

### Part One: Applicant Information

First name	Last name	Date of Birth
Postal Address		
City	Zip code	Length of residency in Somerset County

### How may we contact you?

Preferred Telephone	Email Address	Other
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### Part Two: Academic Status

1. Name of secondary school, trade school, or college where you are currently a full-time student		
2. School address		
3. Current Grade Point Average	IMPORTANT! Please attach your School Transcript including SAT & AP test scores, if applicable.	<input type="checkbox"/> Check if these documents will arrive separately from this application
4. If you are a high school senior, list post-secondary schools to which you have applied		

### Part Three: Interests, Activities, & Honors

5. List major scholastic or school awards and honors
6. What are your two strongest academic subjects?
7. Describe any special studies (i.e., art, music, etc.) you are currently undertaking
8. What is your planned or current major field of study?
9. What is your planned or current <i>secondary</i> field of study?

**Part Three: Interests, Activities, & Honors (cont'd.)**

10. How do you spend your time? List your activities during the past year in order of importance to you. Then, please elaborate and explain your list to help us better understand your interests.

**Part Four: Self-Assessment: Short Essays**

Questions #11 through #14 are best answered as brief essays (not to exceed 200 words each).

11. Describe an academic assignment during the past 12 months that you found intellectually challenging. Explain why this assignment was challenging.

**Part Four: Self-Assessment: Short Essays (cont'd.)**

12. Describe how you make a difference in your community today.

**Part Four: Self-Assessment: Short Essays (cont'd.)**

13. Where do you see yourself today on your personal scholarly journey? Describe a moment in the past year when your proverbial "lightbulb lit up." Did it lead you to unexpected actions or discoveries? How will you in the future seek out similar learning experiences? Where, ultimately, do you think you are going?

**Part Four: Self-Assessment: Short Essays (cont'd.)**

14. Peter Van Doren, a Peapack-Gladstone resident, directed his estate to award scholarships to students who exhibit a lifelong incentive for learning and strong character. Using specific examples, how are you qualified to receive this scholarship?

**Part Five: Affirmations & Filing Instructions**

I am aware that in order to receive a Van Doren Scholarship, I must be a full-time undergraduate student at an approved, accredited four-year college or university, a two-year college, or a post-secondary trade school. I affirm that all information in this application is true. By applying for a Van Doren Scholarship, I agree to accept the decision of the Scholarship Committee as final.

Applicant's Signature

Date

**To be completed by parent or guardian (if Applicant is not yet 21) :**

I have reviewed this scholarship application and affirm that the information it contains is true. I agree to accept the decision of the Scholarship Committee as final.

Parent's or Guardian's Signature

Date

**Filing Instructions:**

This application, upon submission, shall become the sole property of the Peter Ellis Van Doren Scholarship Committee, and the information contained within it will be kept confidential. A PDF version of this form suitable for completing on-screen using Adobe Reader software may be obtained from our website at [www.vandorenscholars.org](http://www.vandorenscholars.org). **All applications must be postmarked no later than March 12, 2009.** Incomplete or late applications, or applications lacking the necessary signatures, will not be considered. **All applicants must be legal residents of Somerset County, NJ, and if selected as a Finalist, be available for an interview with the Van Doren Scholarship Committee on Saturday, May 16, 2009.**

Ref. #1

**ACHIEVEMENT**

Applicant's Name

Current School

**To the applicant:**

Present this page of the application to someone, other than family, who will write a letter to the Scholarship Committee describing in detail your **strong incentive to learn**.

**To the Preparer:**

The above-referenced student is applying to receive The Van Doren Scholarship, an annual award given to Somerset County, NJ residents who exhibit a lifelong incentive to learn and evidence of strong moral character. Awards are made following careful review of an applicant's academic and extra-curricular attainments, independent references, and individual interviews with finalists. You are being asked to provide **one of two** letters supporting this applicant's qualifications to receive a Van Doren Scholarship.

**We encourage you to comment specifically on such topics as the applicant's ability to reason, originality of thought, willingness to take risks, and open-mindedness.**

Your reference is intended to be a confidential statement by you on behalf of the applicant and will be used solely for our screening purposes. It will not be kept on file. We hope that this policy will encourage you to provide a candid assessment of this applicant's merits.

We are interested in both academic and non-academic factors and hope that you will mention any exceptional qualities, talents, or achievements with which you are familiar. We also trust that you will make both positive and critical observations as appropriate. An anecdote may help you illustrate a point. The more specific you can be, the better your reference will enable us to distinguish this applicant from others.

Your reference does not have to accompany the Applicant's formal application, but **should be mailed no later than March 12, 2009** to:

The Van Doren Scholarship, P.O. Box 584, Peapack, NJ 07977.

We understand the demands that reports such as this place on your time and we are grateful for your efforts. Your input will be an integral part of this student's application and will be read carefully by the Selection Committee.

Thank you.

To learn more about The Van Doren Scholarships, visit our website at [www.vandorenscholars.org](http://www.vandorenscholars.org).



### Ref. #2 CHARACTER

Applicant's Name

Current School

#### To the applicant:

Present this page of the application to someone, other than family, who will write a letter to the Scholarship Committee describing in detail your **high moral character**.

#### To the Preparer:

The above-referenced student is applying to receive The Van Doren Scholarship, an annual award given to Somerset County, NJ residents who exhibit a lifelong incentive to learn and evidence of strong moral character. Awards are made following careful review of an applicant's academic and extra-curricular attainments, independent references, and individual interviews with finalists. You are being asked to provide **one of two** letters supporting this applicant's qualifications to receive a Van Doren Scholarship.

**We encourage you to comment specifically on such topics as the applicant's demonstrated personal ethics, involvement in school and/or community, ability to adjust to unexpected circumstances, ability to relate to both peers and adults, and courage of convictions.**

Your reference is intended to be a confidential statement by you on behalf of the applicant and will be used solely for our screening purposes. It will not be kept on file. We hope that this policy will encourage you to provide a candid assessment of this applicant's merits.

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