

R.L.I.A. GRANT ALLEN SCHOLARSHIP

The Rush Lake Improvement Association is pleased to announce that the scholarship initiated in 2006 will be awarded again this year. The \$2,000 scholarship is dedicated to the memory of Grant Allen Jestus who, at the age of 5, accidentally drowned on West Rush Lake on May 24, 2003.

Eligibility:

- Our 20th annual scholarship opportunity, now \$2,000, is open to any graduating high school student who will be attending any post- secondary school in the Fall of 2026.
- Applicants are not required to be members of the Rush Lake Improvement Association.
- Applicants are not required to be Rush Lake residents.
- If Rush Lake holds a special meaning to you, we encourage you to apply.

Application Process:

Please write an **essay** in response to these questions:

1. What does Rush Lake mean to you? If you were given an opportunity to improve Rush Lake, what changes would you recommend ? Why ?
2. What extra-curricular activities or organizations have you been involved in? Describe your participation: when were you involved? What were your responsibilities? In what ways did your involvement contribute to your education?
3. Have you been employed? When? By whom were you employed? Describe your work responsibilities. What did this experience teach you?
4. What leadership positions have you held? For how long did you hold this position?
5. What recognition, in the form of honors, letters or awards have you received? When?
6. What are your education plans for Fall, 2026? To which post-secondary programs have you applied? What do you hope to study and why?

How to Submit your application:

You may submit your application by email (preferred) or by hard copy.

By **March 28, 2026**, email your essay as a pdf file to: secretary@rlia.net

- OR -

Mail your essay, postmarked by **March 28, 2026** to:

**Grant Allen Scholarship
Rush Lake Improvement Association
P.O. Box 677
Rush City, MN 55069.**

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Rules:

- Grades are not a consideration, there is no need to include your transcript.
- Applicant must have completed an application for admission in Fall, 2026 to one or more post-secondary schools, whether to a college, junior college, community college, trade school, etc.
- Complete a separate, simple **Personal Data Page**, to include your name, home address, phone number and the name of your high school. An email address is required. This personal data will **not** be included for judges who read your essay.
- Your application must be either e-mailed, or postmarked, no later than **March 28, 2026**. Applications with an e-mail date or postmark after **March 28, 2026** will not be accepted.

A committee selected by the R.L.I.A. Board will read and rank the essays. A \$2,000.00 Scholarship will be awarded to the essay receiving the highest rank. In the event of a tie, the committee is authorized to award up to three (3) \$2,000. Scholarships. The scholarships will be presented to the winner or winners at the R.L.I.A. **June 20, 2026** membership meeting at the Nessel Town Hall, 49205 Acacia Trail, Stanchfield, MN 55080. A \$2,000. check will be presented to each recipient during this meeting. The student or students chosen to receive the scholarships will be notified via email the first week of May. Please be sure to provide a current, active email address.