**Areas of Award**

The Safe & Sound Arts and Activism Scholarship begins at **Noon on February 28th and ends at Noon on April 30th** and benefits selected graduating high school seniors within the Greater Chicagoland Area who demonstrate above-average ability and great interest in one or more of the following 5 areas:

1. Dance

2. Spoken Word

3. Visual Arts

4. Singing

5. Volunteerism

**Minimum Eligibility**

1. Demonstrated ability and great interest in one or more areas

2. Plan to begin classes at an accredited college, university or trade school no later than October 1st, 2022

3. Cumulative high school grade point average of 2.5 or higher

4. Evidence of enrollment by an accredited two or four-year college or university or trade school no later than September 24th, 2021

5. Written Statement of Financial Need (250 Words or less)

**FAFSA**

*Parents of students applying for a Safe & Sound Arts and Activism Scholarship are encouraged to complete and submit, to the appropriate government offices, their Federal Application for Student Aid (FAFSA).*

*The Federal Aid Deadline for the 2022 – 2023 academic year is June 30, 2023. Online applications must be submitted by midnight Central Time, June 30, 2021. FAFSA information may be accessed at* [www.fafsa.ed.gov.](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov./)

***\*Evidence of FAFSA not required for Scholarship Entry or Selection***

**Application Process**

Applicants may complete and email application packets to the address provided below: **info@safeandsoundconnect.org**

**The packet must contain:**

1. Completed scholarship application (typed responses only) inclusive of a one-page essay entitled, “Why I am a perfect choice for Safe & Sound’s Arts and Activism Scholarship”
2. A reference from at least two of the following: a current theatre, music, art and/or dance teacher, mentor, approved volunteer organization, or performance coach on company letterhead and must include verifiable contact information.
3. Copy of most recent report card showing Cumulative GPA
4. Media Release Form
5. Evidence of enrollment by an accredited two or four-year college or university or trade school (If not yet received, copies must be submitted upon receipt)
6. Artistic Submissions:

- Video submissions must not exceed 180 seconds (3 minutes) in length.

- Video submission files must be: no larger than 1 GB in size and in one of the following formats: .mp4, .mov, .wmv, .avi

- Video submissions may be sent via link to YouTube, Vimeo, Facebook, etc. or may be mailed to us on a flash drive

- Art or Photo submissions must be: no larger than 20 MB and in one of the following formats: .jpg, .png, or .gif

- Essay or Poem submissions must be at least 250 words but must not exceed 500 words in length

- All Entries must be in English

***\*Application packets must be received no later than April 30th, 2022.***

**Disqualification**

Contest submissions or portions thereof that include or involve the following will be disqualified:

1. Explicit, graphic, suggestive or sexual activity or depictions
2. Videos or songs making reference to the use or sale of drugs or alcohol
3. Disrespectful language or photos of any ethnic, racial, sexual or religious groups
4. Photos or artwork of any branded or trademarked clothing, signs or other sponsored material
5. Photos, video or artwork depicting violence
6. Music or art that is otherwise graphic in nature or contains foul language
7. Any material that has been released and considered professional or has been performed or heard on a professional platform including but not limited to radio, tv, print or streamed
8. Artwork or drawings of cartoons or characters must be original in creation
9. Any submission or performance that is determined to be potentially damaging to the image, reputation or branding of Safe & Sound, the Arts and Activism Scholarship or the Scholarship Sponsors will be disqualified. Safe & Sound reserves the right to determine what is acceptable as a submission.

**By entering a submission, you assume responsibility for any actions on your part which may result in a claim against the Safe & Sound or any other party related to resources which you use, and you agree to indemnify and hold the Safe & Sound Organization and its sponsors harmless from any such claim.**