

WELLS FARGO CITIZENSHIP AWARD

Presented by the VHSL

The Virginia High School League and Wells Fargo Bank have once again combined forces, this time in an effort to reward the exemplary student by presenting the annual Wells Fargo Citizenship Award. The program will offer six \$1,000 scholarships for graduating seniors wishing to further their education at an institution of higher learning, including universities, colleges and trade schools.

For the purpose of this award, citizenship is defined as:

- ◆ contributions to the family, school and community, or to the arts, the environment, education, health or human services through volunteer efforts;
- ◆ specific behavior or actions which put others first, including exceptional examples of sportsmanship in athletic or academic activities or exemplary acts in coming to the assistance of those in need; and/or
- ◆ overcoming the odds, moving beyond significant hardships or family or societal difficulties to enhance the quality of life for others.

The Process

Six \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded during the school year, honoring in each Group (A, AA & AAA), a male and female student-participant who demonstrates outstanding traits of citizenship in his/her high school career. Only students graduating from a VHSL member school during the school year will be eligible for these awards.

Each VHSL member school may enter one male and one female student (a separate application is required for each individual).

Students must have previously participated in one or more of the following VHSL activities to be eligible for the award: creative writing, debate, drama, forensics, magazines, newspapers/newsmagazines, scholastic bowl, yearbook, sportsmanship summit/committee, leaders conference, baseball, basketball, cheer, cross country, field hockey, football, golf, gymnastics, lacrosse, soccer, softball, swimming and diving, tennis, track (indoor and outdoor), volleyball and wrestling.

All applications must be submitted to the VHSL office by the member school principal. Applications must be postmarked by March 15. **NO LATE APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

A statewide committee of educators and Wells Fargo representatives will review all nominations and select the winners.

Awards will be selected based on the following criteria:

- ◆ graduation at the end of the current school year
- ◆ participation in at least one activity offered by the League
- ◆ contributions to family, school and community
- ◆ promotion of good citizenship and sportsmanship
- ◆ two letters of support, one from a school official and one from any other non-family member with knowledge of applicant's contributions to citizenship
- ◆ essay (must be typed and should be between 500 and 1000 words) by the student

The Awards

Winners will receive plaques and a \$1,000 scholarship. All scholarship money will be paid directly to the institution of higher learning selected by the winner for the first year of course work. Scholarship winners must be enrolled at the institution by October 1, 2012, to receive the award.

The VHSL

Virginia's public high schools, through their alliance as the Virginia High School League, serve their youth by establishing and maintaining standards for student activities and competitions that promote education, personal growth, sportsmanship, leadership and citizenship.

The VHSL believes:

- ◆ in providing educational opportunities for students beyond the classroom
- ◆ in ensuring fairness and equity through safe competitions
- ◆ in paving the way for personal growth
- ◆ in offering opportunities for students to develop teamwork and leadership skills
- ◆ in promoting sportsmanship, ethics and integrity
- ◆ in building better citizens through student activities

Wells Fargo Bank

Wells Fargo is pleased to carry on the proud tradition of recognizing outstanding student-citizens throughout the commonwealth of Virginia. Wells Fargo's sponsorship of the Citizenship Award is indicative of the deep belief that the future of this state is dependent on the strong ethical character of its children—tomorrow's leaders. Anything that Wells Fargo can do to encourage the development of good character, leadership and commitment to community is deserving of the bank's support. The hard work and integrity exhibited by these dedicated young people can only represent an enrichment to Virginia's future.

Wells Fargo and the VHSL enjoy a strong partnership through such youth recognition programs as the *Wells Fargo Cup*, the *Wells Fargo Sportsmanship, Ethics and Integrity Program* and the *VHSL / Wells Fargo Sportsmanship Summit*.

The Wells Fargo Citizenship Award presented by VHSL, 1642 State Farm Blvd., Charlottesville, VA 22911

APPLICATION

Check one: ___A ___AA ___AAA ___Female ___Male

Student's Name: _____

High School: _____

School Address: _____

City, Zip Code: _____ School Phone: _____

Parents' Names: _____

Home Address: _____

City, Zip Code: _____ Home Phone: _____

Social Security Number: _____

College/University you will attend: _____

Please indicate the activities in which you participated by a check in the appropriate box.

ATHLETICS				
Grade	9	10	11	12
Baseball				
Basketball				
Cheer				
Cross Country				
Field Hockey				
Football				
Golf				
Gymnastics				
Lacrosse				
Soccer				
Softball				
Swimming/Diving				
Tennis				
Track/Field-Indoor				
Track/Field-Outdoor				
Volleyball				
Wrestling				

ACADEMICS				
Grade	9	10	11	12
Creative Writing				
Debate				
Drama				
Forensics				
Magazine				
Newspaper				
Scholastic Bowl				
Yearbook				

STUDENT SERVICES				
Grade	9	10	11	12
VHSL Leaders Conference				
Sportsmanship Committee				

List any awards related to citizenship:

I verify the eligibility of this student for consideration of the Wells Fargo Citizenship Award presented by the VHSL, based on senior status, graduating in the spring, VHSL activity participation and completion of all requirements listed. I recommend this student based on the character and citizenship the student has shown at this high school and in the community.

Signature of Principal: _____ Date: _____

List all relevant family, school or community activities which demonstrate a commitment to citizenship.

Please note length of service and time commitment for each activity listed. Be specific about the service you provided.

Letters of Recommendation

Two letters of support, one from a school official and one from any other non-family member with knowledge of applicant's qualifications.

Essay

Citizenship, for the purpose of this award, is defined as:

- ◆ contributions to the family, school and community, or to the arts, the environment, education, health or human services through volunteer efforts;
- ◆ specific behavior or actions which put others first, including exceptional examples of sportsmanship in athletic or academic activities or exemplary acts in coming to the assistance of those in need; and/or
- ◆ overcoming the odds, moving beyond significant hardships or family or societal difficulties to enhance the quality of life for others.

Describe what you have done that meets one or more of the definitions of citizenship. Describe your contributions in specific detail and explain how others have benefited. Essays must be typed and should be between 500 and 1000 words.

Signature of Student: _____ Date: _____

IMPORTANT!

All applications **MUST** include two letters of support, one from a school official and one from any other non-family member with knowledge of applicant's contributions to citizenship, a student essay (typed and between 500-1000 words) and **wallet size picture of the applicant.**

Applications must be postmarked by March 15