



READING AREA FIREFIGHTERS MUSEUM, INC.
501 South 5th Street, Reading, PA 19602

website: www.readingareafirefightersmuseum.com
facebook: ReadingPAFireMuseum

January 2023

ANNOUNCEMENT The Board of Directors and Members of the Reading Area Firefighters Museum is pleased to announce the continuation of the John J. Zolomij Memorial Scholarship. This award will be presented to a current Berks County Junior Firefighter in the Spring of 2023.

John J. Zolomij (1947-2020) built a career in museum leadership starting in the 1980s. Mr. Zolomij was recognized nationally, as a distinguished specialist and consultant in art history and museum design. A lifelong educator, John is remembered for leveraging his skills and contacts to uplift people around him, mentoring young people, planning educational tours and serving both friends and strangers in need. John was an esteemed consultant to our Museum, and a friend.

OBJECTIVE The primary aim of this scholarship is to provide a Junior Firefighter, who will become a Fire Company Volunteer Firefighter or EMT, with firefighting gear OR reimbursement for materials that need to be purchased for post secondary education.

AMOUNT The scholarship award amount will be a one time (\$1,000) one thousand dollar reimbursement to the selected candidate.

CRITERIA The candidate needs to provide the Museum Selection Committee with the following information:

- ✓ Log or list of Fire Company activities
- ✓ Short explanation, by candidate, on why they deserve to be selected and future plans
- ✓ Two letters of recommendation from Home Fire Company
(Fire Chief or Assistant / Line Officer / current firefighter (non relative))

Participation in an interview is a requirement for all Scholarship Finalists
Please see attached for more information and Application Form
and refer any questions to: kbjr16@comcast.net

APPLICANT INFORMATION SHEET

Reading Area Firefighters Museum John J. Zolomij Memorial Scholarship Junior Firefighters of Berks County

Objective – To provide a Junior Firefighter, who will become a Fire Company Volunteer, with firefighting gear (helmet, turnout, etc.) of their choice or school materials that they need to purchase to continue their post high school education (example – college, trade school, nursing school) to a maximum of one thousand dollars (\$1,000). If selected, applicant who chooses the post high school materials option must also present a letter of acceptance from said institution.

Candidate selected for the scholarship must then provide receipts for (\$1,000) scholarship reimbursement. Any Junior Firefighter who resides in Berks County and who will become a fire company volunteer firefighter or EMS between November 1, 2022 and May 30, 2023 is eligible.

Criteria – Candidate needs to provide Museum Selection Committee with information on: (* please type)

- ✓ Log of Fire Company activities *
- ✓ Short explanation by candidate on why they deserve to be selected and future plans*
- ✓ Two letters of recommendation from home Fire Company by Fire Chief or Assistant Chief / Line Officer / current firefighter (non-relative)

Applications – Please copy if additional applications are needed, or you may stop by the Museum on Thursdays from 9 to noon or Saturdays 10 to 2 for additional applications.

Timeline - All applications must be received by March 31, 2023
Winner announced April 15, 2023

Selection Committee - Selection Committee shall decide the winner, using a blind evaluation process, based on a scale of one (1) to (10) ten (10 being highest) in each of three areas. (Log of Activities * / Short Explanation* / Letters of Recommendation)

In the event of a tie, Museum Board of Directors shall select the winner. The members of the RAFM extend an invitation to all applicants to visit and tour the Museum. As an incentive to encourage your visit, we offer a free personal tour to you and a guest.

Participation in an interview is a requirement for all Scholarship Finalists.

APPLICATION FORM

**Reading Area Firefighters Museum
John J. Zolomij Memorial Scholarship
Junior Firefighters of Berks County**

Name _____

Address _____

Date of Birth _____ Age _____

Home Fire Company _____

Began service with above fire company (approximate date)

_____ Your Phone # _____

Please remember to type * and attach the following to this sheet of paper :

- ✓ List or attach a log of fire company activities*
- ✓ Short explanation of why you deserve to be selected and future plans *
- ✓ Two letters of recommendation by any Chief Officers & current firefighter (non-relative)

Forward this application form along with above items requested to:

Harry Koppenberg
1865 Berks Street
Reading, PA 19604

Please refer any questions, tour arrangements or any other requests to:
kbjr16@comcast.net

Application forms may be duplicated