

# The Grand Lodge 2024 Scholarship and Essay Contest

*The Grand Lodge of the Vasa Order of America offers the following to students attending or planning to attend institutions of higher education.*

*Applicants for the above scholarships must have become a Vasa member prior to February 15, 2023.*

*Applications are available at the Vasa website until January 15, 2024.*

*To be eligible, the following items must be postmarked no later than February 15, 2024 to be considered.*

1. Completed application with enclosures MUST be postmarked no later than 15 February 2024.
2. Complete "OFFICIAL" transcripts of grades through the first half of the senior year for high school students or fall semester of current academic year for college students.
3. Current passport style photo headshot (at least 4"x6") or email a digital headshot photo vasaorderc@gmail.com
4. A letter of recommendation from applicant's Local Lodge with date of initiation.
5. Letters of recommendation from two personal references dated within last 6 months.
6. A letter of reference from your Dean, Principal, Teacher or Counselor, dated within last 6 months.
7. An original, typed essay, not to exceed 1,000 words. Cannot have been submitted in prior years.

**Please put in one envelope if possible**

**Choose an essay subject from the following list:**

1. What do you consider to be role youth can and should play in Vasa?
2. If you have visited a Nordic Country, what was the most impressive element of your visit and why?
3. How has traditional Swedish Music and Folkdance influenced your involvement with The Vasa Order?
4. What is your favorite Scandinavian Holiday and how has it been passed through your family?
5. Describe an individual that has influenced your involvement in The Vasa Order of America
6. Within the Nordic countries, choose what a most popular tourist attraction is, and provide your thoughts on its appeal.
7. What Nordic invention appeals to you in being most important to mankind and why have you selected this?

**AWARDS ARE PAYABLE TO** the institution in which the student is enrolled or accepted for enrollment. To qualify for the College or Vocational School Scholarship, a student needs to be enrolled in an accredited vocational school or institution of higher learning taking no less than six (6) credits per semester or eight (8) credits per quarter in the academic year immediately following the award. In extraordinary circumstances, on petition to the Grand Lodge Scholarship Committee, payment may be postponed for a period not to exceed two years.

**Tom Cleveland, Vice Grand Master**

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