



## **Opal Becker Memorial Scholarship Application**

The Opal Becker Memorial Scholarship is an academic scholarship provided through the funds donated by the family of Opal Becker and Naka-Kon Japanese Education Association. The scholarship is available for college students who are taking a minimum of 6 credit hours of coursework per semester in the Japanese language, art, and culture or for students who have plans to study abroad in Japan. One student applicant will be chosen and will be provided a total award of \$2,000. The award will be delivered across two semesters (\$1,000 per semester). Applicants must provide all the necessary documents by designated deadline to be considered for an award in the 2020-2021 school year.

### **How are scholarship recipients chosen?**

The selection committee will consist of members of the Naka-Kon Japanese Cultural Education Association and individuals from organizations partnered with Naka-Kon. Selections are based purely on merit, without discrimination for any reason such as race, sex, religion, age, or national origin.

### **Minimum Requirements**

Applicants must:

- 1) be enrolled at an accredited college or university;
- 2) provide proof that they are taking a minimum of 6 credit hours of coursework in an approved field of study (see Approved Fields of Study) or provide proof that they have been accepted to an accredited study abroad program that is at least 28 days in length in Japan
- 3) maintain full-time student status; and
- 4) have a cumulative GPA of 2.8 or higher (4.0 scale).



**Approved Fields of Study For the 2020-2021 Academic Year**

Japanese Language or Literature

Art and Design - Emphasis on Japanese techniques

History - Emphasis on Japan

Animation / Anime

Game Design

If you have questions about whether you are seeking a degree in an approved field of study, please contact Naka-Kon Scholarship Committee ([scholarship@naka-kon.com](mailto:scholarship@naka-kon.com)).



### **Opal Becker Memorial Scholarship Application Instructions**

*Please review the minimum requirements listed above and provide all requested documents when submitting the application.*

**Step 1:** Fill out all fields of this application form.

**Step 2:** Please complete a 1,000 to 1,500 word essay on one of the following topics:

1. Describe how your career goals and personal interest intersect with Japanese language, art, and/or culture.
2. Describe a past project or life experience that influenced your interest in studying Japanese language, art, and/or culture.
3. Describe the aspect of Japanese culture that had the greatest influence on the choice of your current area of study.

*\*For ease of reading by essay evaluators, please choose a 12 pt., serif font with a double-spaced format.*

**Step 3:** Please include the following additional materials with your application form:

1. Two letters of recommendation from any combination of the following:
  - advisors or faculty members in your field of study (letter to be written on institution's letterhead)
  - coworkers or a supervisor from a professional or internship position



2. Most recent official/certified transcript available. Photocopies and unofficial/uncertified transcripts will not be accepted.

3. If your official transcript does not list your declared field of study (major), you must also include an official verification of major from your university registrar's office that does list your major.

**Step 4** Mail your completed scholarship application form and materials postmarked by

**February 15, 2020** to:

Naka-Kon

Attn: Opal Becker Memorial Scholarship

11184 Antioch Rd. #344

Overland Park, KS 66210

Note: If any item on the application form is not completed or within the requirements, the applicant will be disqualified from selection. Scholarships are reviewed and delivered for the Fall and Spring semesters after proof of enrollment for each semester has been accepted by the Naka-Kon Board of Directors.



Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

College or University attending \_\_\_\_\_

Student ID Number \_\_\_\_\_

**Release and Certification:** I hereby give permission to use the information provided on this application for recognition purposes, if selected. I understand that I must be registered and accepted as a full-time student at an accredited college or university to be eligible to receive a scholarship. I understand that I could be asked to present a panel at the upcoming Naka-Kon convention. To the best of my knowledge, the information provided in this application is true and correct.

Student's signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_