Samsung
and
The American Legion

Partners in
Providing Educational
Opportunities

Prepared by
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Mission Statement

To carry out the wishes of the Samsung Group at the time the scholarship endowment was given. Establish a set of eligibility rules for participants. Determine the number and value of scholarships to be awarded. Select the most qualified applicants. To investigate and discuss the possible expansion of the program. Establish guidelines for participation in an expanded program and work for the continued success of a generous benefactor’s gift.

Introduction

In Washington, DC on July 26, 1995, Mr. K.S. Park, Chairman, Samsung Engineering & Construction Co. and William M. Detweiler, National Commander, The American Legion held a news conference to announce a 5 million dollar scholarship endowment to be administered by The American Legion.

In announcing the scholarship endowment Mr. Park said, “Samsung appreciates the sacrifices of U.S. service men and women who helped maintain the security of the Korean peninsula during the Korean War.

“We (Samsung) wanted to demonstrate our appreciation. The best way to do this, we believe, is to offer educational opportunities to the children and grandchildren of the American veterans who served their country so honorably. The American Legion is the perfect organization for accomplishing this.

“Samsung values education. One of the most important contributions we can make is to support students in their pursuits of academic excellence. Helping future generations achieve their scholastic goals is a priority for us.

“We hope that this scholarship program will make a difference in the lives of American students. We also hope that Americans will accept our gesture as sincere gratitude for their support.

In thanking Samsung for the scholarship endowment William M. Detweiler, National Commander said, “The American Legion is very appreciative of the generous offer by the Samsung Group of five million dollars to endow a scholarship for children of veterans. As the nation’s largest veteran’s organization, we are honored that Samsung has chosen the American Legion to administer this program to further the education of the descendants of American men and women who have served this nation in time of war.

“We are fully aware of the significance of Samsung’s offer coming at this particular time. This is a special week for all of us, as the Korean War Veterans Memorial is officially dedicated on the Mall here in Washington.

“Americans who answered a call to duty in the earliest days of the Cold War, and served under the United Nations banner to enforce its mandate and preserve the security of the Korean Peninsula, are truly deserving of this long awaited and deserved recognition of their role in what has become known as ‘The Forgotten War.’

“The proud and tenacious people of the Republic of Korea have not forgotten what took place 45 years ago...and they have not forgotten the close alliance the United States has maintained with the Republic of Korea ever since.

“I had the pleasure to make a personal visit to Korea only last December and I was very impressed with what I saw. The state of modern industrialization is awesome. To be associated with one of the leaders of that progress, the Samsung Group, is truly an honor.”
Program Overview

“The Samsung American Legion Scholarship Program” established a series of scholarships, as set forth below for undergraduate study at an accredited United States college or university. The recipients of these scholarships will be known as “Samsung American Legion Scholars”.

The principal amount of the Fund shall not be used for the scholarships. Instead, only the interest and other income of the Fund shall be used for these purposes.

Through its existing structures at the local, state and national levels, The American Legion accepted the responsibility for the selection of scholarship winners and administration of the endowment including development and implementation of a plan to publicize the scholarship program.

The American Legion invited Samsung to appoint a representative to serve as a member of the National Selection Committee, which will consist of members of The American Legion’s National Committee on Education currently known as the Committee on Youth Education. The first Samsung American Legion Scholars were announced in September, 1996.


A committee consisting of representatives of The American Legion, Samsung, and The American Legion Auxiliary developed a plan for the selection process and eligibility criteria for the Samsung American Legion Scholarship Program.

The student must be a descendant of a U.S. veteran who served honorably during one or more of the wartime periods listed previous. Descendant is defined as, “direct lineage i.e. child, grandchild, great-grandchild, etc., and legally adopted children.”

The student must attend an accredited U.S. college or university. The scholarship is for undergraduate study and may be used for: tuition, books, fees (normal and customary), and room and board (university housing or its equivalent).

In 2013, applications were distributed to eligible participants in The American Legion Boys State and American Legion Auxiliary Girls State programs.

Each American Legion Boys State and American Legion Auxiliary Girls State program selects one applicant to represent that program and that applicant becomes one of 98 “state finalists” competing for the scholarships available.

From this pool of 98 “state finalists” the National Selection Committee selects scholarship recipients (the exact number per year is determined from the income generated by the Fund). These scholarship recipients are known as “Samsung American Legion Scholars”.

“...to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan...”

Abraham Lincoln
The National Executive Committee, which serves as the Board of Directors, of The American Legion met in Indianapolis, Indiana on September 3, 1995, and adopted Resolution No. 1 SAMSUNG AMERICAN LEGION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM which accomplished three goals: 1) Authorized and established the Samsung American Legion Scholarship Program; 2) Granted permission to accept the scholarship endowment from the Samsung Group; and 3) Authorized and established the American Legion Educational Scholarship Trust Fund. The resolving clauses of the resolution are:

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion, assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on September 3, 1995, That The American Legion be authorized to accept the $5,000,000 US endowment from Samsung Group and that said monies be deposited in a "discretionary trust" at the Union Federal Savings Bank of Indianapolis in accordance with a trust indenture by and between The American Legion and the Union Federal Savings Bank of Indianapolis for the purpose of generating interest and other income to fund a scholarship program for descendants of honorably discharged U.S. wartime veterans who are defined as those who served honorably during one or more of the following periods of war: 1) World War I, April 6, 1917 - November 11, 1918; 2) World War II, December 7, 1941 - December 31, 1946; 3) Korean War, June 25, 1950 - January 31, 1955; 4) Vietnam War, February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975; 5) Lebanon/Grenada, August 24, 1982 - July 31, 1984; 6) Panama, December 20, 1989 - January 31, 1990; and Persian Gulf War/War on Terrorism, August 2, 1990 to cessation of hostilities as determined by the United States Government; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That The American Legion be authorized to accept additional contributions beyond the $5,000,000 endowment by Samsung for deposit in said trust following the determination of compliance with the rules and regulations of the trust; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the National Finance Commission shall set guidelines for said trust which shall be administered in the same manner as the trust supporting The American Legion Retirement Plan for Employees of the National Headquarters and Subordinate Groups thereof and that the National Committee on Education and a representative of the Samsung Group constitute the Scholarship Selection Committee who shall determine the identity of recipients and the number and amount of scholarships in accordance with the requirements of this resolution and the trust; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the scholarship program funded by the Samsung endowment be titled the "Samsung American Legion Scholarship Program"; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the trust fund from which this program will be administered be titled "the American Legion Educational Scholarship Trust Fund"; and, be it further

RESOLVED That all said scholarships shall be paid from the net income of the trust after payment of all reasonable trust expenses including but not limited to trustee expenses; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That when the trust indenture and all appropriate documents have been drafted and finalized, the National Commander, after review and approval by the National Judge Advocate, be and is hereby authorized and directed to execute said trust indenture and the National Adjutant be and is hereby authorized and directed to attest same.
Resolution No. 19 Rules and Conditions for Administration of the Samsung American Legion Scholarship Program

WHEREAS, Res. No. 1, National Executive Committee, September 3, 1995, titled, Samsung American Legion Scholarship Program authorized The American Legion to create a scholarship program by the same name; and

WHEREAS, Res. No. 28, National Executive Committee, October 18-19, 2000, titled “Rules and Conditions for Administration of the Samsung American Legion Scholarship Program” established eligibility for the Samsung American Legion Scholarship Program; and

WHEREAS, Changes in eligibility criteria for students from Hawaii have been recommended by the National Committee on Education with subsequent concurrence by the National Americanism Commission; and

WHEREAS, There is a need to establish the rules and conditions under which the scholarships are awarded and the program is administered; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, October 9-10, 2002, That The Rules and Conditions under which Samsung American Legion Scholarships are awarded and the program administered shall be:

1. Those eligible to apply for the scholarships shall be students who are direct descendants of U.S. wartime veterans who served during one or more of the periods of war officially designated as such by the United States government: World War I April 6, 1917 - November 11, 1918; World War II December 7, 1941 - December 31, 1946; Korean War June 25, 1950 - January 31, 1955; Vietnam War February 28, 1961 - May 6, 1975; Lebanon and Grenada August 24, 1982 - July 31, 1984; Panama December 20, 1989 - January 31, 1990; Persian Gulf War August 2, 1990 to cessation of hostilities as determined by the United States government.

2. The annual Samsung American Legion Scholarship applicant pool will include one representative from each American Legion Boys State program; one representative from each American Legion Auxiliary Girls State program; and one high school junior boy and one high school junior girl from the Department of Hawaii. From this pool of “state finalists” scholarship recipients will be selected by the National Committee on Education. These scholarship recipients will be known as “Samsung American Legion Scholars.”

3. Samsung American Legion Scholars will have six (6) years to utilize their scholarship funds from the date of graduation from high school, excluding any time spent on active military duty or church mission. Remaining State Finalists will have two (2) years to utilize their scholarship funds from the date of graduation from high school, excluding any time spent on active military duty or church mission.

4. The Samsung American Legion Scholarship is for undergraduate study at an accredited U.S. college or university. The recipients must be enrolled as a full-time student to request his/her scholarship funds. The number and amount of the scholarship awards will be determined by the income derived from the Samsung American Legion Scholarship Trust.

5. The scholarship funds may only be used to defray necessary costs of the student’s education (i.e. tuition, room & board, books & supplies, fees and equipment required by the student’s particular course of study or school). A student may request any amount up to and including his/her total scholarship award at one time. The amount of the fund request cannot exceed the cost of education. Students may make only one (1) request for funds per semester or quarter.

6. Scholarship checks will be issued upon receipt of a “Request for Funds” form. It is the normal and customary procedure that the scholarship check will be a two-party check made payable to the student and
school. Students who have not requested their award will receive one (1) written notice reminding them of their award and the time limits remaining to receive their award. State finalists will receive their notice prior to their last year of eligibility. Samsung American Legion Scholars will receive their notice with two years of eligibility remaining.

7. Unused scholarship funds will be returned to the scholarship trust fund for future awards; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That these Rules and Conditions shall be included on each Samsung American Legion Scholarship application.

**Program Awards**

Table 1 shows that since 1996 a total of $4,938,100 has been awarded for scholarships. Scholarship checks totaling $4,226,484 have been issued. This leaves a current balance of $711,616 in funds obligated.

Requests for funds for scholarships awarded in 2013 will not be received until the students graduate from high school, which normally will be May - June 2014. Therefore, those obligated funds will remain in the Trust and continue to earn interest/income. Additionally, for the Samsung American Legion Scholars the awards are designed to be spread over the four years of the student’s undergraduate experience.

Samsung American Legion Scholars have six years from the date of high school graduation to use their award. The State Finalists have two years from the date of high school graduation to use their award. In both cases the time limit does not include time spent on active military duty or church mission.

**Program Expenses**

Administrative Expenses, (table 2) for the 2013 Samsung American Legion Scholarship Program are included in the Education and Scholarship budget area and are paid from The American Legion’s General Fund. No funds from the trust are used.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Table 1</th>
<th>Award Year</th>
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Samsung American Legion Scholars
The Samsung American Legion Scholarship National Selection Committee met in Indianapolis, Indiana, on October 12, 2013, and named nine students as Samsung American Legion Scholars, Class of 2018.

Cameron Akker of Sammamish, Washington, attends Washington State High School where he ranks first in his class of 458. Cameron plans on becoming a scientist. His grandfather was a veteran of the Korean War.

Tery Burt of Chesnee, South Carolina, attends Broome High School where he ranks eleventh in his class of 205. Tery plans on working toward a doctorate in music. His great-grandfather was a veteran of World War II and the Korean War.

Dallas DeBruin of Greenfield, Ohio, attends Miami Trace High School where he ranks first in his class of 180. Dallas plans on opening his own business after college. His grandfather was a veteran of the Korean War.

Megan Kelley of Danbury, Nebraska, attends Southwest Junior-Senior High School where she ranks first in her class of 24. Megan plans on becoming a secondary education teacher. Her grandfather was a veteran of the Korean War.

Gabrielle Lessen of Alexandria, Louisiana, attends Holy Savior Menard Central High School where she ranks in the top one percent among her class of 78. Gabrielle plans on becoming a research physician. Her grandfather was a veteran of the Korean War.

Austin Owen of Vestavia Hills, Alabama, attends Vestavia Hills High School where he ranks fourteenth in his class of 471. Austin plans to work in the fields of diplomacy and international affairs. His grandfather is a veteran of the Korean War.

Gregory Scalise of Brewster, Massachusetts, attends Nauset Regional High School where he ranks sixth in his class of 244. Gregory plans to major in liberal arts. His grandfather was a veteran of the Korean War.

Aidan Schneider of Flagstaff, Arizona, attends Northland Preparatory Academy where he ranks second in his class of 64. Aidan is considering a career in biology. His grandfather was a veteran of the Korean War.

Troy Timmerman of Marshall, Minnesota, attends Marshal High School where he ranks sixth in his class of 179. Troy plans to pursue a Masters Degree in Aerospace Engineering and work for NASA. His grandfather was a veteran of the Korean War and the Vietnam War.
Comments from some of this year's recipients

I am writing this thank you note on behalf of my family and myself. My selection as a National Samsung Scholar makes attending college much more a reality for me. With the cost of college what it is currently, many, including myself, could not attend college if there were not scholarships like this. As for myself, I plan to use the scholarship funds to attend Xavier University in Cincinnati and major in Entrepreneurship. By the time I graduate from college, I plan to have started a local business and begin giving back to the community.

Thank you Again,

Dallas DeBruin
Ohio

Thank you for choosing me as one of the Samsung American Legion Scholars. It is a great honor to be chosen as a winner of this scholarship. As a Samsung Scholar, I now will be able to further my education and attend the university that meets my future goals. I am also proud because this scholarship will allow me to contribute to the expense I will incur each year and reach one of my personal goals by helping to fund the cost of my education.

The American Legion holds many of the same values that I do; love for nation and service, respect for others, and a code of integrity. Because of this, earning a scholarship from the American Legion makes this award even more special. I am pleased to say that both of my grandfathers are men who proudly served our country; one in the army during the Korean War and the other in the navy during WWII. I am privileged to be chosen to represent such a great organization, which honors the service of veterans like my grandfathers.

Thank you so much for giving me this incredible opportunity.

Sincerely,

Gabrielle Lessen
Louisiana

Comments from previous scholarship recipients

I would like to thank the Samsung American Legion Scholarship Committee for the scholarship I received through Palmetto Boys State. I will be attending Clemson University in the fall, majoring in engineering. The scholarship will enable me to pay for my education without incurring a large debt. Thank you again for the scholarship.

Sincerely,

Landon Stevenson
South Carolina
(2012 Samsung Scholarship Recipient)

Enclosed is my final request for scholarship funds from the Samsung American Legion Scholarship program. I want to take this opportunity to thank you again for granting me this scholarship. It has been a great help in offsetting my college expense. As the granddaughter of a Korean wartime veteran I am proud to have received this award.

Thank you for making these scholarships available to students. It really does make a difference!

Best regards,

Catheryn N. Broady
Illinois
(2011 Samsung Finalist)

I want to say thank you for the scholarship I was awarded this previous summer for the American Legion Samsung Scholarship. It will be put to good use to further my education at Butler University.

Sincerely,

Karlie Booth
Indiana
(2012 Samsung Finalist)

As I begin my final semester at The Ohio State University with preparation to graduate in May 2014, I look back on the past three and a half years with sincere gratitude—gratitude for the experiences I have had and immense gratitude for those who have made it all possible.
For this reason, I would like to thank you again. The scholarship I received through your organization was one piece of the puzzle that made my educational experience at Ohio State possible. And I thought that you might like to hear how your generosity and monetary contribution in 2010 has been used to reach my goals over the past four years.

Let me start by saying that I fell in love with Ohio State more and more every day and love every aspect of being a Buckeye in Columbus! The campus, the people, the excellence, the traditions, the facilities, the opportunities, the academics, the athletics, the marching band...the list goes on and on, but the truth of the matter is I have found a place where I have learned to thrive. I am extremely proud to bleed scarlet and gray yet I have not forgotten my kelly green West Branch roots in northeastern Ohio. I would like to share with you a few select highlights and opportunities of my time at OSU that you helped provide.

- Academics: I will be graduating with honors and receiving my diploma in May with a bachelor's degree in Exercise Science. Approximately 50 people are accepted into this major each year, and I have benefited greatly from being in this competitive program. I take my studies seriously and am pleased to say I have been on the Dean’s List each quarter/semester of my time at Ohio State.

- Athletics: Athletics were a big part of my life during my high school years at West Branch where I was a three-sport athlete. However, I never expected to continue to foster the athlete in me following graduation from high school. I never imagined the amazing opportunity God blessed me with during my first two years of college. During this time, I successfully earned a spot on the Women’s Varsity Rowing Team, and I was able to help with a team Big Ten Championship and place at Nationals!

- Extra-Curriculars: Over the past four years, I have gotten increasingly involved with Athletes in Action (AIA) which is a Christian ministry group on campus for varsity athletes. Our focus is on glorifying God through our sport and developing a personal relationship with Christ. I regularly attend the weekly meetings, bible studies, and was selected to be a part of Women’s Action Group which is a leadership team within AIA. This allows me to meet with staff members, and mentor other young female athletes at Ohio State who are interested in developing their personal relationship with the Lord.

Because of the summation of scholarships I received such as yours, I did not have to work every single quarter/semester, and consequently, I could participate in extra-curriculars in the evenings, I could take time to shadow health professionals, I could volunteer my time, and I could fully commit to upholding both ends of being an Ohio State scholar-athlete. And for this, I am extremely grateful.

Furthermore, due to all of the ways previously mentioned that I was able to invest my time during undergrad, post-graduation education has become even more of a possibility as I look into the future. And I am excited to share with you that I will be attending professional school in Missouri to pursue a Doctor of Chiropractic degree in Fall 2014 with a planned emphasis in Sports Science and Rehabilitation.

I do not mean any of this in a boastful way (and I genuinely hope you do not see it that way) but only as a way of showing you what you helped make possible and hoping you see the positive investment of your resources. I know I said thank you shortly after I received the award, but I wanted to write to you a second time because now I can see the lasting impact your contribution has had. And I wanted to take the time to make a special point of telling you just how appreciative I truly am.

Thank you!
Have a great week!
And as always, GO BUCKS!

Kate Cline
Ohio
2009 Samsung Finalist)
I am now over halfway done with my undergraduate career, but during my senior year of high school, I was chosen as a 2010 Samsung American Legion Scholar. I am about to begin my spring semester as a student at the University of Notre Dame, and I would like to continue to provide you and the rest of the committee with updates on the exciting developments in my academic career as a result of the generous scholarship you awarded me. The most exciting change during this semester will by my study abroad experience in Rome, Italy, from January until May. I am truly looking forward to my adventures abroad, from the people I meet, to the cities I visit, to the cultures I experience. Alongside students from across the world, I will delve into the beautiful history and life that Rome has to offer. I cannot wait to experience more of what the world has to offer, and to meet other wonderful people along the way.

During the fall semester, I was able to grow through my involvement in “Scholastic” as design editor. As a staff, we produced four well-received issues of the magazine, and I was able to recruit and train several new members for our staff. I also trained the designers who will take over my responsibilities this semester while I am away, and I hope to return to “Scholastic” in the fall as design editor once again; I have such a vision for how the magazine can grow. The typography class I took this semester, combined with my experience designing for “Scholastic”, has allowed me to greatly improve my capabilities and prepare me for my future. The further I delve into the world of design, the more I find my heart at home, and I look forward to continuing to combine this love for the fine arts with my love of literature and philosophy during my next semester abroad.

Finally, I have exciting news regarding my summer plans. Toward the end of the semester, I was informed that I am the sole recipient of an exclusive award within the Program of Liberal Studies called the Monteverdi Prize. As a result, I will receive a grant to study in Monteverdi, Italy for two months during the summer researching my senior thesis. My chosen topic is exploring the great Italian poet Dante’s relationship with art—both influences on his “Divine Comedy” and the influences this work had on Renaissance art. I will be serving as the resident scholar, conducting research and leading discussions throughout the summer as I continue my cultural immersion from my semester abroad. I am so incredibly excited for what the future holds. As I head off into my next adventure, I want to express my gratitude for making this opportunity possible through your support.

Thank you,

Samantha Lessen
Indiana
(2010 Samsung Scholarship Recipient)

My name is Trevor Smith, one of the recipients of the Samsung American Legion Scholarship in 2007. I am currently attending Brigham Young University studying chemistry. After completing my freshman year at BYU, I served a two-year mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Uruguay. Upon returning from my mission, I made the decision to pursue a career in medicine, and have been working to prepare myself for taking the MCAT and applying to medical school this summer. I will graduate from BYU this December and hope to start medical school in the Fall of 2015.

This time has been one of such growth for me. I am currently working as a Certified Nursing Assistant at a local nursing home and rehabilitation facility. I have come to really enjoy the opportunity to serve and help the residents that I work with, and it truly has been a privilege to establish relationships with many of them. I also have been able to volunteer as a teaching assistant for an entry-level biology class and assist in scientific research with one of my professors. Additionally, using the Spanish learned on my mission, I have been able to volunteer as an interpreter at a local middle school for native Spanish-speaking students. All of these opportunities have really allowed me to learn so much about myself and grow as a person. I look forward to continuing to serve and help those around me in my career as a doctor.
I just wanted to take some time to write this letter to thank the American Legion and Samsung for this scholarship that is helping me to complete my studies. I will graduate from BYU without debt and that has taken such a burden off my shoulders and allowed me to focus on my studies and medical school preparation. I am so grateful to have been selected as one of the recipients of this scholarship. Thank you for all that you do in supporting student education.

Sincerely,

Trevor Smith
Utah
(2007 Samsung Scholarship Recipient)