

2019 REPORT OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Chair: John Paluch
Members: Ernie Brauchli, Fred Glure, Robert Streit

The committee members are in strong agreement that these three scholarship programs are valuable to the target applicant pools and that through these scholarships, the SBS continues to support students of Swiss heritage and a broader population of students in Chicago and Illinois, Wisconsin and Indiana. The SBS awarded **\$35,210** (\$32,710 disbursed) in scholarship money to grade school, high school and college students during the 2019-2020 academic year.

OUR THREE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS

Merit Scholarships

Merit Scholarships support highly qualified, low-income students in Chicago Public Schools with plans to study at a four-year college. We are continuing to work with Lane Tech College Prep, Gwendolyn Brooks College Preparatory Academy and George Westinghouse College Prep. This year the applications provided by counsellors at Lane and Westinghouse were extremely impressive and Brooks has committed to redoubling its efforts to support their students in the application process. The University of Illinois at Chicago was not able to disburse our scholarship to Mahnoor Tufail (Lane) since her financial need had been met through other sources by the time our check arrived. Mahnoor was on the UIC Dean's List of Academic Distinction for Fall 2019, demonstrating the academic strengths of our applicants and scholarship recipients. Two students from Lane and two students from Westinghouse received \$2,000 scholarships for the 2019/2020 academic year, a total of **\$8,000**. (Final disbursement: \$6,000)

Language Immersion Scholarships for Concordia Language Villages

The SBS offers one-week scholarships to the Concordia Language Villages to grade school and high school students in Illinois, Wisconsin and Indiana. This year there were 53 applications (up from 36 in 2019/2020): 24 applications for German, 27 for French and 2 for Italian. We provided scholarships to five French students and five German students. Once again, we offered both the Northern Illinois AATG and the Chicago Area AATF two-week scholarships for their testing & awards programs. The SBS provided **\$9,960** and Concordia provided **\$5,140** towards the total scholarship cost of **\$15,100**.

Undergraduate College Support Scholarships

The Undergraduate College Support Scholarships provide support to students of Swiss heritage. There were 25 applicants and winners this year: thirteen in Category I (Seniors in High School), five in Category II (Freshmen in College), and seven in Category III (Sophomores or Juniors in College). The total amount of scholarships awarded was **\$17,250**. (Final disbursement: \$16,750). *One student was unable to accept the scholarship.

All 2019-2020 winners are listed here and on the SBS web page at:

<http://www.sbschicago.org>. Applications for the 2020-21 year scholarships are available on our webpage directly or through e-mail or regular mail.

Respectfully submitted,
March 10, 2020

John Paluch
Chair, Education Committee