



December 10, 2020

To: High School Principals
From: Steve Downer, MMUA
Re: Scholarship Program

This is to re-introduce the MMUA 'Tom Bovitz Memorial Scholarship Award.' The scholarship fund totals \$5,000. It will be split four ways, and awarded to \$2,000 first, \$1,500 second, \$1,000 third and \$500 fourth place essay contest winners who plan to attend a post-secondary educational institution. High school seniors are eligible to enter the essay contest. Essays are to be original and from 500 to 750 words, typed and double-spaced. Guidelines are attached.

The local governing body of the utility (or its designee) will make the initial selection. Every MMUA member may then enter one essay to the state contest. **Entries are due to MMUA by April 15, 2020.** A committee of MMUA staff and members will select the winners. MMUA plans to announce the winners in mid-May.

Please call if you have any questions or concerns. On behalf of the MMUA, its board of directors, and our member cities/utilities, I thank you for making this scholarship opportunity known to your students and staff.

Attachments:
Program Guidelines
Entry Form

Guidelines: 2020 MMUA ‘Tom Bovitz Memorial Scholarship Award’

Purposes

- To give something back to the community.
- To increase awareness of public power.

Prizes

The scholarship fund is split into \$2,000, \$1,500, \$1,000 and \$500 scholarships, and awarded to essay contest winners who plan to attend a post-secondary educational institution.

Guidelines for submission

Because decisions by judges and disqualifications according to the guidelines are final, entrants should read and follow these guidelines closely:

- Entries are to interpret one or more aspects of the theme, “Municipal utilities: good for all of us.” This applies to municipal electric and natural gas utilities. Judges will look particularly for originality and the relevance of the theme to the writer and his/her city.
- High school seniors are eligible. Those eligible must be, or have as a legal guardian, a customer of an MMUA-member municipal electric or gas utility.
- Essays are to be original and from 500 to 750 words, typed and double-spaced.
- All essays should include a cover page, with the writer’s name and address.
- Deadline for submitting essays to MMUA is **April 15, 2020**. Entries shall be submitted to the governing body of the municipal utility. (The local governing body may appoint a separate individual or group to judge entries.) The local governing body will send the winning essay to MMUA for entry into the statewide contest. A committee of MMUA members will select the winners, with an announcement by mid-May.
- An independent person or body may be designated to select the winner of the local essay. If there is an independent body selecting the winner and they do not know who wrote which essay, relatives of utility personnel are eligible to enter the contest.

Resource Materials

Your local utility is the best resource for information and printed materials. You may also want to visit www.mmua.org and www.publicpower.org

Payment

Scholarship money will be payable upon receipt of fee statement copy from an accredited post-secondary educational institution. The award check will be made payable to the contest winner and the post-secondary institution. If the contest winner does not attend an accredited post-secondary educational institution within two years, the money will revert to a trust fund and become available to future contest winners.



Tom Bovitz Memorial Scholarship Entry Form

Minnesota Municipal Utilities Association (MMUA)

- Deadline to MMUA: April 15, 2020
- Deadline to local municipal utility: APRIL 1, 2020 (check with utility).
- Amount: \$2,000 first place \$1,500 second \$1,000 third \$500 fourth place

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Address: _____ City, State, Zip _____

Graduation date: _____

Parents' names: _____

Utility name: _____

Utility contact person: _____

Utility contact email: _____

Attach a 500 to 750 word, typed, double spaced essay on the theme "Municipal Utilities: Good for All of Us." This applies to municipal electric and natural gas utilities.

This form should be used with all local winner submittals from the local municipal utility to MMUA, and may be used by the school for entries to the local utility or decision-making entity. Check with your local utility for local submission details. For more information, see scholarship program 'Guidelines.'

MMUA members submitting a winning essay may transmit the document as a .pdf file via email to sdowner@mmua.org