

Program Announcement 2011-2012

THE BEINECKE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

A PROGRAM OF THE SPERRY FUND

For Graduate Study in The Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF NOMINATIONS:

February 24, 2012

PURPOSE

The Beinecke Scholarship Program was established in 1971 by the Board of Directors of The Sperry and Hutchinson Company to honor Edwin, Frederick, and Walter Beinecke. The Board created an endowment to provide substantial scholarships for the graduate education of young men and women of exceptional promise.

The program seeks to encourage and enable highly motivated students to pursue opportunities available to them and to be courageous in the selection of a graduated course of study in the arts, humanities and social sciences. Since 1975 the program has selected more than 490 college juniors from more than 100 different undergraduate institutions for support during graduate study at any accredited university. Each scholar receives \$4,000 immediately prior to entering graduate school and an additional \$30,000 while attending graduate school. There are no geographic restrictions on the use of the scholarship, and recipients are allowed to supplement the award with other scholarships, assistantships and research grants.

Scholars are encouraged to begin graduated study as soon as possible following graduation from college, and must utilize all of the funding within five years of completion of undergraduate studies.

NOMINATION PROCEDURE

Each year approximately 100 colleges and universities are invited to nominate a student for a Beinecke Scholarship, and 20 new scholarships will be awarded in 2012. A completed nomination package, with all of the required documents, must be received by the program director by **February 24, 2012**. Winners will be selected by a committee comprised of the program director and three senior college or university administrators.

CONDITIONS OF ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for a Beinecke Scholarship, a student must:

- Have demonstrated superior standards of intellectual ability, scholastic achievement and personal promise during his or her undergraduate career.
- Be a college junior pursuing a bachelor's degree during the 2011-2012 academic year. "Junior" means a student who plans to continue full-time undergraduate study and who expects to receive a baccalaureate degree between December 2012 and August 2013.
- Plan to enter a master's or doctoral program in the arts, humanities or social sciences. Students in the social sciences who plan to pursue graduate study in neuroscience should not apply for a Beinecke Scholarship.
- Be a United States citizen or a United States national from American Samoa or the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.
- Have a documented history of receiving need-based financial aid during his or her undergraduate years. Primary evidence of meeting this criterion is a student's history of receiving need-based institutional, state or federal grants-in-aid. An institutional financial aid officer will be required to complete a Financial Data Sheet certifying that the student meets this criterion. During the selection process, the amount of financial need will be one of the factors considered with preference being given to candidates for whom the awarding of a scholarship would significantly increase the likelihood of the student's being able to attend graduate school.

NOMINATION SCHEDULE

- August 1, 2011—Invitations to nominate a student for the 2012 Beinecke Scholarship Competition mailed to eligible institutions.
- **February 24, 2012—Deadline for receipt of all nominations.**
- May 1, 2012—Deadline for announcement of awards.

NOMINATION MATERIALS

An original and four copies of the nomination package should be submitted by the dean or designated administrative officer in a single mailing to arrive no later than **February 24, 2012**. Each nomination must include the following materials:

- A Certification of Eligibility Form completed by the dean or administrative officer responsible for the nomination.*
- A Financial Data Sheet completed by a financial aid officer certifying that the student qualifies for need-based financial aid.*
- A completed Application Form.*
- A current resume.
- A personal statement of 1,000 words or less from the nominee describing his or her background, interests, plans for graduate study and career aspirations. The statement should include a discussion of some experiences and ideas that have shaped those interests, plans and aspirations.
- A letter from the dean or administrative officer summarizing the reasons for the nominee's selection.
- Three letters of recommendation from faculty members that assess the nominee's intellectual curiosity, character and potential for advanced graduate study.
- An official copy of the nominee's transcript.
- Other material considered directly relevant to the nominee's application.

*Available on line at www.BeineckeScholarship.org

SCHOLARSHIP CONDITIONS

A Beinecke Scholar receives a total of \$34,000 in support of his or her graduate education. The initial payment of \$4,000 is awarded directly to the student prior to entering graduate school. This award is intended to offset the costs associated with the graduate application process and to pay for travel expenses directly related to the start of graduate school. While in graduate school, a Beinecke Scholar will receive an additional \$30,000 in support. These funds are awarded as a supplement to support provided by the graduate school and the award may be spread over up to five years to comply with institutional limits on the total amount of a student's annual award. In the absence of institutional support or limits, scholars may receive a maximum award of \$15,000 per year. These funds are sent directly to the financial aid officer of the institution where the student is enrolled and disbursed in accordance with the scholarship policy of the academic institution. In addition, the following policies apply to the award:

- A scholar must be attending an accredited graduate school as a full-time student in good academic standing in order to receive funding.
- A scholar must utilize all funding within five years of graduation.
- A scholar is allowed to take a one-year leave of absence immediately following graduation, but is normally expected to enter graduate school and begin receipt of the Beinecke funding in the following year. A scholar who receives a National Science Foundation, Marshall, Fulbright, Rhodes, Gates or similar scholarship is allowed to postpone receipt of the Beinecke award until the student has completed their studies under those programs. However, a scholar is still expected to utilize the Beinecke funding within the five-year period following graduation.
- A scholar who is unsuccessful in gaining admission to graduate school may petition the program director for permission to defer funding for an additional year.

DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS OF THE SPERRY FUND

Frederick W. Beinecke, *Director and President*
William S. Beinecke, *Director*
Sarah Beinecke Richardson, *Director*
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