



## Whitfield-Murray Historical Society

### 2025 AWARD SCHOLARSHIP IN LOCAL HISTORY

*The Society's scholarship program has the two-fold purpose of rewarding students who have been involved with local history and plan to further their educations and to recognize leaders and long-time members of the historical society who have had an affiliation or connection to a particular school and/or community. To date, six such scholarships have been established.*

### Guidelines for Scholarship Applicants

1. Students must be seniors at one of the six area public high schools: Coahulla Creek, Dalton, Murray County, North Murray, Northwest Whitfield and Southeast Whitfield. They must hold good academic records and plan to continue their studies beyond the high school level.
2. Applications and guidelines will be provided to the six high schools in January. Information will also be available on Facebook and at [www.whitfield-murrayhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.whitfield-murrayhistoricalsociety.org).
3. Completed applications and any supporting documents are due no later than April 1, 2025 to the Whitfield-Murray Historical Society electronically, via mail, or delivered in person.
4. The Society's Scholarship Committee will meet in mid-April to consider applicants and select recipients. More than one award may be given at each school. Selection will be made early enough so that awards may be presented at the school's award ceremony.
5. Scholarships will be awarded to each recipient although amounts can vary due to the nature of the work done in local history and the availability of funds. Each recipient will also be given a year's free membership in the Society.
6. The awards at each of the six area public high schools are named in honor or in memory of educators, community leaders, and Society leaders as follows:

**Coahulla Creek High School**-In memory of Dr. Don Thomas and in honor of Mrs. Judy Alderman. Dr. Don operated a successful medical practice in Dalton for over 50 years. He served 14 years in the State Senate and 12 years on the Whitfield County Board of Education, 10 years as chairman. Mrs. Alderman established the Prater's Mill Foundation & the Prater's

Mill Country Fair that have preserved the historic 1855 mill. Both Dr. Thomas and Mrs. Alderman served on the Historical Society's board of trustees for many years.

**Dalton High School**-In memory of Marion (Pete) Sims & Mary Gene Sims Dykes. Mr. Sims was one of the organizers of the reactivated Historical Society in 1976 and helped obtain the old Crown Cotton Mill office building as headquarters for the Society and start the archives. Mrs. Dykes was a past president of WMHS as well as a years-long volunteer for all things historic in the area.

**Murray County High School**-in memory of James and Nell Ruth Loughridge. Both were members of the Historical Society and graduates of Murray High where Mrs. Loughridge was also a long-time faculty member. She was an early president of the Historical Society, assisted with compiling the Murray County history, helped organize the Friends of the Vann House, and served as a trustee. James was also actively involved in the Murray County Schools, serving as chairman of the Board of Education.

**North Murray High School**-In memory of Paul Ross. Mr. Ross was a vital part of the WMHS for over three decades and vital part of the Murray County business community for even longer. As longtime chairman of the Wright Hotel Committee and the Society's Board of Trustees, Paul promoted historic preservation both personally and professionally.

**Northwest Whitfield High School**-In memory of Dorothy Sapp Seaton. Mrs. Seaton was a former educator in the Whitfield County Schools and a long-time supporter of the schools. From 1976-78, she served as the first president of the reactivated Historical Society. She also headed the committee that wrote *History of Whitfield County* in 1999.

**Southeast Whitfield High School**-In memory of I.V. Chandler and in honor of Mr. Marvin Sowder. Mr. Chandler was former principal of Valley Point High School who became a pioneer in the textile industry. Mr. Sowder is the point-person for Civil War sites and information in the northwest Georgia area. He serves as a trustee of the Historical Society.

## 2025 Application

Both pages of the application should be typed or printed in black ink.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) of Parent/Guardian(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Best Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Best Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Overall GPA \_\_\_\_\_ History GPA \_\_\_\_\_

High School \_\_\_\_\_

Counselor's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Counselor's Email \_\_\_\_\_

### **RECORD OF HISTORICAL WORK** USE ADDITIONAL PAGES IF NEEDED

Describe local historical projects in which you have participated. These may be personal, school-related, volunteer, and/or involved with a historical group:

List any special activities in local history (research, classes, trips, and related items):

Honors/Awards received related to history or social studies:

Tell us how/when/why the first member of your family came to our area and what did they do:

Attach any additional information- such as copies of any research you have done, photographs of projects or volunteer work, etc.--that relate to this application.

**Include at least one letter of recommendation from person/s familiar with your achievements and/or aspirations in local history.**

Applicant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Date Due: April 1, 2025**

**E-mail, mail, or deliver to:** Whitfield-Murray Historical Society (10-4 M-F)

715 Chattanooga Ave. Dalton, GA 30720

Mailing Address: PO Box 6180 Dalton, GA 30722-6180

**Email address:** [whitfieldmurrayhs@gmail.com](mailto:whitfieldmurrayhs@gmail.com)