



The Greater PineBelt Community Foundation John Watts Memorial Scholarship

PURPOSE

The John M. Watts Memorial Scholarship was established to honor the legacy of Mr. John M. Watts; artist, teacher, role model, and mentor for former Perry Central High School Students. His kind spirit, genuineness, and dedication have touched the lives of those who knew him, and continue to live on in those he befriended. This scholarship was created as a private scholarship by Mr. Titus M. Hines, Mrs. Alisa Deakle Shows and Mrs. Gayle Bolton Draughn upon Mr. Watts' retirement from Perry Central High School in 2014. The original scholarship was called the John M. Watts Art Scholarship, but on November 14, 2014, John perished in a house fire, only six months after his retirement. The scholarship advisory committee has since decided to make this a memorial scholarship entitled, *The John M. Watts Memorial Scholarship*.

The John M. Watts Memorial Scholarship recipient will be a graduating senior from Perry Central High, who exhibits an appreciation and love of art.

SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

The John M. Watts Memorial Scholarship will be awarded to a graduating senior of Perry Central High School who intends to pursue a college degree at an accredited two or four year college or university. The recipient is not required to be pursuing a degree in The Arts.

CRITERIA

In making a decision for awarding this scholarship, the Scholarship Advisory Committee will use the following criteria:

- Attended Perry Central High School for at least four years
- Must have taken Art I, Art II and Art III (minimum)
- Overall GPA of 2.5
- Proof of acceptance to an accredited college or university
- Recommendation letters

ELIGIBILITY

- Applicants must be a Perry County resident, a high school senior from Perry Central High School who is graduating with the current graduating class. NO early graduates (less than 4 years) will be considered. Applicant must have attended Perry Central High School for at least 4 years.

- Applicants must have a minimum cumulative average of 2.5 and provide an official transcript in a sealed envelope from Perry Central High School.
- Must show proof of acceptance to any accredited 2 year or 4 year college. (Proof of enrollment must be submitted to the Scholarship Advisory Committee prior to distribution of funds)
- Two letters of recommendation from any of the following individuals:

Principal

Guidance Counselor

Teacher

Club Sponsor (school affiliated)

Leader of a community organization in which the student participates

Church or Religious Leader

NOTIFICATION

Selected recipient will be announced and recognized at the Perry Central Senior Awards Night usually held at least one week prior to graduation. The recipient will also be notified with an official letter. Scholarship funds will be distributed directly to the institution of the recipient's choice prior to the Fall Semester, and no later than August 30.

GUIDELINES

Each complete application must be received by The Greater PineBelt Community Foundation by March 1.

- Completed application form
- Recommendations (in individually sealed envelopes)
- Official high school transcript in a sealed envelope
- Acceptance letter to chosen post-secondary institution

QUESTIONS

Contact the PineBelt Foundation at 601.583.6180 or email us at pinebeltcf@bellsouth.net



inspiring charitable giving
& investing in our community

**The Greater PineBelt Community Foundation
John Watts Memorial Scholarship**

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Full Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Current Age: _____

Mailing Address: _____

(Must be a resident of Perry County)

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Parent/Legal Guardian: _____

Parent/Legal Guardian's Address: _____

To be completed by Perry Central High School Counselor:

Student has been enrolled for _____ years at Perry Central High School

Student has completed _____ of the 4 art classes offered at Perry Central

Cumulative GPA for 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, and fall semester of 12th grade: _____

Post-secondary institution(s) student has been accepted to (must include proof of acceptance letter): _____

Signature of Counselor

Date

(School Seal)

List honors/awards/scholastic achievements you have received while at Perry Central:

Award/Honor/Achievement	Year Received

Major/Career Goals: _____

Volunteer or Community activities that you have been involved with: _____

SHORT ESSAY

In 150 words or less, explain how **art** has helped you become a better person/student. How will you use what you've learned to help others in life? (Please use additional paper for the essay)

I understand that if I receive this scholarship, I will need to provide proof of enrollment of my post-secondary institution before funds can be allocated to my institution of choice.

Signature of Applicant

Date

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

- Completed application form
- 2 letters of recommendation in sealed envelopes
- Official high school transcript in a sealed envelope
- Letter of acceptance from chosen 2 or 4 year post-secondary institution
- Completed essay

**Completed application must be received
at the address below by March 1.**

**John Watts Memorial Scholarship
The Greater PineBelt Community Foundation
1507 Hardy Street Suite 208
Hattiesburg, MS 39402**