Sara Thompson Magical Mermaid Scholarship Overview

The Sara Thompson Magical Mermaid Scholarship is given in honor of Sara Thompson, a fabulous high femme, warrior for the community, and fierce friend. Sara believed in the power of all people to create opportunities from difficulties, and often lent her strength to those who needed it most.

To continue her legacy, this scholarship is intended to lend strength through monetary support to LGBTQ+ community members of all ages, whether in school or not, to support their ongoing efforts to create positive change in their own lives or the lives of others.

Scholarship Requirements and Details

Evaluation will be based upon demonstrated leadership, scholastic achievement, extracurricular activities, and involvement in the LGBTQ community. The applicant must:

1. Complete the attached OBC application in its entirety, including all required supplemental material.
2. Currently attend a Colorado high school, be currently admitted or enrolled in a Colorado institution of higher education, or have been a Colorado resident for at least 2 years.
3. If seeking scholarship funds for institutional education assistance, have a plan to attend an accredited university, college, vocational school, trade school, or class(es) in the fall 2020 year.
4. If seeking scholarship funds for other projects or pursuits, include a summary of no more than one page outlining specifically how funds would be used.
5. Self-identify as LGBTQ+.
6. Provide an official, sealed copy of their transcripts showing a cumulative grade point average of 2.75 or better or equivalent, if seeking institutional education funding.
7. Provide at least one letter of recommendation sealed by the author that details the applicant’s accomplishments from a knowledgeable teacher, professor, instructor, advisor, mentor, coach, supervisor, community leader, or friend.
8. Sign the consent-and-release section of the application form agreeing to the outlined terms and conditions.
9. Sign the photo and video release section of the application agreeing to the outlined terms and conditions.
10. Mail the completed application to:
   Out Boulder County, Magical Mermaid Scholarship Committee, PO Box 1018, Boulder, CO 80306. Submissions must be postmarked by May 17th, 2020.
11. If invited to do so, accept an invitation, and participate in a phone interview by one, or more, of the scholarship committee members.

Recipients will be notified no later than June 15th, 2020. If selected, you will be invited and encouraged to attend the Magic Mermaid Scholarship recognition ceremony, which will be held as part of the OBC Pool Party on July 11th, 2020 in Longmont, CO.

Please submit an email to mermaidscholarship@outboulder.org with any questions about the scholarship or the application.
2020 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION CHECKLIST: I have collected all of the following items in one packet (please check):

☐ Completed application.
☐ Completed essay responses.
☐ At least one sealed letter of recommendation.
☐ Sealed official academic transcript if applicable.
☐ Signed consent and release section.
☐ Signed photo and video release section.
Application Form

Instructions

Place your cursor on each shaded field to type your entries; you can tab from one entry to another. Click check boxes to select. Once you have filled in all fields, print the form, fill in your name, signature and date, and mail the form to the address shown on page 1.

1. Personal Information

Name:

Address:

City: State: Zip:

Phone: Email:

Current School if applicable:

Preferred method of contact: Mail □ Phone □ Email □

Please confirm you identify as LGBTQ+: Yes □

How did you find out about the OBC Scholarship Program (please be as specific as possible)?

What is your Cumulative GPA?

If awarded a scholarship, will you be able to attend the recognition ceremony at the OBC Pool Party on July 11th, 2020 in Longmont, CO? Your answer will not impact your ability to be awarded a scholarship. If unable to attend the ceremony, you will be asked to submit a video acceptance and/or photos for OBC scholarship promotional purposes.

Yes □ No □
3. Plans and Goals

If seeking scholarship funds for an educational institution, what are your education goals? What school or institution are you planning on attending, or where have you applied if not certain? What is your admission status (i.e., planning to apply, applied and waiting for a response, accepted for admission, currently enrolled, etc.)? What is your area of focus, major, etc.?

If seeking scholarship funds for other projects or pursuits, what are your development goals? Please summarize specifically how funds would be used and how the proposed project/initiative would create positive change.
4. Essays
On a separate, type-written page, please answer the following questions with 250-300 words per question.

1. Based on your unique life experiences, tell us about a significant challenge or obstacle that you faced. Please include a discussion of the skills, resources, or relationships that you used to overcome it, and what personal growth resulted.

2. Knowing the power of personal change in your own life, how might you help or how are you already helping create positive change in your community?

3. In the course of affecting this positive change, how will you demonstrate to all people your commitment to diversity and social justice, including LGBTQ+ rights?

4. Is there anything else you would want to tell us about yourself, to help us get to know you better? Your favorite karaoke song? Favorite animal? Special hobby?
5. **Consent And Release**

I affirm that all information I have provided is true and accurate. I hereby authorize the members of the Sara Thompson Magical Mermaid Scholarship Committee to review and discuss my grades, essays, and other records concerning me that are maintained by my school or are submitted by me for consideration. I grant this authorization because I would like to be considered for a Sara Thompson Magical Mermaid Scholarship.

_______________________   ______________________________ ___________________
Name     Signature     Date

6. **Photo & Video Release**

I give permission to Out Boulder County to use and publish photographs or videos of applicant that are either supplied by applicant or taken at the scholarship recognition ceremony for promotional purposes without compensation.

_______________________   ______________________________ ___________________
Name     Signature     Date

(If applicant is a minor, signature of parent/guardian is necessary)