**Ruth Piwonka Student Scholarship Award**

**GIVEN: Annually in June**

**In Memory of Ruth Piwonka (1941-2021)**

To honor Ruth Piwonka, beloved Trustee Emeritus of the Board of the Jacob Leisler Institute, who passed away in August 2021, the Institute has established an annual scholarship in Ruth’s name to be given to a student who is accepted at an accredited college or university and has declared, or an intention to declare, a major in history. The application is to be submitted by the student’s guidance counselor. This application must be submitted by May 1st and a student will be selected by June 1st .

**Award Details and Requirements:**

The Institute asks that the student’s application for the scholarship be supported by one letter of recommendation from a social studies instructor familiar with the student’s interest in history. Students seeking the scholarship are to submit the application to the Jacob Leisler Institute in the form of a brief 250–400-word essay, on a separate sheet of paper, providing a brief biography and a description of their interest in history. The latter might include any school or outside history-related activities the applicant has participated in. Acceptance to an accredited college or university and the student’s essay, plus the above-mentioned letter of recommendation will suffice to be considered for the scholarship. The Jacob Leisler Institute Board will choose two people affiliated with the Institute to read applications and choose one student for the scholarship, of a $500 minimum amount.

**Ruth Piwonka:**

Ruth was a Columbia County, New York, historian. Former executive director of the Columbia County Historical Society, 1976–1983, she co-authored with Roderic Blackburn *A Visible Heritage. Columbia County, New York. A History in Art and Architecture* (1977)and *Remembrance of Patria* (1988); she also wrote A *Portrait of Livingston Manor* (1986), among numerous other works. At her death she was Kinderhook Village Historian.

Ruth’s affiliations in Columbia County were broad, covering school districts throughout the county. The scholarship is open to students in the school districts that Ruth affected. These are:

Academy of Christian Leadership (private).

Berkshire School District

Chatham Central School District.

Columbia Christian Academy (private)

Columbia Greene Community Collage

Darrow School (private).

Germantown Central School District.

Hawthorne Valley School (private).

Hudson City School District.

Ichabod Crane Central School District.

New Lebanon Central School District.

Taconic Hills Central School District

**NAME OF STUDENT: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**ADDRESS\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**EMAIL\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**ACCEPTED COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Recommendation from school social studies instructor:**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**School\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Student’s area of interests, projects, programs, events, and community service details. Please provide a brief 250–400-word on a separate sheet of paper:**

**Signed by teacher making recommendation:**

**NAME\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Print Student Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_date\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**RUTH PIWONKA JACOB LEISLER INSTITUTE STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP AWARD:**

**Awarded to: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Detailed Information about recipient for a Press Release:**

**Scholarship submissions should be mailed along with a history teacher’s letter of recommendation to the Jacob Leisler Institute, P.O box 86, 46 Green Street, Hudson, New York 12534-0086 or e-mailed to: Info@jacobleislerinstitute.org**