Current Scholarship Listing 2013-14

Incoming Students

Commissioners’ Scholarship
Full tuition for four years
The Commissioners’ Scholarship, the most prestigious award given by the college, is presented in honor of those who have served as Commissioners of the institution. Only one new Commissioners’ Scholar will be chosen each year. The recipient of this award will receive full tuition for up to four years (maximum of 30 credits per year) and must be registered as a full-time student throughout their tenure at Watkins. Based on their prior scholastic record and application submissions, a select number of applicants will be invited to apply for this scholarship. Those applicants will be asked to write an additional essay and provide the college with any further information about themselves and their commitment to the study of art, design or film. A committee, with a representative from each program, will review all applications and choose the Commissioners’ Scholar.

- Award is automatically renewed for three subsequent and continuous academic years provided the student remains in superior academic standing by maintaining a cumulative GPA of 3.65 or above.
- Applicants to any of the degree programs are eligible for consideration but must be entering as a freshman without any prior college credit, with the exception of dual-enrollment.
- Applicants must have outstanding academic records and must show unusual potential to become accomplished artists, designers or filmmakers.
- Applicants will be chosen by the department to which they initially apply and will receive an invitation to apply for the Commissioners’ Scholarship, after which the recipient will be selected by a committee of the faculty.

The Presidential Award of Excellence for Incoming Students
$2000 to $4,000 over four years
Given in recognition of excellence in prior scholarship. Recipients must have a cumulative grade point average of 3.65 or higher at their prior institution.

The Dean’s Award of Portfolio Excellence
$2000 over four years
Given in recognition of excellence in the portfolio materials submitted for admittance to the college.

Raw Talent Scholarship
Amount and duration vary
Merit-based scholarship awarded to applicants who show excellent potential to excel in the visual arts. Award can be given to either first-time college or transfer student.
TAEA Student of the Year Award
$1000 first-year award
The TAEA Student of the Year Award is intended to recognize outstanding artistic achievement on an ongoing basis, as determined by a high school art teacher who is a member of the Tennessee Art Educators Association. Any high school art teacher in the state of Tennessee who is a TAEA member may name one student each year to receive a $1,000 one-time, first-year award. A letter of recognition from the TAEA member should be submitted to the Director of Admissions on or before May 1 of each year. The award will only be granted to a high school senior planning to attend Watkins as a full-time student in the fall immediately following graduation. The TAEA member may name a new student on an annual basis.

Star Scholarship for Transfer Students
$1,000 to $3,000 per year for up to four years
Awarded to promising students who have completed and earned a minimum of twelve transferable college credit hours. Applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 at their prior institution or provide a portfolio for review in order to be considered for this award. The award is based on a combination of prior scholarship and portfolio materials.

Watkins Community Education Young Artist Program Scholarship
$2,000 over four years
Applicants to the college who have taken at least three Watkins Community Education classes prior to enrollment are eligible to this award. A written recommendation from the Director of the Community Education program is required.

Watkins Pre-college Program Scholarship
$4,000 over four years
Awarded to applicants who have successfully completed the Watkins Pre-College program and who are accepted into any of the Watkins College of Art, Design & Film BFA or BA programs.

Tennessee Governor’s School for the Arts Scholarship
$4,000 over four years
Awarded to applicants who have successfully completed the Tennessee Governor’s School for the Arts within three years of application to Watkins; one award per recipient.

Kentucky Governor’s School for the Arts Scholarship
$4,000 over four years
Awarded to applicants who have successfully completed the Kentucky Governor’s School for the Arts within three years of application to Watkins; one award per recipient.

National Portfolio Day Scholarship
Amount and duration vary
Students who receive a portfolio review by a Watkins representative at a National Portfolio Day
event in the year prior to entry are eligible to be considered for a scholarship. The amount awarded is based on the quality of their portfolio as determined by the college’s reviewer and range from $4,000 to $20,000 over four years. To view the current years’ schedule, go to www.portfolioday.net.

**Renaissance Scholarship**
$1,000 to $4,000 over four years
Awarded to non-traditional students who have been out of school for 10 or more years, based on a review of application materials. Up to four scholarships are awarded per year.

**Onyx Diversity Scholarship**
$1,000 to $4,000 for up to four years
Preference is given to members of the African-American community. Students must show high levels of commitment and artistic talent, as well as demonstrate financial need per their FAFSA application. Up to four scholarships are awarded per year.

**Creatividad Diversity Scholarship**
$1,000 to $4,000 for up to four years
Preference is given to members of the Hispanic community. Students must show high levels of commitment and artistic talent, as well as demonstrate financial need per their FAFSA application. Up to four scholarships are awarded per year.

**Tennessee Education Lottery Scholarships**
Watkins College of Art, Design & Film is designated as a recipient of the Hope Scholarship offered by the State of Tennessee to eligible Tennessee high school graduates and non-traditional Tennessee students (age 25 and older). Questions about qualifications to receive these awards should be directed to www.collegepaysTN.com.

**Out-of-State Matching Lottery Scholarships**
Up to $2,500 per year for up to 4 years
If an out-of-state applicant is eligible for a financial award from a state lottery education scholarship and will lose that award if attending a college out-of-state, Watkins will match the award up to a maximum of $2,500 per year. Recipient must submit details of the state lottery award, including award criteria to the Director of Admissions at least one month prior to the beginning of the semester. The award will be renewed for up to four years as long as the recipient maintains a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher and registers for twelve or more credits a semester.

**Yellow Ribbon Program**
Watkins is a participant in the Yellow Ribbon GE Education Enhancement Program, a provision of the Post 9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008. This program allows degree granting institutions of higher learning to voluntarily enter into an agreement with VA to fund tuition expenses that exceed the highest public in-state undergraduate tuition rate. Up to five entering students each year will be eligible to receive this benefit.
Continuing Students
Watkins rewards talent and scholarship achievement in our continuing students. Trustee and Presidential Awards are given based on the cumulative grade point average at the end of the spring semester. The full amount is based on registering for twelve or more credits per semester; amount is pro-rated for less than twelve. The award amount is split between the fall and the spring semester.
Trustee Award (GPA 3.25 to 3.64) - $500
Presidential Award (GPA 3.65 to 4.00) - $1,000

Sponsored Scholarships
Sponsored scholarships are awarded by Watkins through various competitions and exhibitions held in the visual arts. Students looking to be eligible for any of these awards should contact the sponsoring agency of the particular event. Information can also usually be found through the visual arts department of your local high school. Awards must be used within three years of receipt. All awards are dependent upon a successful application to Watkins College of Art, Design & Film. If an applicant has won multiple awards from the same competition or exhibition, only one scholarship will be awarded by Watkins and the highest value award will prevail. For example, if the student has received four gold key awards, two in a prior year and two in the current year, he or she will receive one $1,000 scholarship from Watkins.

Current sponsored scholarships include:

Scholastic Gold Key Award www.scholastic.com/artandwritingawards/enter.htm
$1,000, first year only

Scholastic American Visions Award www.scholastic.com/artandwritingawards/enter.htm
$1,500, first year only

Scholastic Portfolio Silver Medalists www.scholastic.com/artandwritingawards/enter.htm
$4,000 over four years

Scholastic Portfolio Gold Medalists www.scholastic.com/artandwritingawards/enter.htm
$6,000 over four years

Nashville Film Festival Young Filmmaker Award www.nashvillefilmfestival.org
$20,000 over four years

East, Middle and West Tennessee Regional Student Art Exhibition Awards
From $4,000 to $12,000 over four years
Amount depends on category of award received from the issuing competition. If a student wins multiple awards, the highest award will prevail.
Ohio Governor’s Youth Art Exhibition “Top 25” Award [www.govart.org](http://www.govart.org)
$16,000 over four years

Kentucky AEA All-State High School Art Exhibition and Competition Awards [www.kyaea.org](http://www.kyaea.org)
$4,000 to $10,000 over four years

T Tauri Young Filmmakers Competition Award
$1,000 first-year only award
Presented to each of the principals of the winning film (director, screenwriter, cinematographer, editor.)

Alabama Regional Scholastic Gold Key Art Awards [www.aaeaonline.org](http://www.aaeaonline.org)
1,000 first-year only award

Atlanta High School Art Exhibition at the Dogwood Festival
$2,000 to $8,000 over four years
Amount depends on level of award as determined by the exhibition committee.

Dogwood Arts Festival Student Art Exhibition – Knoxville, TN
$4,000 to $12,000 over four years
Amount depends on level of award as determined by festival committee.

In addition, a variety of scholarship awards are given to student winners of the following film festivals:
Tupelo Film Festival – [www.tupelofilmfestival.net](http://www.tupelofilmfestival.net)
Phantoscope Film Festival – [www.richmondartmuseum.org/film/](http://www.richmondartmuseum.org/film/)
River City Film Festival – [www.rivercityfilmfestival.org](http://www.rivercityfilmfestival.org)
Reel Generation Film Festival – [www.realgenerationfestival.com](http://www.realgenerationfestival.com)
Golden Lion Film Festival – Cincinnati, Ohio