



The Laurel Arts League, a non-profit organization devoted to encouraging and fostering the arts, is pleased to share information for our high school scholarship program.

Scholarships will be awarded to area students for \$500 each. The Laurel Arts League Scholarship Program is open to all high school seniors attending school in, or residing in, Laurel/Jones County. This includes all public, private, and home school programs. Applicants are not required to major in the visual arts should they plan to continue into a secondary education program. Applicants must provide examples of their work, as described on the following pages.

Awards will be determined on a competitive basis and require the submission of the following:

- Portfolio (details on following pages)
- A personal statement
- One letter of recommendation from a current or former art instructor or a professional artist who is familiar with your work.
- Completed application (available on our website at www.laurelartsleague.com). Application includes information about artistic endeavors and recognition in the field

All applicants will be notified of results via email in April, 2026.

As a condition of scholarship acceptance, the winner must agree to allow the Laurel Arts League non-exclusive use of the art in the submitted digital portfolio for publications and promotions.

All submissions are due by Friday, April 3rd, 2026. Please direct questions to artsleaguescholarship@gmail.com.

Sincerely,
Laurel Arts League

The Laurel Arts League is proud to present the **Mandy Buchanan Creative Arts Scholarship** in honor of one of our beloved past members. Mandy dedicated her life to her family, friends, community, and her love of the arts. Her true servant's heart could be seen in her commitment to share her talents with her community and in every life that she brightened. Her talents will be most remembered through her beautiful artwork that is lovingly displayed in countless homes, churches, and businesses, bringing smiles to the faces of anyone who encounters them. Mandy's paintings, much like Mandy's personality, bring sunshine and joy to any room where they are displayed.

As a former educator at Laurel High School and Jones College, Mandy mentored many students and helped to instill and foster a love of the arts. The **Mandy Buchanan Creative Arts Scholarship** is awarded to a high school senior student who demonstrates exceptional talent and passion in the arts. The scholarship is intended to support young artists who share Mandy's love for the arts and is awarded on a competitive basis and requires the submission of an art portfolio, a personal statement, and letters of recommendation. Through this scholarship, we hope to honor Mandy's memory and inspire the next generation of artists to pursue their creative passions and share their talents with the world.

The **Mandy Buchanan Creative Arts Scholarship Program** is open to high school seniors attending school or residing in Laurel/Jones County. This includes all public, private, and homeschool programs. This program is not limited to students planning to major in the visual arts, but applicants must be able to provide a portfolio.

Awards will be determined on a competitive basis and require the submission of a portfolio, a personal statement, and letters of recommendation. All work (art) must be original in fabrication and concept.

Questions/Applications should be emailed to: artsleaguescholarship@gmail.com.

1. Application

2. Personal statement

In honor of Mandy's passion for the arts, tell us about your passion for art. Include a paragraph or two describing your interest in art and the place you expect it might have in your college education or life ahead. What motivates you as an artist? Are there ideas, materials, or images that particularly stimulate your creativity?

3. LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

One letters of recommendation is required from a current or former art instructor or a professional artist who is familiar with your work. The letter of recommendation should include, but is not limited to, the capacity in which the recommender knows the student, the student's ability in the area in which they have applied, and the student's ambition and motivation.

4. Demonstration of art

Art Portfolio

1. Submit a portfolio of 8-10 high-quality images of your work completed within the last two years. Works may include drawings, design work, paintings, ceramics, sculptures, prints, photography, and sketches. No video productions. It is preferred that you condense all items for the portfolio into one PDF file, though individual files will be accepted. Label files as Last name, First name, number (Example: Pickering_Emily_1). Include an image list with title of work, media, and dates of completion. (Example, #1. Flowers, acrylic paint, March 2023)

2. Provide the following for each work:

- Title
- Medium
- Dimensions of the work
- Indicate if the work was completed independently or as a class assignment; if it is an assignment, please describe it.
- For drawings, indicate if the work was drawn from direct observation or a photograph.
- AI-generated work must be labeled as such, including which program you used and your prompts.

Dance

1. Record yourself performing two short, contrasting dance pieces. (Example: one dramatic and one light OR comedic and romantic).

- Each should be no more than 1.5 - 2 minutes long.
- Represent a range of styles.
- The performances should be only you—not a group piece.
- Videos containing segments of recent performances will not be considered.

2. Provide the titles and styles on the application.

Voice

1. Submit at least three contrasting songs that demonstrate your current skill level and artistry. (art songs, sacred, musical theatre, classical, or contemporary)
2. State the title and composer of each work on the application.
3. Additional materials could include collaborations (e.g. chamber, band, with accompaniment).
4. Submit a minimum of 3 minutes and a maximum of 10 minutes of total performance (individual pieces may be shorter).

Instrumental

1. Submit at least two solo selections in contrasting styles that demonstrate your current skill level and artistry. Memorization is not required. Students should perform 2 selections in contrasting style (lyrical/rhythmic, slow/fast, classical/swing, etc.)
2. Additional materials could include collaborations (e.g. chamber, band, with accompaniment).

3. Submit a minimum of 3 minutes and a maximum of 10 minutes of total performance (individual pieces may be shorter).
4. State the title and composer of each work on the application.

Piano

1. The applicant should perform two contrasting selections in contrasting styles that demonstrate your current skill level and artistry. At least one selection should be memorized.
2. Additional materials could include collaborations (e.g. chamber, band, with accompaniment).
3. Submit a minimum of 3 minutes and a maximum of 10 minutes of total performance (individual pieces may be shorter).
4. State the title and composer of each work on the application.

Acting

1. Submit two contrasting monologues: one dramatic, one light (comedic or romantic). The pieces should be fully memorized and staged to include movement.
2. Each monologue should not exceed two minutes in length. Shakespeare, for instance, need only be about 20 lines of text.
3. Video containing footage of other performances will not be considered.

Tips For Recording

- Set the camera up in a static long/horizontal shot, so that all of you can be seen. Please use a tripod.
- Avoid multiple camera angles, close-ups, and a lot of editing.
- Be sure to establish your marks (boundaries on the floor), so you do not step off frame, and allow yourself to move according to how you have blocked.
- Be sure that you are well lit. It is helpful to use a neutral background like a blank solid wall.
- Wear colors that will contrast with your background wall.
- Rehearse on camera and review takes to assure you are comfortable being on camera.