



ANNOUNCEMENT

Albert J. Blaha Memorial Scholarship

This \$1000 scholarship is granted by Milady “Bunny” Blaha, the eldest child of Albert Blaha, the founder of the Czech Heritage Society of Texas (CHS), to a graduating Texas high school senior or Texas college, university or vocational/technical school first year student of Czech descent. Primary qualifications include past or current Czech culture and heritage-related activities and involvement. Proof of registration in a program of studies at a college, university or vocational/technical school is required of the selectee prior to disbursement of the financial award which will be made to the school, not directly to the selectee.

The applicant must submit the following: (All personal documents are to be in Times New Roman font, 14-point, one-inch margins)

1. An original 300-400-word essay describing what your Czech heritage means to you, how it has influenced you, your current and past Czech cultural and heritage involvement and why you think you should be selected for this scholarship.

2. A list briefly describing ways in which you have been involved with Czech culture and heritage in descending order of importance. Skip a line between each numbered item in the list. Attach evidence or attestation from a cognizant person for each. Possible ideas:

Take Czech language or history lessons.

Research family genealogy and create a family tree (at least 4 generations).

Interview a senior (65+) person of Czech descent about his/her life or his/her ancestor's life.

Visit a cemetery with Czech graves and record information on several interesting Czech markers.

Help clean up or mow a cemetery with Czech graves.

Membership in CHS or other Czech organization and attend several meetings.

Organize, volunteer or participate in a Czech-related program, e.g., the CHS Queen Pageant, a Czech celebration, play, polka band, dance group.

Make kolache or other traditional Czech food.

Attend Hus Camp (as student or staff).

School project on Czech culture, heritage, history or language.

Visit the Texas Czech Heritage and Cultural Center (TCHCC), the Czech Heritage Museum and Genealogy Center, Czech painted churches of Texas, or other Czech-historic site.

Attend a Czech festival.

(Active involvement earns 2 points; visiting/attending, 1 point or 2 pts if more than 50 miles from home.)

3. Copy of most recent high school or college, university or vocational/technical school transcript.

4. Two letters of recommendation: one from a high school teacher, counselor, employer or other cognizant person attesting to your academic or vocational/technical promise; the other from an adult attesting to your interest and involvement in Czech culture and heritage.

5. A 100±-word statement describing planned or current studies in a college, university, or vocational/technical school and planned career after graduation or certification. Include name of school.

6. A cover sheet including your name, address, phone number and e-mail address; and high school name, address, and phone number.

All items must be submitted in one envelope postmarked no later than April 3, 2023 and sent to:

The Czech Heritage Society of Texas
Albert J. Blaha Scholarship
Attn: Richard Skopik
305 Kingston Dr.
Waco, TX 76712

January 12, 2023