



**Vernon Chamber of Commerce**  
**PO Box 308 • Vernon, NJ 07462**  
**973-764-0764**

## **Donald M. Ross Memorial Scholarship Award**

### **APPLICATION INFORMATION AND FORM**

On behalf of the **Vernon Chamber of Commerce**, you are invited to apply for the Donald M. Ross Memorial Scholarship Award.

This award program will recognize one graduating high school student or current college student for his/her contributions, through a variety of passionate and dedicated efforts, to improving the Vernon Township community.

One award in the amount of \$1,000 will be presented in the late spring of every year to a qualified student who lives in Vernon Township, New Jersey. Aspiring award winners should contact the **Vernon Chamber of Commerce** or the Vernon Township High School Guidance office for a copy of the application.

Qualified applicants must live in Vernon Township, NJ at the time of application and must be graduating from High School or presently enrolled in a college or university course of studies.

Home schooled students and prospective graduates from any of the area public and private high schools that serve Vernon Township residents are encouraged to apply.

Completed entries must be received by **Friday, April 17, 2009**. We look forward to receiving your submission.

## **ELIGIBILITY**

Applicants must meet the following requirements:

**HIGH SCHOOL:** Have attained graduating senior status by the spring semester of 2009.

**COLLEGE:** Be registered as an undergraduate student at an accredited two- or four-year college or university.

**NON-TRADITIONAL STUDENTS:** See separate notation under the heading of "ENTRY/SUBMISSIONS," below.

## **REQUIREMENTS**

To apply for the award, eligible candidates must follow these guidelines:

**ALL APPLICANTS:** Send the following information via e-mail to the **Vernon Chamber of Commerce (vcc@warwick.net)** **immediately** upon decision to participate in this awards program.

- Full Name
- Name of High School (or indicate if home schooled) or name of College or University that you attend
- Mailing Address
- Permanent Address
- Telephone Number
- E-Mail Address

Once we receive your e-mail indicating your desire to participate, you will be registered as a prospective applicant.

Complete and submit the two-page scholarship award application (see below).

## **ENTRY/SUBMISSIONS**

Please submit a well-written essay as follows:

Explain why your home community is unique and what you like most about living in Vernon Township. Thoughtfully elaborate on various

activities that you have been involved with that have directly contributed to making Vernon a better place to live and work.

Be sure to explain how you think any of your past or present activities made a positive difference in your community, and please discuss why you became involved in trying to favorably impact your community. Be sure to mention any specific timeframes, including people and groups that you were involved with and/or places that you were active or worked.

Finally, identify what you believe is the most important issue facing or affecting Vernon Township in the future, and briefly describe what you think the community can do to prepare for it and/or effectively address it.

OTHER: On a separate sheet of paper, please include a brief statement about your interest(s) in and motivation for going to college, together with any specific needs or family consideration(s) that you think are relevant, and a copy of your latest school transcript.

Please include at least one (1) letter of recommendation from an adult that knows you and has first-hand knowledge of the information discussed by you in this essay.

NON-TRADITIONAL STUDENTS: We encourage applicants to apply for this scholarship who otherwise meet the above eligibility and entry requirements but who have taken time off from school, are perhaps parents of young children, are separated or divorced, or for whatever reason, have interrupted or never begun their college studies.

## **DEADLINE**

Deadline for submission of the completed application and entries is **Friday, April 17, 2009**. Late submissions will not be considered.

## **JUDGING**

Submissions will be evaluated and final selection determined by the end of May 2009.

Please send completed two-page application and award program submission to:

**Donald M. Ross Memorial Award**  
% The Vernon Chamber of Commerce  
PO Box 308  
Vernon, NJ 07462

Entries will be evaluated by the Board of Directors of the Vernon Chamber of Commerce. Emphasis will be given to these criteria:

- The Applicant's past activities and their effectiveness with regard to making Vernon a better place to live and work.
- Insights towards the future
- Overall clarity, content and organization of entry.

## **ABOUT THE VERNON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

### **VISION STATEMENT**

*The Vernon Chamber of Commerce is the leading organization in the greater Vernon area promoting economic prosperity while preserving and enhancing the environment.*

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

*The mission of the Vernon Chamber of Commerce is to attract, grow and maintain businesses that will best provide for the present and future needs of the community by advocating:*

- Economic Development
- Community Planning & Development
- Tourism Promotion
- Sustainable Prosperity
- Community Service
- Government Relations/Public Policy
- Good business practices

For more information, visit the Vernon Chamber of Commerce on the Web at [www.vernonchamber.com](http://www.vernonchamber.com) or call (973) 764.0764.

**APPLICATION**  
**VERNON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**  
**Donald M. Ross Memorial Award**

First/Last Name

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Complete Mailing Address (Street/City/State/Zip)

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Complete Permanent Address (Street/City/State/Zip)

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Telephone Number

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E-Mail Address

---

High School/Home School/College/University presently enrolled

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Major/Minor (if in College)

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Class Status – Answer one: GRADUATING SENIOR (if in High School) \_\_\_\_\_

CLASS YEAR (if in College) \_\_\_\_\_

**Remember to include a copy of your current transcript and at least one (1) letter of recommendation from an adult that knows you well and that has first-hand knowledge of the information discussed in your essay.**

## VERIFICATION

*I, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby affirm that I would like to apply to the Vernon Chamber of Commerce and be considered for the Donald M. Ross Memorial Scholarship Award.*

*I attest that I am a resident of Vernon Township, New Jersey and meet all of the eligibility requirements specified in this application.*

**Name of Applicant (please write legibly):**

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**Signature of Applicant:**

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**Date submitted:**

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