

THE KEN & ANN WATTS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS

Ken Watts founded what is now called the Sears Ontario Drama Festival in 1946 in Toronto. For almost thirty years Ken and his wife Ann encouraged and supported high school students and teachers in the pursuit of excellence in theatre. Through the festivals which they promoted and administered, opportunities were provided for thousands of young people across Ontario to develop their talents. Many of them are now valued members of the performing arts professions. The warm, personal interest that Ken and Ann Watts had in young actors, directors, designers and playwrights, and their dedication in serving them, will long be treasured. After Ann's death in 1981, a scholarship foundation was established in her name. Following Ken's death in 2002, the name of the foundation was changed and the awards are now given in both of their names: The Ken and Ann Watts Memorial Foundation Scholarships.

Scholarship Description

- Scholarships will be awarded to Ontario secondary school students who:
 - will be graduating from secondary school by the end of the year in which the scholarship is awarded
 - will be entering a college or university program which will provide training for a career in the performing arts or arts education in the fall following the spring in which they are eligible to apply
 - have participated in a Sears Ontario Drama Festival Regional Showcase in the year of the application
 - have demonstrated exceptional talent in and commitment to theatre
- The scholarships provide financial assistance toward tuition fees for the program in which the recipient enrolls. One third of each of four \$3000 scholarships is awarded for the first year, with another third at the start of each of the next two years of study, providing students are academically successful and remain in school. Four \$500 bursaries are also awarded each year, given in one payment; in both cases, payment is made when proof of post secondary enrollment is provided to Wayne Fairhead via mail.

Application Process

- Application forms can be downloaded from the website, www.searsdramafestival.com; **Applications MUST be submitted no later than TEN days after the end of the District Festival.**
- THREE copies of the completed application package should be sent to: Wayne Fairhead, 116 Granby St., Toronto ON M5B 1J1 .**
- The scholarship recipients will be chosen by a panel of professional theatre people and educators. Applicants will be given an opportunity to meet with the panel and discuss their educational and career plans, either in Toronto on the weekend prior to the Provincials, or during the Provincial Showcase week in that year's host city.
- The scholarship winners are announced on the final evening of the Provincial Showcase.