Our Mission
We award scholarships and grants to promote the heritage and culture of Norway, and provide assistance to our members, lodges and their communities.

Overview
The Orel and Marie Winjum Memorial Scholarship was created to assist with college tuition costs for American citizens of Norwegian and/or German heritage. This scholarship is given in honor of Orel and Marie Winjum by their children, all of whom earned a college degree - some early in life and some later. Marie finished her college degree after all their children were grown.

Orel and Marie Winjum believed that education is important. They also believed that those who gain the knowledge and critical thinking that a college education can bestow will find their lives truly enriched, and that they will enrich the lives of all with whom they come in contact.

Who is Eligible?
• American citizens with either Norwegian and/or German heritage who have applied to or are enrolled in an accredited four year college or university or two year community college in the United States.
• Those who are 17 or older and have a certificate of completion from high school or are about to graduate from high school. Adult students are also welcome to apply for this opportunity.
• Those who have a grade point average of 2.5 or higher.
• Candidates may only receive two Sons of Norway scholarships in a five-year period.

Criteria
• A short autobiography, 150 words or less.
• An essay of 500 words or less addressing each of the following key points:
  - Describe how this scholarship will help you further your career goals.
  - Share why you have chosen your area of study or training and what you hope to achieve in your life through your future career.
  - Explain any involvement in volunteer, school and/or community activities and what that involvement has taught you.
  - Share how your Norwegian and/or German heritage has influenced your life.
  - Explain how you will share this experience with the Sons of Norway or wider audiences.

• Academic potential:
  - If you have already studied in a post-secondary program for at least one year, please include a copy of your most recent transcripts.
  - If you are currently still in high school or in your first semester of post-secondary study, please include a copy of your most recent high school transcripts.

*Please note, “official” transcripts may be required once an applicant is tentatively selected.

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• Financial need:
  - Be prepared to include the amount you are able to pay for post-secondary education/training in the online application.

• Letters of Recommendation:
  - Two letters of recommendation that address the applicant’s character and abilities.
  - One letter must address the influence your Norwegian and/or German heritage has had on your life.

How do I apply?
Applications are only accepted via our online portal at www.sonsofnorway.com/scholarships.

The steps to apply are as follows:
1. Go into the scholarship portal at www.sonsofnorway.com/scholarships and create a username and password.
   *Please note: The username and password will be different from your Sons of Norway membership log-in. You must create new credentials every year you apply for a scholarship.

2. Complete the profile section that includes your contact information.

3. Select the scholarship(s) for which you would like to apply and complete those application(s).
   *Please note: As of the 2017 scholarship year, applicants will be limited to applying for either domestic scholarships OR international scholarships, not both. However, you may apply for as many scholarships in either category for which you are eligible.

4. Upload all required supplementary attachments to the portal including: a copy of your transcripts, your letters of recommendation and a high resolution photograph (for use in the Viking magazine, etc. should you receive an award).
   *Please note: ONLY send letters of recommendation via e-mail to scholarship@sofn.com should the author(s) of the letter(s) require they remain confidential. If a reference e-mails a letter on your behalf, be sure they include your name and the name of the scholarship in the subject line.

5. Check the box stating that you, the applicant, have completed the application and that no one else has completed it for you.


How is the winner selected?
Final selection of the scholarship winner will be made by a scholarship committee appointed by the Sons of Norway Foundation. Scoring is dependent on the use of complete sentences, proper grammar, and inclusion of information outlined in the essay requirements listed above. Notification of the award will be made within 10 weeks of the deadline.

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How much is the award?
In 2017 one scholarship in the amount of $2,000 will be awarded.

How are the scholarships paid?
The scholarships are paid to the post-secondary institution that is listed on the application. Please be sure the information listed in the, “student ID,” section of the profile page is accurate to assure timely payment to the correct account.

What are the obligations if I am awarded a scholarship?
Scholarship recipients are expected to grant permission to use their photo and name in the Viking magazine, the Foundation’s annual report and other scholarship promotional materials. They are also expected to give a presentation, including photos, at a local Sons of Norway lodge to explain how this scholarship is helping them reach their educational dreams. We will provide a form for a lodge officer to sign after the presentation.

Revision policy
The Sons of Norway Foundation reserves the right to modify requirements. All participants are encouraged to check the Foundation website, www.sonsofnorway.com/foundation for the most current information.

The deadline for submission of the completed application and all required elements is APRIL 10.

You may e-mail questions to scholarship@sofn.com prior to submission of your application.