Robin Brett Mosaic Scholarship Guidelines 2007
03.31.07

THE ROBIN BRETT MOSAIC SCHOLARSHIP is designed to assist emerging and established mosaic artists in their professional development by funding an educational opportunity pivotal to the advancement of their careers. This award is meant to inspire and enhance the creative development of artists serious about expanding their knowledge of mosaic art.

The Robin Brett Mosaic Scholarship reflects the goals of the Society of American Mosaic Artists (SAMA), whose mission is “the promotion of mosaic art and the development of mosaic artists through research, education, networking, and presentation.”

Who may apply for a scholarship?
Applicants MUST BE CURRENT SAMA MEMBERS who are/have:
• 18 years or older with a Social Security number.
• Practicing mosaic artists.
• Demonstrated an interest in an existing or new career in the arts, which a focused educational opportunity would enhance.

Who may not apply?
• Current SAMA Board of Trustees, Advisory Board members or The Executive Director and members of their families.
• Groups, organizations, businesses, and 501(c) (3) tax exempt entities.
• A person may not apply on behalf of another.

What does “pivotal” mean?
Once mosaicists master the basic techniques of the art form, they often find themselves at a point where a specific learning experience is critical to their ability to take that next “big step” as an artist. We call that learning experience “pivotal.”

To be successful in obtaining a scholarship, it will be critical that you must be able to describe succinctly and persuasively:
1. Where you are now as an artist: your current capabilities and what you have accomplished.
2. Where you want to be as an artist: your goals and aspirations for new accomplishments
3. How your proposed learning experience will help you reach your goals and aspirations.

What types of learning will be funded?
Any educational opportunity that is:
1. Convincingly justified by the applicant as "pivotal" in moving her/him forward in their career as a mosaicist; and
2. Supported by sufficient documentation on the program and educational institution/instructor to give it credibility with the Selection Committee.

Examples of acceptable learning experiences include workshops, conferences, institutes, trainings, master classes, and seminars.

Note: Funding is not limited to "mosaic-specific" programs, but applicants should be careful to fully link the course descriptions to what they believe is lacking in their knowledge base and preventing them from moving forward as a mosaic artist.

What are the selection criteria?
• Quality of the applicant's art work and a demonstration of a solid grasp of the basic skills and techniques in mosaic art;
• Evidence of the applicant's serious commitment to mosaic art;
• A clear demonstration of how the proposed learning experience will contribute to the artist's development;
• Credibility/accreditation of the educational institution/instructor.

Who decides which artists receive scholarship awards?
Scholarship applications will be reviewed by the Scholarship Committee and Executive Director for completeness and eligibility. The applications will then be forwarded to a Panel of Reviewers who will make final recommendations to the committee.

How much money will be awarded?
For 2007, two (2) one thousand four hundred dollar ($1,400) scholarships will be awarded.

Will I be required to supply images of my work?
Yes. Applicants must provide documentation in the form of five (5) images of their work completed in the last three (3) years. Images must be in digital form on a CD. Digital images, should be a .jpg of 300 dpi minimum and pixel width of 500 minimum with file name that corresponds with each image is required. It is strongly suggested that at least one of the five images be a detail shot of your work. Images must be accompanied by a one-page document detailing at minimum, for each image, title, year completed, dimensions (height, width, and depth in inches), and materials used.

Will I be required to provide a follow-up report on how I used my scholarship?
Yes, the Scholarship Committee will require a written narrative report, expense report, and illustrative images within thirty (30) days of completing the learning experience.

What is the timeline for the process?
Applications available: April 1, 2007
Deadline: June 1, 2007
Notification: July 15, 2007
Scholarship checks issued: August 1, 2007
Learning experience completed by: September 1, 2008
Follow-up report and images due by: 30 days after completing the learning experience
How can I get an application form?
• Download the application form on the SAMA Website scholarship page
• E-mail scholarship@americanmosaics.org
• Call 866-902-SAMA (866-902-7262).

How can I donate to the Robin Brett Mosaic Scholarship Fund?
• Donations can be made in the SAMA Shop on our website.
• Mail a check to Society of American Mosaic Artists, P.O. Box 624, Ligonier, PA 15658, check payable to "Society of American Mosaic Artists" and write "Robin Brett Mosaic Scholarship Fund" on the memo line.
• Call 866-902-SAMA (866-902-7262).