Education Committee Annual Report for 2025

Members: John Paluch (Chair), Ernie Brauchli, Fred Glure, Chungin Park, Silvia Schmid-Rykowski, Robert Streit

The Education Committee funded four scholarship programs in 2025. This is our 28th year working with the Concordia Language Villages and they continue to substantially support the cost of our scholarships by contributing $395 per scholarship to each of our scholarship recipients. Some of our students were able to attend two-week sessions, because of their application for Passport Scholarships from the Villages.

We once again awarded Merit Scholarships to Chicago Public School graduating seniors and Undergraduate Scholarships to students of Swiss ancestry. For the sixth year, our administrator, Ursula Furrer, facilitated the collection of all applications using emails and attachments, thus streamlining the application process. The members of the Education Committee are very pleased that the SBS can continue to support so many different students from metropolitan Chicago, Illinois, Wisconsin and Indiana. The SBS paid out **$50,075** in scholarship money to grade school, high school and college students during the 2025-2026 academic year.

Our Four Scholarship Programs

World Camp Scholarships at the Alliance Française

Based on productive discussions with the SBS, the Lycée Française initiated a scholarship program on a trial basis for the summer of 2025. The SBS supported three scholarships, one each in German, French, and Italian for CPS students. There were a total 9 applications and 8 scholarship recipients funded by the SBS, AF and other donors. The recipients ranged in age between 7-13. Other partners in this program are the German International School of Chicago and the Scuola Italiana *Enrico Fermi.* The SBS paid **$5,025.**

Merit Scholarships

Merit Scholarships support highly qualified, low-income students in Chicago Public Schools with plans to study at a four-year college. We are continuing to work with Lane Tech College Prep, Gwendolyn Brooks College Preparatory Academy and George Westinghouse College Prep and all three schools were able to provide us applications. This year the committee awarded one scholarship each to students at Lane and Brooks and two scholarships to students from Westinghouse, resulting in a total of expenditure of **$8,000.**

Undergraduate College Support Scholarships

The Undergraduate College Scholarships provide support to students of Swiss heritage. There were 16 applicants and winners this year: four in Category I (Seniors in High School), five in Category II (First Year in College), and seven in Category III (Sophomores or Juniors in College). *4 students: $1,750 scholarship, one student: $1,750, seven students: $2,000, Two student: $2,250 and two students: $2,500. The total amount of scholarships awarded was **$30,750.**

Language Immersion Scholarships for Concordia Language Villages

We awarded four one-week scholarships and one 2-week scholarships. The total value of the language sessions was **$8,275,** and we paid **$6,300** to the Villages**.**

All 2025-2026 winners are listed here and on the SBS web page at: http://www.sbschicago.org**.** Applications for the 2026-27 year scholarships are available on our webpage.

Winners of the World Camp Scholarships ($5025) (Lycée Française)

Jude Montoya, French, LaSalle
Camille Vennettilli, Italian, Coonley
Sean Greif, German, Ravenswood

Winners of the Merit Scholarships 2025/2026 ($8,000)

Brown, Daniel	Westinghouse College Prep
Netisingha, Brooklyn	Gwendolyn Brooks College Prep
Romero, Maria	Westinghouse College Prep
Travnikov, Arssenii	Lane Tech College Prep

Winners of the SBS Undergraduate Scholarships 2025/2026

Group I – High School Seniors

Bohren, Olivia, $1,750
Giacomuzzi, Jessica, $1,750
Kimbrel, Lennon, $1750
Rey, Heidi Lee, $1750

Group II – First Year Students

Corder, Schandy, $2,000
Dubsky, Joseph, $2,000
Dybro, Ryan, $2,000
Faessler, Kaeana, $2,000
Kimbrel, Griffin, $2,000

Group III Sophomores & Juniors

Freitag, Adam, $2,000
Homberger, Eileen, $2,500
Kaegi, Sophie, $2,500
Mahtys, Claire, $2,000
Paschound, Lauren, $2,250
Watkins, David, $2,250
Rey, Hanna, $2,000

Concordia Language Village Awards Summer 2025

1-week sessions – (Value = $1395), 2-week sessions – (Value = $2695)

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French Sessions 1-week sessions
Knable-Regenscheit, Essence
Marino-Beard, Simone
Rakowitz, Renée

German Sessions 1-week session
Macias-Panmunee, Jaidee

AATG-Prize Winner – 2-week session
Landig, Caleb