Swetmann Scholarship
Seward Community Library Association Inc.
(Friends of the Library)

The Seward Community Library Association (SCLA) awards a scholarship each year in memory of Mrs. Viola Swetmann, who, until her death in 1976, gave tirelessly in support of the Community Library.

Criteria:
1. The winning project/paper/portfolio will receive up to $1,500, depending on the number of awards. All other projects/papers/portfolios that are submitted and represent quality work and meet basic requirements will receive $50.
2. It is open to Seward area youth between the ages of 16 and 21.
3. The applicant must have been schooled in the Seward area for at least two years.
4. All applicants must be library cardholders (please include a copy of your card).
5. The money must be used for postgraduate academic or vocational education or training. Please note: The money will be sent to the winning applicant's accredited college or training school of choice once proof of registration is demonstrated.
6. The money must be used within one year of receiving the award or it is forfeit.
7. Evidence of plagiarism will automatically disqualify any project submission. Improperly credited/cited sources could significantly reduce any amount awarded.
8. The Swetmann Scholarship award is eligible for renewal for a second year upon submission of proof of successful completion of the first year and pending the availability of SCLA funds. Registration information for the second year must also be provided.
9. Winning projects will be on display at the Seward Community Library Museum, the duration of which will be determined by staff. All final projects will be returned to their authors unless other arrangements are made.

"BE INSPIRED BY YOUR LIBRARY AND/OR MUSEUM"
We invite high school seniors to wander the Seward Community Library Museum to identify a passion or subject of interest that they would like to render in to an original project that is created solely for this scholarship application. We are very flexible on the type of project that is created.

A brief reflection paper must accompany all submittals. This paper should answer these questions:
1. What is the explanation or description of your project?
2. Why did this topic inspire you?
3. What steps did you take in creating this project?
4. What sources did you use? (Please list author, title, etc.)

Project examples include (examples provided in italics):

1. **Written projects** such as research paper (3-page minimum), short story, play script or poem. *Perhaps you are interested in writing poetry in the style of Edgar Allan Poe. This could involve finding poetry by him and others of the same time period and looking at the style of writing. After writing one or more poems, you would then write a reflection paper that would include an outline of how you researched the poetry at the library, how you created your poems, why you were inspired and what sources you used.*

2. **Visual arts** such as painting, drawing, sculpture, textile, ceramic or photography. *If you are interested in doing Native Alaska art and wanted to create your own piece, this would involve doing some background research on the artwork using both books and online sources. After you create your piece, you would write your reflection paper that would describe your piece, explain your inspiration, share the process you went through and include the sources you used.*

3. **Presentations** such as creative powerpoint, photography collection or short film. *Maybe you are interested in making a public presentation to the selection committee about the history of the Alaska Railroad in Seward. This could involve examining the museum's collection of photographs, newspapers and/or artifacts, and/or the library's collection of relevant books and media. After you create your presentation, you would also include your reflection paper that would identify your sources, why the topic inspired you and what steps you went through to create your project.*

4. **Other creative expressions**

A portfolio should also be included of background information about the applicant including but not limited to:
   a. A brief biographical sketch including future plans
   b. At least two letters of recommendation
   c. Extracurricular activities and hobbies
   d. Awards, letters, etc.
   e. Transcript (copy acceptable)

Other Information:
Please submit your completed project to the Seward Community Library by MAY 1. See attached rubric that outlines how scores will be assessed.

Rubric for the Swetmann Scholarship Project

	1	2	3
Use of the Library Museum	Only one source of inspiration evident; little or no evidence of using the library museum itself	Two or three sources used; apparent that the library museum was visited more than once	A variety of resources used (more than three); apparent that multiple trips to the library museum were taken
Reflection Paper	Only one simple idea or topic is explored; description of project unclear or incomplete; source of inspiration is vague and not well explained; writing is disjointed and disorganized; frequent grammatical, punctuation and spelling errors; resources are not cited correctly	Demonstrates some additional exploration has been done into topic; project has definition but could have included more detail or examples; source of inspiration is clear but stated briefly; thoughts are organized but writing is inconsistent; some grammatical, punctuation and spelling errors; resources are cited but not in a correct format	Demonstrates deeper exploration and expansion of original idea; project fully described with supporting details and examples; source(s) of inspiration clearly defined throughout reflection; well organized and clearly written; free of grammatical, punctuation and spelling errors; resources are cited in a proper format (APA or MLA)
Personal Portfolio	One or two required elements on scholarship form submitted	Three or four elements on scholarship form submitted	Portfolio elements are complete, with all five elements on scholarship form submitted

Projects	1	2	3
Research Paper (grammar, punctuation and spelling criteria used as described for reflection paper)	The paper covers basic elements of the topic; topic is broad with some supporting details; paper does not present or answer key questions relating to topic; resources listed but not in an approved format	The paper uses clear thesis statement with essential questions; uses clear ideas and supporting details to address key questions; paper presents a clear point of view with evidence; resources cited	The paper is clear with interesting, original ideas; paper uses examples, anecdotes, details to support and enrich the main idea and key questions; the writer presents evidence in a compelling and engaging manner; cites sources in ALA or MLA format
Play or Short Story (grammar, punctuation and spelling criteria used as described for reflection paper)	The piece is somewhat hard to follow; the transitions are sometimes not clear; character and setting are barely described in detail; the story contains few creative details and/or descriptions; the author has tried to use his/her imagination.	The piece is fairly well organized; ideas or scenes may seem out of place; clear transitions are used; character and setting are established; the story contains adequate creative details and/or descriptions that contribute to the reader's enjoyment; the author has used his/her imagination.	The piece is very well organized; one idea or scene follows another in a logical sequence with clear transitions; character and setting are richly described; the story contains many creative details and/or descriptions that contribute to the reader's enjoyment; the author has really used his/her imagination.
Poem	The poetry is overly simple with minimal structure; few descriptive words are used; the piece is short and feels incomplete	The poetry follows a recognizable format or structure; descriptive words and phrases are used throughout the poem(s)	The poetry utilizes distinct formats or structures; vivid words and phrases create clear imagery in the readers' minds
Visual arts	The visual message is not communicated through the work; work is sloppy or has poor technique; artwork lacks original thought and creativity	The visual message is somewhat communicated; the work is neat and shows development of skill and some understanding of the medium; idea shows new expression but is still closely related to the original concept	The visual message is clear, concise and readily apparent; the work demonstrates a mastery of the medium and reveals excellent technique; the ideas are unique and the planning and effort is evident
Presentation	Applicant does not look at audience; reads notes or slides; basic topic without much research; does not speak clearly or speaks too softly; presentation is not well organized or repetitive; too long or too short	Applicant makes occasional eye contact; relies heavily on notes or slides; more complex topic with more research; speaks clearly and loudly enough most of the time; message is organized and an appropriate length	Applicant speaks clearly with good eye contact and enthusiasm; glances at notes or slides; good pace of presentation at a good volume; original presentation of material; research maintains audience attention and reflects planning and organization