



PACIFIC OKINAWA PLAYERS

2026

ED KIRSTEIN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

The Pacific Okinawa Players (POPs) recognize the importance of the Performing Arts and is sponsoring several generous scholarships to be awarded to graduating SOFA-status seniors planning to pursue higher educational studies in the Performing Arts. Qualified applicants are not required to major in Performing Arts but must intend to continue to take classes and increase their proficiency in this field.

You **must** include the following along with the application:

1. A copy of the acceptance letter from the college or university of your choice.
2. Letter of endorsement from your drama, music or dance instructor or from a person familiar with your performing arts experience. You may choose to have them fill out the attached statement of endorsement or they can email their endorsement to popsscholarship@gmail.com.
3. Your current GPA as shown via a high school transcript (can be an unofficial copy).
4. List of your artistic involvement/experience/resume in the performing arts. Be sure to include classes or lessons both private and in school.
5. An essay, typed, one page, double spaced on the following topic:
What attracted you to the performing arts and what do you hope to accomplish upon completion of your higher studies?

Applications must be sent via email to popsscholarship@gmail.com with the subject line "Scholarship Application". Applications are due by **Friday, April 24, 2026**.

Applicants will need to prepare a performance piece or technical presentation to present to the POPS selection committee. Performance pieces should be no more than 5 minutes long. Applicants will need to furnish any props or set pieces needed, except for chairs. Applicants will need to provide their own accompanist, or applicants may use recorded music without backing vocals as necessary. A speaker with Bluetooth connection will be available. **The auditions will take place on Saturday, May 2, 2026, at the MCCS Community Theater. Auditions will be held from 0900-1200, with applicants being scheduled in 10-minute intervals. Applicants will be informed via email of their specific time slot after the application deadline closes.**

Technical field applicants should prepare a digital portfolio and resume of your credits. Technicians may be from any field connected with the performing arts, to include (but not limited to) lighting, sound, directing, costume design, set design, etc.

Scholarship recipients are invited to perform their audition piece and receive their award at our Pops End of the Year Celebration. This will take place on Friday May 29, 2026 at Tengan Castle on Camp Courtney. More information will be shared with Scholarship winners.

Applications and performances pieces/digital portfolios will be viewed by the Pacific Okinawa Players Scholarship Committee. Decisions for the selection will be based upon your performance piece or portfolio (40%), academic achievement (5%), artistic involvement (25%), letter of endorsement (5%), and your essay (25%). The committee will decide on scholarship recipients no later than May 9, 2026. Applicants will be notified via email of the scholarship committee's decision. If you have any questions, please contact popsscholarship@gmail.com. Break a leg.

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ED KIRSTEIN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Application must be legible. Please type or print neatly. Please ensure that photocopied attachments are legible.

Name:

Address:

Email Address:

Telephone number:

Year of Graduation:

High School Name:

Current HS GPA (as of the end of 7th semester and *attach a copy of a transcript for verification*):

List your talent(s) or field(s) of study which qualifies you for this scholarship:

College or University applied to:

Date of acceptance:

(Attach a copy of the acceptance letter.)

Experience:

Letter of Endorsement:

I, _____ recommend
(name of person endorsing the student)

_____ to receive the Ed Kierstein Memorial Scholarship from the
(Applicant's name)

Pacific Okinawa Players.

(Signature of person endorsing student)

(email address)

(Title)

(Date)