

Change highlighted dates for 2014 and fee amount, if it has changed

Notification of Scholarship Opportunity

April 2013

The Community Family Literacy Project, Inc. is currently accepting applications for privately funded scholarships to be awarded to three individuals interested in obtaining United States citizenship. These scholarships are available exclusively to students enrolled in the Mastics-Moriches-Shirley Community Library Citizenship Preparation Class.

No cash award is provided to the scholarship winners. In lieu of a cash award, a check in the amount of \$680 will be made payable to the U. S. Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) on behalf of each scholarship recipient.

Scholarship Eligibility Requirements:

- Applicants must be eligible to apply for U.S. citizenship by **June 30, 2013**.
- Applicants must be a current patron of the M-M-S Community Library.
- Applicants must be currently enrolled in citizenship preparation class.
- Applicants must maintain a good history of class attendance and participation.

Scholarship Application Process:

Please submit the following to the Literacy Department at the Mastics-Moriches-Shirley Community Library:

- A completed Scholarship Application form, signed and dated by the applicant.
- A 500 – 700 word essay *written solely by the applicant* on the following topic:
Why Becoming a United States Citizen is Important to Me
Please note that your essay must be written in English unless you qualify for the English language exceptions as defined by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.
- Each submission must be typewritten, in 12 point Times New Roman font, and double-spaced.
- Use only your assigned Scholarship Application Number as a label to identify your essay. Do not include your name in body of the essay.
- The deadline for essay submission is 5 p.m. **May 17, 2013**.

Winners will be notified on or about **May 24, 2013**. Award winners will be acknowledged during Recognition Celebration on June **2nd**. Therefore, attendance at the event on June **2nd** by winners is expected.

Important Information for Scholarship Recipients: If you are chosen as a scholarship recipient, you will need to do the following:

- Before mailing your completed N-400 application to USCIS, please bring it to the literacy office so that the scholarship award check can be attached to your paperwork.
- Once you have mailed the N-400 application to USCIS, *please bring a copy of the postal service certified return receipt* to the literacy office for our files.

Our commitment to provide the immigration fee payment on behalf of each scholarship winner expires at 5:00 p.m. on June 30, **2013**.

Thank you for your interest in participating in this competition.
Good Luck!