

PURPOSE:

As part of our commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion, and access, the Hyla Merit Scholarship fund exists to make Hyla's upper school tuition more accessible to more students and is available for students entering their first year of Hyla's upper school. The award is maintained through each subsequent year. The Flexible Tuition Committee reviews scholarship applications and distributes available funds based on qualifications of student merit, financial need, and availability of funds.

AWARD CRITERIA:

Hyla Merit Scholarships are based on two factors:

1. Student Merit: Hyla Merit Scholarships reflect our school values of inclusion, participation, accomplishment, sportsmanship, academic courage, self-awareness, social-emotional health, and service/activism. Hyla Merit Scholarships are awarded to students who demonstrate commitment, growth, accomplishment, and/or leadership in any of the following areas:
 - Academics: This looks like intellectual courage, motivation, sustained engagement, perseverance, and positive contribution to any learning environment (school, camp, workshop, etc.). Students who apply should consistently demonstrate the following work habits: completion of classwork and homework, stretching themselves academically, and completing assignments and creating projects that are representative of their best effort and work.
 - Athletics: Beyond sportsmanship (the fair and honest treatment of others), this looks like integrity, encouragement of others, and perseverance in any athletic endeavor, such as team sports, dance, martial arts, or long-distance running.
 - Activism/Service: This looks like contribution to a cause or effort through sustained engagement, collaboration, outreach, and co-creation.
 - Extra-curricular Activities: This looks like enthusiastic and sustained commitment, progress towards goals, encouragement of others, and positive contributions beyond attendance and practice.
2. Financial Need: Please complete an application for Flexible Tuition through Clarity by **February 1, 2024** ([Click here](#) for more information and for the application). Merit scholarship awards can supplement tuition assistance awards.

TIMELINE:

Please submit completed applications by **February 1, 2024** to Suzanne at suzannem@hylaschool.org.

THANK YOU!

STUDENT NAME: _____

GRADE IN 2024-2025: ☐ 9 ☐ 10 ☐ 11 ☐ 12

1. STUDENT ESSAY QUESTION

Please choose from the questions below and answer ONLY ONE in a written essay (250 – 500) words. In lieu of an essay, students are welcome to reply in a different format, such as a painting, poem, presentation, or other format, and then present their work in an in-person interview.

- A. The Hyla motto, “We take care of each other” speaks to the rhythm of giving and receiving that defines community: sometimes we are the outstretched hand seeking help, and sometimes we are the one giving the help, but we are always working together. Please tell us about how you see yourself as a leader in a community that welcomes diversity, includes others, collaborates, serves others, and actively practices a growth-mindset.
- B. Please read Hyla’s upper school guiding framework (found on the website) made up of six sets of educational behaviors. Please choose a set that speaks to you and tell us about how you would put it into practice in high school at Hyla.
- C. Please describe a teacher or an educational experience that has influenced you in the past, and how that experience will shape what you bring and share in high school at Hyla.
- D. Please select a topic of global significance (such as climate change, social justice, etc.) and discuss why this topic is important to you personally, why it deserves global attention, and how you would make a meaningful contribution to its progress as a student at high school student at Hyla.
- E. In an increasingly interconnected world, global citizenship is an essential practice and awareness. To support the growth of citizenship in our students, we create opportunities for students to engage with others – our Winslow neighbors, groups based in Seattle, and with the global community beyond our borders. All Hyla students are expected to learn from and with others, engage with difference, collaborate, and contribute – all essential practices of citizenship. Please describe the importance of citizenship and how you will exemplify it both in the classroom and beyond the classroom.

2. PARENT PORTION

- A. Please tell us why Hyla is the right school for your student.
- B. Please tell us about how your student would make a positive contribution to Hyla's upper school program.
- C. To help our committee understand your financial circumstances and needs, please:
 - 1. Complete a Flexible Tuition application on Clarity.
 - 2. Indicate what level of scholarship would help put a Hyla education within reach of your family. Please note that this is not a request for a specific amount, nor does it guarantee a scholarship amount.
\$_____ - \$_____.
 - 3. Please explain special financial circumstances we should know about.