

3.10 Eric Hind Scholarship

1. POLICY PURPOSE

To recognise and acknowledge Mr. Eric Hind's contributions to the Shire of Merredin (the Shire) as a Councillor and his accomplishments as a violinist by offering an annual scholarship to young talented performing arts students within the Shire.

2. POLICY SCOPE

This Policy applies to staff, Councillors, judging panel and applicants.

3. LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Local Government Act 1995 (Section 5.10)

4. POLICY STATEMENT

The Eric Hind Scholarship shall be awarded annually in accordance with the conditions set out in this policy.

A Councillor will be appointed bi-annually to this committee.

Background Information

Eric Hind was born in Nottingham in England in 1901. He migrated to Western Australia in 1926 and came immediately to the Wheatbelt. In 1928 he took up farming land at Burracoppin and so commenced a lifetime of interest in the Burracoppin Area.

During the Second World War Eric enlisted in the R.A.A.F and served overseas.

In 1953 he was elected to the then Merredin Road Board and continued to represent the people of Burracoppin on the Merredin Shire Council until his retirement in 1989.

After 36 years of service on the Road Board and Shire Council, the Merredin Shire Council presented Eric with a long service award and made him a Freeman of the Shire. In 1990 he received the Order of Australia for services to the community.

Eric Hind was an accomplished violinist who had gained his A.L.C.M (Eng) diploma before leaving England. As an active member of the Merredin Musical Society and Concert Orchestra of the day, Eric was much sought after as a violinist and was willing to perform at any function if possible. Eric also served on the local WA Symphony Orchestra Committee and was instrumental in getting many concerts in Merredin over a number of years.

In his honour, the Shire of Merredin offers a paid scholarship that is determined by Council's annual budget.

Conditions

Judging Panel

Comprising three (3) members selected through an Expressions of Interest process, including at least one Councillor, with other members selected having music backgrounds. The CEO be granted delegated authority to approve the non-Councillor members to the judging panel.

Selection Criteria

1. Applicant must be a resident or student in the Shire of Merredin.
2. Previous winners are eligible after five (5) years from receipt of their scholarship.

- Applicant must be at least seven (7) years of age and under 20 years of age at the end of the scholarship period. Persons who have had their 20th birthday will not be eligible.

Advice Notes

- Applicants are required to undertake the Eric Hind Scholarship application process, which may consist of an application form, an interview, and a performance.
- As per condition 1, the applicant will be required to present a short performance of their chosen art at an interview deemed suitable by applicant and the panel.
- If no suitable candidates apply, Council may contribute the funds to the local schools in the district or another relevant initiative.
- Dual scholarships may be awarded at the discretion of the judges. In the case of dual scholarships, the fund will be split evenly between the two (2) award winners.
- Should the contribution be distributed to the selected schools or another relevant initiative, a feedback report may be required to be presented to Council.
- Scholarship money will be issued following the announcement of the winner/s.
- After six (6) months, the successful applicant may be required to report to Council on the status of their progress.
- At the completion of 12 months, the successful applicant may be required to report to Council stating how the scholarship money was expended.

5. KEY POLICY DEFINITIONS

Scholarship Period means from commencement of advertising until announcement of the winners (Australia Day).

Paid Scholarship means the budget allocation determined by Council annually

Application Form means the Eric Hind Scholarship Application Form which contains the applicants' personal details, the chosen performing art, and how scholarship funds will be expended.

Selection Criteria means the criteria that must be met or you will be considered ineligible.

Performing Arts may include, but not limited to, dance, theatre, music etc.

6. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Shire's Communities team are responsible for implementation of this policy.

7. MONITOR AND REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed by the Governance Officer every two (2) years.

This policy will be monitored by the Executive Manager Strategy and Community.

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