

The Handspinner's Research Scholarship

The Ontario Handspinning Seminar Inc. may award up to \$1000 for the Handspinners' Research Scholarship.

The deadline for submission of an application is January 31st of any year. Applications should be mailed or emailed to the Secretary of the Ontario Handspinning Seminar Inc. at seminarsecretary@gmail.com. When the selection process has been completed, each applicant will be notified in writing by the Secretary prior to the Seminar.

If a decision is made to award the Scholarship, this decision will be announced at the annual Ontario Handspinning Seminar.

Purpose of the Scholarship

- to encourage and promote the skills of handspinning and dyeing,
- to encourage the sharing and cooperative learning nature of the Ontario Handspinning Seminar
- to encourage and assist in the exploration and development of new techniques, equipment or any other useful elements of the craft that may be of benefit to attendees of the Seminar and the fibre community at large.

Guidelines

- Individuals should have a minimum of five (5) years participation in the Handspinning Seminar within the past eight (8) years, which should include participation as a committee member, workshop leader, or Seminar attendee.
- Current members of the Board of Directors are not eligible, but past members of the Board may apply.
- No application may be made which will assist with the completion of any other study program for any other group or organization. The scholarship is to be used in the exploration and development of new techniques, equipment, and/or related research of interest to handspinners and dyers. A specific plan must be included with the application. Excellence of work presented, originality, and the potential for edification of handspinners and dyers in Ontario will be the key factors to be considered by the Selection Committee. Travel to other areas in order to study outside the applicant's normal sphere of influence is encouraged.
- No presentation of the researched subject material may be presented to any other group or organization, or presented in any publication, either by the successful applicant or anyone else, prior to the presentation at the Ontario Handspinning Seminar.
- The Selection Committee will consist of two (2) members of the Board of Directors of the Ontario Handspinning Seminar Inc., plus one (1) individual with suitable credentials in the fibre arts field, and not connected with the Ontario Handspinning Seminar Inc. The decision of the Committee shall be final. The Ontario Handspinning Seminar Inc. reserves the right not to make an award in any year. Applicants will be notified of the results prior to the Seminar. The scholarship must be used for the purpose for which the application was made. If, for any reason, the scholarship cannot be used for the purpose for which it was awarded within one year of the award, the Secretary of the Board of Directors must be notified in writing, and arrangements made to renegotiate or return the total amount awarded. Reasons for renegotiation may include sickness, cancellation of planned course, workshop or seminar. Any individual who has been awarded the Handspinners Research Scholarship may not re-apply until three (3) years after receipt of the award.
- No individual may apply on behalf of another individual.

Requirements to include with the Application

- A short current biography, highlighting your textile experience.
- A brief statement (250 to 500 words) describing plans for research or study, or the course or workshop you wish to attend, with a detailed estimate of costs involved.
- A letter of reference from an individual able to endorse your research or study plans. You are responsible to ensure that this letter is received by the Secretary of the Board of Directors with the application. No reference letters may be from any current member of the Board of Directors.
- A total of three (3) photographs showing at least three (3) pieces or projects completed by you within the past three (3) years.
- A complete photo identification list describing the projects and giving dimensions or size, materials, spinning, dyeing and construction techniques and date of completion.
- You must give permission in writing to the Ontario Handspinning Seminar Inc, for it to retain a set of photographs for promotion and archival purposes. (These will only be required from the winner of the Scholarship.)
- A commitment in writing that you will, share within three (3) years of receipt of the scholarship, the results of your research, with the participants of an Ontario Handspinning Seminar, by means of a seminar, address, workshop, visual presentation or other means approved by the Board of Directors.

In the event that the Scholarship is not applied for or awarded in any given year the Board may, at its discretion, select someone it wishes to honour for long and outstanding service to the Seminar.