

Serena Bates and the Artists Cooperative Gallery of Westerly present:

THE CORRINE HANSEN TAYLOR “ART IT FORWARD” SCHOLARSHIP

The Corrine Hansen Taylor “Art It Forward” Scholarship is to be awarded to a WHS and Stonington graduating senior in need of financial assistance who is pursuing a career in any area of the fine arts. **Serena Bates and the Artists Cooperative Gallery of Westerly** would like to honor a random act of kindness that changed the course of its founder’s career and now, quite possibly, yours. Corrine Hansen Taylor, a WHS alumnus, class of 1984, once surprised her dear friend with an investment into her art career at a crucial time, thus providing momentum and changing the course of the artist’s life. One stipulation was made; when the time came that her artist friend could afford to, she was to pay it forward. Now is that time. **Please join us in celebrating the very second endowment of the Corrine Hansen Taylor “Art It Forward” Scholarship.**

The mission of this scholarship is to pay it forward by supporting young artists in need. The **Artists Cooperative Gallery of Westerly** is the designated 501c3 nonprofit sponsor of “Art it Forward”. The winning recipient will receive a \$1000 award to be used for art education, supplies or equipment and be given the honor of showing their work or performing at the Cooperative at a mutually agreed upon time. Please see the eligibility requirements and **apply before the deadline of April 1, 2025, for Westerly and Stonington Students.**

Eligibility Requirements:

Applicants must:

- Be a graduating senior requiring financial assistance.
- Submit one original piece of art or thumb drive with example of musical/theatrical presentation. All materials will be returned to applicants upon completion of the process.
- Provide Two Letters of Recommendation, at least one from a teacher.
- Fill out the scholarship application information form.
- Read the personal note below from founder, Serena Bates, describing the inspiration for this scholarship award.
- Submit a one-page essay introducing yourself to the selection committee. Tell us what path you’d like to take with your craft. Dream aloud. What are your influences and inspirations? Explain how this scholarship will make a difference for you and how you plan to put it to use.

Application and a sample of student’s work should be hand delivered to the Artists Cooperative Gallery of Westerly, 14 Railroad Avenue, Westerly RI 02891 during regular hours of operation. All questions should be directed to Serena Bates, batessculpture@gmail.com, 401-932-9775.

Personal Note from the Founder of Art it Forward, Serena Bates:

“Do you have a passion for art? Would you like to take it to new heights and live your life true to your creative self? I do. My own ability to expand my craft was supported with a simple boost from my dear friend from high school, Corrine Hansen Taylor.

My name is Serena Bates, WHS '83; I am a sculptor and painter. My friend Corri, WHS '84, taught economics and quantitative reasoning at Wellesley College for over 20 years. She very much appreciates the arts and enjoys supporting artists.

For many years, the jobs that paid my bills took up a lot of my creative time. I wished I had the freedom to devote to my artwork. On a visit in 2015, Corri saw some of my unfinished works that I did not have the time or money to complete. She slid a check over to me for \$1000 and said “I am investing in you, Serena. When you can, please just pay it forward.” No one had ever acted that selflessly on my behalf. That kind act provided the little bit of assistance and motivation I needed and had a dramatic impact on my life. Since that time, I have tried to prove worthy of Corri’s gift. I have won several art awards, been published in many articles, am in collections around the world now, and have had opportunities to meet and work with well-known peers in my sculpture profession.

The time has come for me to “pay” it forward. I have established “The Art It Forward” Scholarship Fund to support a WHS graduate who exhibits relentless passion, skill, drive and dedication to pursue their dreams with a career in the arts. This scholarship encompasses Art, Music and Theater studies. Ideally, that person will be able to pay it forward, as well and keep the creative momentum moving forward, inspiring others.

I am excited to experience the entries. The scholarship winner will be chosen by myself and others in a selection committee. Best of luck to all who apply!”

THE CORRINE HANSEN TAYLOR "ART IT FORWARD" SCHOLARSHIP

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

Email Address _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Address (If different than above): _____

Father's Occupation: _____

Place of Employment: _____

Mother's Occupation: _____

Place of Employment: _____

School you plan to attend, if any: _____

Career you plan to pursue: _____

Extra-Curricular Activities: _____

Community Service: _____

Employment: _____

Honors and Awards: _____

Expected Family Contribution for your Student Aid Report (SAR) EFC# _____

How Many Persons depend on family income? _____

How many siblings in college now? _____

Applicant Signature _____

Parent/Guardian Signature (if applicant is a minor) _____