

Sokol USA Farrell

Steve Banjak Memorial Scholarship

Application Form



Brother Steve Banjak lived his whole life believing in and supporting the ideals of the Sokol movement founded by Dr. Miroslav Tyrš in the Czech Republic and established by Ivan Branislav Zoch in Slovakia. Brother Banjak was active in the gymnasium since he was introduced to Sokol when he was 14 years old; stopping only when his advanced age and health did not permit it. As President, he led our lodge for a period of 50 years to become one of the most successful lodges in the Slovak Gymnastic Union Sokol, USA. Brother Banjak also held almost every office in District Svätopluk, including President. In 1958 he was President of the Committee responsible for the very successful XIII Slet held in Cleveland, Ohio. The lodge has unanimously voted to name this scholarship in his honor as a way to remember him for his many years of service to Sokol. The first recipient was announced at the 100th anniversary celebration of the lodge held at the Radisson Hotel on May 20, 2006.

1. _____
(Last Name) (First Name) (Middle Initial)
2. _____
(Street Address) (City, State, Zip)
3. _____ 4. _____
(Telephone Number) (Number of years a member of Sokol USA Farrell)
5. _____
(Email Address)
6. _____
(High School where you received your diploma) (Year Graduated)
7. _____
(Accepted to OR attending which College/University)
8. _____
(Reference Name and position/relationship to you) (Reference Name and position/relationship to you)

Requirements to complete application follow:

Requirements for eligibility and the method used to rank applicants for the “Steve Banjak Memorial Scholarship” are as follows:

Beginning with the academic year 2010-2011, the award will be \$1,000.

1. A member in good standing of the Slovak Gymnastic Union Sokol, USA in Farrell, PA for a minimum of three years. (Non compliance = disqualification)
2. High School diploma or equivalent. (Non compliance = disqualification)
3. Acceptance to an accredited school of higher education with degree programs. *A letter of acceptance to the school to which you plan to attend must accompany this application OR if you are already attending, an official transcript must accompany this application.* (Non compliance = disqualification))
4. Two letters of reference from non-related persons (at least one from a former teacher) attesting to the character and ability of the applicant. *The letters must accompany this application.* (2 points)
5. Evidence of “service” either to Sokol or the community at large. *A letter from an official or person supervising your activity must accompany this application.* (Up to 3 points)
6. An essay of one page written in your own hand, describing an activity or event in your life in which you strove to accomplish a task as close to perfection as possible. ***Please use the attached sheet to write your essay.*** (Up to 3 points)
7. Fully completed application and letters of reference must be sent by U.S. Postal Delivery by May 15 of each year. (2 points)

A maximum of 10 points is possible.

Previous recipients are welcome to apply; only the first page of this application and an official transcript of grades need to be submitted. Preference will be given to first time applicants.

Send Application and accompanying documents to Bro. Melvin Slezak, Committee Chairman; 6850 Seneca Road; Sharpville, PA 16150. The Scholarship will be announced at the Annual Meeting of Sokol USA Farrell which is held on the first Sunday in June of each year.

Applicants are encouraged to also apply for the “Milan Getting Scholarship” which is granted by the National Office of Sokol USA; Box 189; 276 Prospect Street; East Orange, NJ 07019-0189.

Previous Recipients of the Steve Banjak Memorial Scholarship are:

2006 Oleksandra Banjak
2008 Katie Shebeck
2010 Robin Platte
2012 Bibiana Murcko
Robin Platte

2007 Oleksandra Banjak
2009 Lucia Murcko
2011 Bibiana Murcko
2013 Daniel Konopski



