Children Under Age 13

Early awareness programs try to encourage families to start searching for scholarships and saving for college early, yet are unable to help them find the scholarships. (Some early awareness programs such as GEAR UP offer their own college scholarships to encourage participation.)

Some of the scholarships listed below are also available to students over age 13. To find additional scholarships for students who are over age 13, see the [FastWeb scholarship database](#).

Action for Nature (AFN), a non-profit organization, has created the International Young Eco-Hero Awards to recognize and reward the successful individual environmental initiatives of young people ages 8 to 16. AFN encourages young people around the world to carry out individual environmental action projects. We believe that young people can have a positive impact on the environment and are vital in changing the way we live on our planet. The deadline is January 31st. For more information, call 1-415-513-2421, fax 1-415-922-5717, write to Action For Nature, 2269 Chestnut Street, #263, San Francisco, CA 94123, or send email to mail@ActionForNature.org.

Angela Award

The Angela Award recognizes a female student in grades 5-8 who is involved in science. It is open to US and Canadian students. The award is a \$1,000 US EE Savings Bond or Canadian Savings Bond. The award was established in honor of Gerry Wheeler, Executive Director Emeritus of the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA).

The Do Something Awards

The BRICK Awards by Do Something provide community grants and scholarships to "change-makers" age 25 and under who work with Do Something to improve their communities. The competition is open to US and Canadian citizens and permanent residents. Five Do Something Award nominees will receive at least \$10,000 in community grants and scholarships. Of the five winners, one grand prize winner will receive a total of \$100,000 in community grants. The nominees also participate in a live VH1 TV show and will receive continued support from DoSomething.org. (The community grants are paid to the nominee's organization or a not-for-profit organization of the nominee's choice. All winners have the option of receiving \$5,000 of the total award in the form of a college scholarship.) The deadline is March 1. For more information, send email to dsawards@dosomething.org.

Christopher Columbus Community Service Awards

The Christopher Columbus Community Service Awards are open to teams of students in grades 6-8. The competition focuses on using science and technology to solve real-world community problems. Each member of the winning teams receives a \$2,000 US Savings Bond. Winners also receive a trip to the National Championship Week at Walt Disney World. The competition is sponsored by the [Christopher Columbus Fellowship Foundation](#) in cooperation with the National Science Foundation. The deadline is the second Monday in February. For more information, call 1-800-291-6020, write to Christopher Columbus Awards, 105 Terry Drive, Suite 120, Newtown, PA 18940-3425, or send email to cca@edumedia.com.

Courage in Student Journalism Awards

The Courage in Student Journalism Awards are sponsored by the Newseum, the Student Press Law Center, and the National Scholastic Press Association. A \$5,000 award is granted each year to a middle or high school journalist who lawfully exercised his or her First Amendment press rights despite difficulty or resistance. The deadline is June 8 (postmark). For more information, call 1-703-284-3775, fax 1-703-284-3535, write to Courage in Student Journalism Awards, 1101 Wilson Blvd., Suite 1100, Arlington, VA 22209 or send email to director@splc.org.

Davidson Fellows

The Davidson Fellows Scholarship awards \$50,000, \$25,000 and \$10,000 scholarships to extraordinary young people, 18 and under, who have completed a significant piece of work.

Application categories are Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics, Literature, Music, Philosophy and Outside the Box. Davidson Fellows are honored every year in Washington, D.C. with Congressional meetings and a special reception. For more information, write to The Davidson Institute for Talent Development, Attn: Davidson Fellows Coordinators, 9665 Gateway Drive, Suite B, Reno, NV 89521 or send email to DavidsonFellows@DavidsonGifted.org.

Doodle 4 Google Google is famous for the doodles that occasionally replace the Google logo. The Doodle 4 Google competition challenges children in grades K-12 to create their own play on Google's logo. Doodles are judged in four grade groups: K-3, 4-6, 7-9 and 10-12. The National Winner will win a \$30,000 college scholarship (issued in the form of a check) to be used at the school of his or her choice; a trip to New York City on May 22nd (retail value approximately \$1,500); a \$50,000 grant toward the establishment/improvement of a computer lab for the U.S. School where the Entrant is enrolled as indicated on the Entry Form (homeschools are ineligible for the \$50,000 grant toward establishment/improvement of a computer lab); a Chromebook (retail value approximately \$299); a Wacom digital design tablet (retail value approximately \$200); and a T-shirt with his or her Google Doodle printed on it (retail value approximately \$15). The National Winner's Doodle will be displayed on the www.google.com home page in the United States for one day.

DuPont Challenge Science Essay Competition

The DuPont Challenge Science Essay Competition is sponsored by the DuPont Center for Collaborative Research & Education in cooperation with General Learning Communications. The competition is open to US and Canadian students in grades 7-12 inclusive. The competition involves writing a 700 to 1,000 word essay about a scientific or technological development, event, or theory chosen by the student. Topic areas include chemical sciences, life sciences, physical sciences, earth sciences, environmental sciences and space technology. There are two divisions: grades 7-9 and grades 10-12. Within each division there is one first place prize of a \$5,000 US Savings Bond, one second place prize of a \$3,000 US Savings Bond, two finalist prizes of a \$1,000 US Savings Bond, and several honorable mention prizes of a \$200 US Savings Bond. For more information, call 1-847-205-3000 or write to The DuPont Challenge, DuPont Office of Education, P.O. Box 80357, Wilmington, DE 19880-0030 or by email at thechallenge@usa.dupont.com.

Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes

The Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes is awarded annually to ten US and Canadian students, aged 8-18, who have developed an extraordinary service project that helped people and the planet. Half of the winners are focused on helping their communities and people, and half are focused on protecting the environment. Winners receive a \$5,000 scholarship. For more information, write to The Barron Prize, 545 Pearl Street, Boulder, CO 80302 or email at anita@barronprize.org.

Jif Most Creative Peanut Butter Sandwich Contest

The Jif Most Creative Peanut Butter Sandwich Contest is open to children who are age 6 to 12. The grand prize is a \$25,000 scholarship fund. The four runners up receive a \$2,500 scholarship fund. The deadline is mid-November. The contest is sponsored by the J.M. Smucker Company.

Kohl's Kids Who Care Program

Nomination forms will be separated into two age groups: ages 6-12 and ages 13-18. Kohl's plans to recognize one Student from each age group as a store winner for each Kohl's store. Winners are chosen based on the benefits and outcomes of their volunteer service. Each store winner will receive a \$50 Kohl's Gift Card. Additionally, over two hundred \$1,000 regional scholarship awards for higher education are planned, half to each age group. Ten \$9,000 national scholarships for higher education will be awarded, five to each age group. Since a national winner is also a regional winner, the total scholarship amount for national winners is \$10,000 each. In addition, Kohl's donates \$1,000 to a 501(c)(3) non-profit

organization on behalf of each national winner. The deadline is March 15. For more information, call 1-319-341-2932 or email at kohls@act.org.

Letters About Literature

Letters About Literature is a national reading/writing contest sponsored by the Center for the Book in the US Library of Congress in partnership with Target Stores. The contest is open to US students in grades 4-12. Entries consist of a personal letter to an author, living or dead, from any genre, explaining how the author's work changed the student's way of thinking about the world or themselves. There are three competition levels: grades 4-6 (100-250 words), grades 7-8 (250-500 words), and grades 9-12 (500-750 words). LAL awards prizes on both the state and national levels. Each *participating* state center has its own panel of judges who select the top essayists in the state. State Winners will receive a cash award and advance to the national level judging. A panel of national judges for the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress will select one National Winner per competition level to receive a \$1,000 cash award. The judges will also select one National Honor per competition level to receive on each competition level to receive a \$200 cash award. For more information, call 1-202-707-5221.

MATHCOUNTS

MATHCOUNTS is a national math competition for middle school students (grades 6-8). Individuals and teams of four mathletes from each school compete on a local, state and national level. All 228 national competitors and their coaches receive all-expense-paid trips to the MATHCOUNTS National Competition. The national champion receives the \$8,000 Donald G. Weinert Scholarship. The second place individual winner receives a \$6,000 college scholarship. The third and fourth place winners (countdown round semi-finalists) receive \$4,000 scholarships. The masters round champion receives a \$2,000 scholarship. The written round winner receives a \$8,000 scholarship and the written round runner-up receives a \$6,000 scholarship. The members of the first place team each receive a \$2,000 scholarship. Additional prizes include trips to US Space Camp, notebook computers, PDAs, and TI calculators. The registration deadline is in early December. Local and chapter competitions take place in February, state competitions in March, and the national competition in May. For more information, call 1-703-684-2828, fax 1-703-836-4875, write to MATHCOUNTS Foundation, 1420 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314, or send email to info@mathcounts.org.

National Marbles Tournament Scholarships

The annual National Marbles Tournament awards \$5,000 in scholarships to mibsters (marble shooters) aged 8 to 14. The tournament is held in June each year. The children crowned King and Queen of Marbles each receive a \$2,000 scholarship. A \$1,000 scholarship is awarded to the boy and girl who win the sportsmanship award. For more information, write to National Marbles Tournament, 811 Roeth Avenue, Cumberland, MD 21502.

National Geography Bee

The National Geography Bee is sponsored by the National Geographic Society. It is open to US students in grades 4-8 who are age 15 or younger by the date of the national competition. The National Geography Bee is a three stage competition, starting at the school level (competitions from mid-November through mid-January), followed by state competitions in April and the national competition in May. The ten finalists compete for college scholarships. The first place winner receives a \$25,000 scholarship, the second place winner a \$15,000 scholarship, and the third place winner a \$10,000 scholarship. The school registration deadline is October 15. (There is a \$50 school registration fee.) For more information, call 1-202-828-6659 or write to National Geographic Bee, National Geographic Society, 1145 17th Street N.W., Washington, DC 20036-4688.

National High School Oratorical Contest

The National High School Oratorical Contest is sponsored by the American Legion. It is open to US students in junior high school or high school (grades 7-12) who are under age 20 as of the date of the national contest. State contests are held no later than mid-March, and the national contest finals are held in April. The American Legion pays for the travel and lodging expenses of the state winners and their

chaperones. The first place winner receives an \$18,000 scholarship. The second place winner receives a \$16,000 scholarship. The third place winner receives a \$14,000 scholarship. Each state winner who participates in the first round of the national contest receives a \$1,500 scholarship. For more information, call 1-317-630-1249, write to National Americanism and Children & Youth Division, The American Legion National Headquarters, PO Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206, or send email to acy@legion.org.

National History Day Contest

The National History Day Contest is open to students in grades 6-12 in the junior (grades 6-8) and senior (grades 9-12) divisions. The projects relate to a specific historical topic or theme. There are seven categories, including individual papers, individual exhibits, group exhibits, individual performance, group performance, individual documentary, and group documentation. Within each category, the first place winner receives \$1,000, the second place winner receives \$500, and the third place winner receives \$250. The national contest is held in June.

National Spelling Bee

The National Spelling Bee is sponsored by the E.W. Scripps Company. It is open to students in grades 1-8 as of their school finals (February 1) and who are under age 16 as of the date of the national finals (June 1). The champion wins a total of \$28,000 in cash prizes and scholarships. The second place finisher wins a cash prize of \$6,000, the third place finisher receives \$3,500, the fourth place finisher receives \$2,000, the fifth place finisher receives \$1,250, the sixth place finisher receives \$1,000, and the seventh place finisher receives \$750. There are also assorted other prizes ranging from \$50 to \$600 for students who are eliminated in earlier rounds. For more information, call 1-513-977-3040, fax 1-513-977-3800, or send email to bee@scripps.com.

NewsCurrents Student Editorial Cartoon Contest

The NewsCurrents Student Editorial Cartoon Contest is sponsored by Knowledge Unlimited, Inc. and is open to students in grades K-12. There are three divisions: grades K-6, 7-9 and 10-12. First, second and third place winners in each division receive US Savings Bonds. The deadline is March 1 (postmark). For more information, call 1-800-356-2303 or write to NewsCurrents Cartoon Contest, PO Box 52, Madison, WI 53701.

Nicholas A. Virgilio Memorial Haiku Competition

The Nicholas A. Virgilio Memorial Haiku Competition is open to students in grades 7-12. Entries from home-schooled students are not accepted. The six winning haiku received \$50. The deadline is March 25 (receipt).

Olive Garden Pasta Tales Essay Contest

The Olive Garden Pasta Tales essay contest is open to students in grades 1-12 from the US and Canada. Essays are 50 to 250 words on a topic that changes each year. The deadline is in early December. The grand prize winner will receive a \$2,500 savings bond and a 3-day trip to New York City. One student in each grade category will receive a \$500 savings bond.

Patriot's Pen

Patriot's Pen is an essay writing contest (patriotic theme) sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW). It is open to US students in grades 6-8. More than 115,000 students enter the contest each year. The first place winner receives a \$5,000 US Savings Bond. The 46 top national winners receive US Savings Bonds between \$500 and \$2,500. Entries are submitted through local VFW Posts. The contest is also known as the VFW Youth Essay Contest. The deadline is November 1. For more information, call 1-816-968-1117.

Prudential Spirit of Community Awards

The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards recognize children in grades 5-12 who have engaged in volunteer activities and have demonstrated exceptional community service. The program is sponsored by Prudential in conjunction with the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP). State winners receive a \$1,000 award. National winners receive a \$5,000 award. The student application deadline is in late October.

Scholastic Art & Writing Awards

The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards are open to US and Canadian students in grades 7-12. It is sponsored by Scholastic Inc. and administered by the Alliance for Young Artists and Writers, Inc. More than 250,000 students enter the competition each year. For more information, call 1-212-343-6493, write to The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, 557 Broadway, New York, NY 10012, or send email to A&WGeneralinfo@scholastic.com.

Team America Rocketry Challenge

Team America Rocketry Challenge is a national model rocket competition open to US junior high school and high school students (grades 7-12). It is sponsored by AIA and the National Association of Rocketry. The top 100 teams compete for \$60,000 in scholarships. The application deadline is November 15. For more information, send email to rocketcontest@aia-aerospace.org.

Toshiba/NSTA ExploraVision Awards

The Toshiba ExploraVision Awards is a competition for teams of 2-4 US and Canadian students in grades K-12. The goal of the competition is to encourage students to explore a vision of a future technology. The teams research a technology or device and project how it might change in the future. They identify necessary breakthroughs to enable the development of the technology and discuss the positive and negative impact of the technology on society. There are four divisions: grades K-3, grades 4-6, grades 7-9, and grades 10-12. Within each division, there is one first prize and one second prize. The first prize consists of a \$10,000 US Savings Bond for each student on the winning team. The second prize consists of a \$5,000 US Savings Bond for each student on the winning team. ExploraVision is sponsored by Toshiba and National Science Teachers of America. Materials are available starting in September. The deadline is February 1. For more information, call 1-800-EXPLOR9 (1-800-397-5679), write to ExploraVision, 1840 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22201-3000, or send email to exploravision@nsta.org.

West Point Bridge Design Contest

The West Point Bridge Design Contest is open to US students age 13 through grade 12 at the time of registration. Students compete individually (team of one) or in teams of two members. This engineering competition involves designing truss bridges. Each member of the first-place team receives a \$10,000 scholarship. Each member of the five finalist teams wins a notebook computer. Registration opens in early January and ends on February 28. The final round is held in April.

Young Naturalist Awards

The Young Naturalist Awards is a research-based science essay contest open to US and Canadian students in grades 7-12. It is sponsored by the American Museum of Natural History and the Chase Manhattan Foundation. Two scholarships are awarded to the winning essays at each grade level. The 7th grade winners receive \$500. The 8th grade winners receive \$750. The 9th grade winners receive \$1,000. The 10th grade winners receive \$1,500. The 11th grade winners receive \$2,000. The 12th grade winners receive \$2,500. Award winners and their family members also receive travel and lodging to attend the awards ceremony at the American Museum of Natural History in the spring. There are also 36 finalists who receive a cash award of \$50 and a certificate. The deadline is in early March. For more information, call 1-212-496-3498, write to Young Naturalist Awards Administrator, National Center for Science Literacy, Education, and Technology, American Museum of Natural History, Central Park West at 79th Street, New York, NY 10024-5192 or send email to yua@amnh.org.

Youth Service America

Youth Service America offers the State Farm Good Neighbor Service-Learning Grants to US children age 5-25 to implement service-learning projects for National Youth Service Day in April. One hundred \$1,000 grants will be awarded. The application deadline is in mid-October. For more information, send email to GoodNeighbor@ysa.org.

The National Education Association (NEA) sponsors Youth Leaders for Literacy in conjunction with Youth Service America. This program awards 20 \$500 grants to student-led initiatives. The program is open to applicants aged 21 and younger. The application deadline is in mid-November.

Scholarships for Children Who Are Age 13

American Morgan Horse Institute Graywood Youth Horsemanship Grant

The American Morgan Horse Institute (AMHI) sponsors the Graywood Youth Horsemanship Grant for members of the Morgan youth club or American Morgan Horse Association, ages 13 to 21. One or two grants are awarded each year. The grant is used to cover costs of study of horse care, breeding, management, training and riding of Morgan horses. See the [application](#) for additional details. The deadline is February 1. For more information, send email to amhioffice@aol.com.