

# ABOUT *INSIGHTS*...

*Insights* is a tool to assist parents, educators, and students in locating special programs and activities for the summer, as well as providing various scholarship applications for identified gifted students. TAGT produces this directory as a public service to the gifted community. The summer programs listed are a sample of the many opportunities available to gifted students. We neither imply nor intend an endorsement of any individual program.

The *Insights* directory also includes applications for the TAGT Outstanding Teacher, Parent, Rising Star, and Advocate of the Gifted awards, Grants for Excellence awards, and Parent/Educator Scholarships. Application procedures and deadlines vary for different awards, so please refer to individual applications for specific information. If you have questions or comments, please contact your TAGT Regional Director, or the TAGT office. Addresses and telephone numbers can be found on the back cover of this directory.

## 2009 TAGT Scholarships and Grants

Permission is given to copy and distribute the scholarship applications in this guide, as well as the Texas Association for the Gifted and Talented membership application on the inside back cover. All scholarships are based upon merit, not financial need. The application deadline for all scholarships is March 1; all applicants will be notified of their status by April 15.

### **TAGT Summer Scholarships**

**These scholarships are designed for identified gifted students who are currently participating in a gifted program**, and who want to attend academic or artistic programs during the summer months. The scholarships awards have a maximum of \$400 and are available for students, K-12. The highest-scoring elementary student and secondary student applicants are chosen as Ann Shaw Scholars and receive \$500 each. Scholarship winners must complete and return the necessary paperwork by June 15 or the award will be forfeited. Please note that for accounting purposes scholarship checks are made payable to both the program and the scholarship winner.

### **Adelle McClendon Young Leader Scholarship**

One graduating gifted and talented high school senior is awarded the Adelle McClendon Young Leader Scholarship, a university scholarship of \$2,500. The winner of this annual award must demonstrate outstanding leadership.

### **Future Vision Scholarship**

One graduating gifted and talented high school senior is awarded the Future Vision Scholarship, a university scholarship of \$2,500. This award is given to a student who has demonstrated outstanding academic achievement, possesses a strong sense of purpose and clearly defined goals, and has a long-term plan for achieving these goals.

### **Parent/Educator Scholarships**

The Parent/Educator Scholarships are for adults who wish to further their knowledge and understanding of gifted education. These scholarships may be used for programs during the summer or during the school year and may range up to \$400. From the applications submitted, one adult is chosen as the Carole Vermillion Scholar and receives an award of \$500.

### **The Laura Allard Grants for Excellence Awards**

The Laura Allard Grants for Excellence are available to educators, parents, and nonprofit organizations for the development of innovative programs benefiting gifted and talented students. These awards range up to \$1,000 and may be awarded twice a year. The deadline for spring applications is March 1, with notification made by April 15. The fall application deadline is November 1, with notification made by December 15.

# TAGT Scholarship Application Directions

## General Application Instructions

Please read these instructions carefully prior to completing the application.

We encourage you to apply for a summer scholarship for a child or for yourself. All applications are included in this directory. **Please note that applying for a scholarship through TAGT does not constitute application to a specific program; you must make application to the summer program of your choice directly; TAGT does not run a summer program.** TAGT awards and scholarships are contingent upon acceptance into the program. Scholarship checks are made payable to both the program and the scholarship winner for accounting purposes.

- **Students applicants in public schools must be currently identified as gifted and participating in a gifted program.** Students in private schools or home-schools may be eligible to apply. Those parents should contact the TAGT Associate Director for additional information.
- A current TAGT member must sign as a sponsor.
- Student applications may be typed or handwritten, but must be the work of the student. Any typed portion of the scholarship application must be in a font size of at least 12 points.
- Applicants must adhere to the space limitations.
- Applicants must not submit samples of their work or any portfolio items. Information of this type will be removed from applications prior to evaluation.
- Submit only the required number of recommendations. Any additional letters of recommendation will be removed from the application prior to evaluation.
- The best written responses discuss the strengths of the applicant and give detailed examples. They are specific to the individual and help the evaluators understand the personality of the applicant.
- Incomplete applications are not considered. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that the application packet is complete. See each application for a complete list of required materials.
- No more than one summer scholarship is awarded to an individual within a three-year period.
- The maximum amount for a summer scholarship award is \$400.

**For More Information Contact your TAGT Regional Director**  
(See last page for a directory of TAGT Regional Directors)

### **Texas Association for the Gifted and Talented**

1524 South IH 35, #205  
Austin, TX 78704  
(512) 499-8248

# TAGT Scholarships

## How TAGT Scholarship Applications Are Scored

Written responses on the applications are evaluated holistically. Three different readers use the following rubric to evaluate the applications, with slight variations for the various scholarship awards:

**8-Superior:** This response answers the questions very thoroughly and completely. Wording is clear and precise, leaving no doubts about the intended meaning. There are detailed and elaborated responses, providing specific and appropriate examples about the applicant.

**7-Between Superior and Commendable.**

**6-Commendable:** This response is clear, thorough, and to the point. It leaves no doubt about the intended meaning. There are somewhat detailed and elaborated responses to the questions, and specific and appropriate examples about the applicant are given.

**5-Between Commendable and Acceptable.**

**4-Acceptable:** This response is clear and straightforward, with little doubt about the intended meaning, but is not as thorough as the responses above. Examples are provided, but with less detail or elaboration. It has some elements of a 4 or 5, but lacks the same depth or quality.

**3-Between Acceptable and Limited.**

**2-Limited:** This response is vague and lacks a clear focal point. The writing relates to the topic, but contains few specific examples. There is very little detail or elaboration in the response and does not fully answer the question.

**1-Inadequate:** This response is very weak. It does not address the question in any meaningful way. It lacks any specific examples. This response also may be off-track and not relevant to the application.

## History of TAGT Scholarships and Grants

### ANN SHAW STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP

The Ann Shaw Student Scholarship was established in 1992. Ann Shaw was a founding member of TAGT and the first director of the Division of Gifted and Talented for the Texas Education Agency. For nearly two decades, she was one of the strongest voices of advocacy for the gifted and talented in Texas.

### ADELLE MCCLENDON YOUNG LEADER SCHOLARSHIP

In 1995, TAGT set up the Adelle McClendon Young Leader Scholarship, in memory of the late Adelle McClendon, a noted leader in gifted education whose long service to TAGT included being president of the organization in 1991.

### FUTURE VISION SCHOLARSHIP

Established in 2007, this award of \$2,500 is given to a graduating gifted high school senior who has demonstrated outstanding academic achievement, possesses a sense of purpose and clearly defined goals, and has a long-term plan for achieving them.

### CAROLE VERMILLION ADULT SCHOLARSHIP

The Carole Vermillion Adult Scholarship was established in 1989. Carole Vermillion contributed to the passage of state legislation for gifted students and the creation of an office of gifted education within the Texas Education Agency. She later helped establish the TAGT.

### LAURA ALLARD GRANTS FOR EXCELLENCE

TAGT created these grants in 1987 to encourage development of innovative programs for gifted and talented students. In 1994, TAGT renamed the grants to honor the late Laura Allard. She was the first principal of Windsor Park Elementary Gifted Magnet School in Corpus Christi ISD. She later became TAGT's first paid executive director.