

The Cicely Thomson Scholarship

Fact Sheet

What is The Curtain Club?

Celebrating over 50 years, the Curtain Club has a long history as a centre for artistic appreciation, creativity, literacy, personal development and friendship in Richmond Hill, Ontario. Founded in 1954 with about 25 members, we rehearsed plays in members' homes, built sets in garages and stored costumes in attics while performing in local halls and schools.

In 1961, we moved into a converted service garage off Yonge Street with a 97-seat auditorium. Then, in 1971, with the support of our friends in the community, club members raised funds and hammers to create our current facility at Newkirk and Elgin Mills in Richmond Hill, which opened in 1972.

The Royal Canadian Air Farce, broadcast their first few seasons in our, then new, home in the early 1970's. In the 80's, we expanded our facility to increase our workshop and lobby spaces and in 2009, we took on a \$1.2 million dollar expansion and renovation to update our theatre for accessibility, washrooms, kitchen and improved heating and air conditioning systems.

Our award winning theatre company produces 5 plays each season and we are proud members of the Association of Community Theatres – Central Ontario.

What is The Cicely Thomson Scholarship?

The purpose of **The Cicely Thomson Scholarship**, is to encourage and promote the attainment of higher educational goals in "The Arts" for individuals who have demonstrated a high level of academic achievement, have made a positive contribution to their school through involvement in extracurricular activities and have made significant contributions of time and energy to community service programs.

The Cicely Thomson Scholarship is a long-term, ongoing initiative funded by **The Curtain Club**. It annually awards one-year scholarships of \$500 to recipients who live in Richmond Hill. The number of scholarships is determined annually by the Curtain Club's Board of Directors. The Appointee in charge of the administration of the Scholarship is Joan Burrows.

Who is Eligible?

A student who resides in Richmond Hill and is enrolled as a full time student at an accredited secondary school, currently in their graduating year of high school, and who will be attending a post-secondary institution in the Fall to pursue a course of study leading to a degree or diploma in the arts (with a preference to Dramatic/Theatre Arts) from the accredited community college or university of their choice. Applicants must obtain a Secondary School Diploma.

What are the Selection Criteria?

In addition to the candidate's academic abilities, the Board of Directors will evaluate the candidate's contribution to their school and their community through their involvement in extracurricular activities. Contributions to the community may be demonstrated by involvement in local clubs, organizations and community activities.

Who was Cicely Thomson?

The late Cicely Thomson was a founding member of The Curtain Club (1954) and accomplished actor and director. She was one of the first directors on the board of Theatre Ontario (1971) dedicated to the development and maintenance of high

quality theatre in all parts of the province that is accessible to and reflects all segments of our society. Cicely passed away on August 22, 2005.

What is the timing?

Each year The Cicely Thomson Scholarship program is *launched on October 1st*. All applications must be *submitted by January 31st* of the following year. Note, packages "post-marked" after January 31st will not be accepted. Proof of acceptance at an accredited post-secondary institution in a program that meets the criteria must be submitted separately and received no later than April 30th. Recipients are notified via mail and/or phone in late May of each year.

How does a student apply?

To obtain an ***Application Form*** please **visit our website on or after October 1st at www.thecurtainclub.org** and link to **Cicely Thomson Scholarship** to download an application form.

Any Other Questions?

If you have any questions or require further information about the **Cicely Thomson Scholarship**, send a message to info@thecurtainclub.org (address your question to Attention Cicely Thomson Scholarship).

Mailing Instructions

Each completed Application Form must be forwarded with all the required documents, as set out in the detailed instructions, and returned to The Cicely Thomson Scholarship in one envelope. No application will be considered unless this procedure is followed. NOTE: Only one Application Form (with enclosures) should be enclosed *in the envelope*.

NOTE: PLEASE USE A LARGE STANDARD ENVELOPE; DO NOT FOLD THE APPLICATION FORM.

The envelope should be addressed to:

Ms. Joan Burrows
Cicely Thomson Scholarship
The Curtain Club
400 Newkirk Road
Richmond Hill, ON L4C 3G7

Please add your return address on the upper left corner of envelope.

NOTIFICATION

Only successful candidates will be notified. Notification will occur by May 31.

Thank you.