

## Applying for SOVA Scholarships 2017-2018

Full-time SOVA majors (Studio, VCD, CT and Art History) are eligible to apply for merit-based scholarships offered through the School of Visual Arts at Virginia Tech. Applicants must apply using the University Scholarship Gateway (see below). The period of application for SOVA scholarships is Feb 1-28, 2017.

### How to apply for scholarships through the University Scholarship Gateway:

1. Have your Virginia Tech PID and password ready to log into the [Scholarship Gateway](#).
2. Once you log in, you will see the main menu on the right side of the page. Choose SOVA Scholarship Application.
3. In the gateway, there are two parts to the application. The first screen requires demographic information for the Virginia Tech Office of Financial Aid. Fill out the required information and submit. After that you are automatically taken to the next screen for the SOVA scholarship application where you will fill out and submit more required information. Incomplete applications are not eligible.

The following information is required in order to apply for SOVA scholarships:

- A VT PID/password
- Personal identification info (birthdate, etc.)
- Correct GPA
- Current contact information
- PDF of your résumé
- PDF statement about why you are applying for SOVA scholarships. You should give the faculty on the scholarship committee an idea of why you might merit an award. What are your goals and achievements? How will a scholarship help you meet your goals? Clear content is more important than length.
- Names and contact information for at least three references that can verify your qualifications. Applicants must ask permission of references *before* submitting their information.

### SOVA Scholarship Application FAQ

- The Scholarship Gateway opens on February 1, 2017 and closes at 11:59pm on February 28, 2017. The Scholarship Gateway system will not accept late applications.
- If you applied for a SOVA scholarship in 2017 you can and should apply again the following year. All full-time SOVA majors are encouraged to apply. Winning (or not winning) a scholarship in previous years should not keep you from applying (note that previous awards are not automatically renewed, recipients must reapply each year).
- The School of Visual Arts requires scholarship awardees submit thank you notes or letters to scholarship fund donors. Contact Ray Callahan at [rcallah@vt.edu](mailto:rcallah@vt.edu) for the name of the fund provider of your scholarship award. Thank you letters should be submitted at the SOVA main office in the Armory at 201 Draper Road in Blacksburg. **DO NOT send thank you letters directly to donors.** Letters should be given to Ray in the SOVA main office to be forwarded later.
- Paper applications are not accepted. All applications must be submitted online through the Scholarship Gateway.
- Please direct questions about specific SOVA scholarships to Dr. Simone Paterson at [simpat@vt.edu](mailto:simpat@vt.edu) or Ray Callahan at [rcallah@vt.edu](mailto:rcallah@vt.edu).
- What if I can't get into the system? What if I don't think my application submitted, or I have another technical problem? What if I have a question about Financial Aid outside of SOVA scholarships? Contact staff in [University Scholarships and Financial Aid](#) by email at [finaid@vt.edu](mailto:finaid@vt.edu) or by phone at 540-231-5179.

### Important!

Students *must* meet the criteria set by the University, by the School of Visual Arts and by individual scholarships in order to be eligible for support. You must maintain eligibility through your scholarship period or you risk losing that scholarship.