



## **Rhonda LP Hoffmann Scholarship Fund 2026 Scholarship Application**

### **Timeline:**

The Board of Directors for the Rhonda LP Hoffmann Scholarship Fund, Inc. has authorized a scholarship in the amount of the \$3,000 in this 2026 Scholarship Cycle with all funds distributed to scholarship winners in the 2026-2027 Academic Year.

**Applications Due:** June 6, 2026, 11:59 PM

**Scholarship Winners Announced:** Scholarship winners will be notified by July 31, 2026

**Funds Disbursed:** We will work with the scholarship winners to disburse funds directly to their educational institution by the start of their academic semester.

### **Scholarship Overview:**

Rhonda Lee Peil Hoffmann (November 10, 1957 – June 15, 2020) had a passion for art and for helping those in need. This scholarship was established to honor Rhonda's legacy by supporting students with demonstrated artistic ability who are pursuing postsecondary education in creative fields.

Rhonda's career as an artist was not traditional. While studying fine arts at the University of Wisconsin – Whitewater, she honed her skills in drawing, painting, pottery, and other media. For much of the 1990s, she was Art Director at Interior Systems Incorporated (ISI), a Wisconsin-based commercial interior design and manufacturing company. In that position, she was instrumental in establishing ISI's art department and making ISI the destination for clients seeking unique custom interiors, particularly those developing themed restaurants and entertainment complexes. One of her most notable projects was the "Solid Gold" McDonald's, a rock and roll themed McDonald's that opened in Greenfield, Wisconsin in 1991.

Rhonda's post-ISI ventures fused her creative instincts with her interests in business and education. She was a conceptual designer at an architectural firm, a marketing leader at a commercial playground manufacturer, and, for many years, the principal of her own creative marketing and design firm, EnVision. With EnVision, Rhonda made the technological leap from traditional media to computer-based graphic design, spending many years working with clients to develop brand identities and marketing strategies. Rhonda was fearless, a connector, the kind of person who would not hesitate to call a complete stranger to ask for help or collaboration. Because she gave more than she asked in return, this worked more often than not. It was fitting that her final professional role was Director for Strategic Development at Wisconsin Lutheran College in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where she worked to ensure the college was positioned to grow and educate future generations.

Rhonda's life and career evidence the simple truth that defining an "artist" is itself more art than science. For Rhonda, "artist" was not about the job title, but about the creativity brought to the job. This scholarship celebrates Rhonda's life by supporting students in creative disciplines, broadly defined. To see more of Rhonda's work, please visit our website.

Rhonda LP Hoffmann Scholarship Fund, Inc. is a recognized tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code.

## Eligibility:

- Must be enrolled in an eligible institution for the academic year in which the Scholarship is awarded (“Eligible institution” means a college or university which normally maintains a regular faculty and curriculum and normally has a regularly enrolled body of pupils or students in attendance at the place where its educational activities are regularly carried on)
- Full-time freshman, sophomore, junior, or senior undergraduate student
- Pursuing a visual art degree (“visual art degree” means technical, associate’s or bachelor’s degree in any of the following fields: art, fine art, visual art, studio art, multimedia art, art history, art education, design (including interior design or architecture), graphic design, art therapy, business or business administration (with a concentration in marketing), or similar technical, associate’s or bachelor’s degree with a creative, but visual, focus.

## Responsible Use of AI:

We recognize that AI-powered tools are increasingly integrated into standard academic and professional workflows. Applicants may use AI tools in a limited, assistive capacity. However, submissions (including the applicant’s creative portfolio and personal statement) must reflect the applicant’s own original thinking, creativity, and work. AI must not be used to generate core ideas, written responses, artistic content, or other substantive elements of the application.

Possible acceptable uses include:

- Grammar, spelling, and clarity improvements
- Formatting or structural suggestions
- Accessibility support (e.g., speech-to-text, translation for comprehension)

Examples of prohibited uses:

- Generate or suggest ideas, themes, or concepts for artwork, essays or responses
- Draft, rewrite, or substantially compose written responses
- Create, edit, or enhance artistic submissions (including images, designs, music, or other creative works)
- Produce any content that is presented as the applicant’s original work but is primarily generated by AI

Applicants are required to disclose any use of AI tools in the preparation of their application. Failure to disclose AI use may result in disqualification.

## Judging Criteria:

The Selection Committee will review applications using an objective rubric that assigns points based on the following criteria:

- Creative portfolio as it relates to the originality, creativity, composition and quality of work submitted
- Academic performance as it relates to relevant art/creative courses from transcripts, or in the case of applicants who will be a freshmen (or equivalent) in the relevant year, academic performance will be based on the Applicant’s overall grade point average reported on the Applicant’s high school transcript
- Personal Statement based on content and quality of statement provided by applicant
- Financial Need based on the Student Aid Index as reported in the applicant’s FAFSA Submission Summary

## Contact:

- More information about our efforts is available on our website [www.rlphscholarship.com](http://www.rlphscholarship.com)
- You can reach out to us via email for any questions about the scholarship application or if you are experiencing any technical difficulties with the form: [rlphscholarship@gmail.com](mailto:rlphscholarship@gmail.com)

# Rhonda LP Hoffmann Scholarship Application

## Application Instructions:

- Please complete all fields and attach all required documents to this form. Email your completed form to [rlphscholarship@gmail.com](mailto:rlphscholarship@gmail.com) by June 6, 2026 at 11:59 PM. You will receive a confirmation of receipt within 24 hours of submission.
- All attachments should be labeled in the following manner and attached to the email submission:  
Your Last Name\_Document Category  
For example, personal statement would be labeled: Lastname\_Personal Statement.  
You can attach all documents to the email. If the email size is too large to send, you can send to us in multiple emails.
- Your email subject for submission should be your full name (as stated below as the Scholarship Applicant Name)

**Scholarship Applicant Name:**

**Phone Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Name of Educational Institution:**

**Major:**

*(note if you are not pursuing a specific art degree, but are pursuing a similar degree with a creative focus that you feel embodies the spirit of this scholarship, please describe here)*

**AI Disclosure:**

Please describe any AI tools used in preparing your creative portfolio and/or application. For each tool, include:

1. The name of the tool(s) used
2. The specific purpose for which it was used, identifying, where relevant, the works to which that use applies
3. A brief explanation of how it supported (but did not replace) your original work

If you did not use any AI tools in preparing your creative portfolio or application, please check the box below:

I did not use any AI tools in preparing my creative portfolio or application.

## **Rhonda LP Hoffmann Scholarship Required Application Attachments:**

### **1) Personal Statement**

*Please tell us about who you are as an artist and why you feel you are a good fit for this scholarship. There is no minimum length, but please limit to no more than 1000 words. This is your opportunity to share who you are with the selection panel.*

### **2) Creative Portfolio**

*Please attach/provide representation of your portfolio in digital form. You can include up to 5 examples based on the type of degree you are pursuing. For example, this could include pictures of your artwork if you are pursuing a degree in fine art, a paper you have written if you are pursuing art history, or a presentation you have given if pursuing business with a marketing emphasis.*

*These are intended to be examples only and this is not an exclusive list. You can submit what you believe best represents your creative and/or artistic abilities. In addition, please include a brief statement describing why you chose to include what you did.*

### **3) Financial Need:**

*Please attach a copy of your FAFSA Submission Summary from the U.S. Department of Education Office of Federal Student Aid for the 2026-2027 academic year, which will be used to determine financial need. This should be labeled.*

### **4) Transcripts**

*Please attach a copy of your official college transcript through the date of your most recently completed semester. If you are an incoming freshman, please include a copy of your high school transcript.*

### **5) Reviewer Attestation**

*Please identify a professor, faculty member, or teacher that is familiar with your original artwork to complete the Reviewer Attestation form on the next page. This form should be included with your application materials.*

## **Signature**

By signing this application, I certify that:

- All ideas, written responses, and creative works are my own
- Any AI tools used were limited to permitted assistive functions, as described above under the heading "Responsible Use of AI"
- I have fully and accurately disclosed all AI usage

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Name

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Date

## **Rhonda LP Hoffmann Scholarship Reviewer Attestation of Original Work**

I confirm that I am familiar with the applicant's artistic work and practice. To the best of my knowledge, the artworks submitted in this portfolio were created by the applicant and represent their original work.

I have no reason to believe that the submitted work has been substantially created, generated, or completed by another individual or external tool or service.

**Name:**

**Title/Role:**

**Institution/Organization:**

**Relationship to Applicant:**

**Signature:**

**Date:**