

Nick Harkins Memorial Scholarship

Sponsored by The Piddington Family

\$500 College Scholarship for Promising Writer on the Topic of Diversity Graduating in 2026

Scholarship Entry Rules

1. Only one entry per student will be accepted.
2. Candidate must be a graduating senior.
3. Candidate should be college bound by fall 2026.
4. Candidates should create an original written entry specifically for this scholarship award.

Submission Process

- ☐ Completed scholarship application form.
- ☐ Letter from student stating his/her experience in dealing with issues caused by diversity.
- ☐ Entries must focus on any theme related to diversity, equity and/or inclusion. May be descriptive and/or issue orientated and may be of any genre.
- ☐ Entries will consist of one written work which may be as brief as a haiku or as long as six pages of poetry or prose, which can include any form such as non-fiction, fiction, poetry, personal opinion, journalism, or any other that suits the author's purpose.
- ☐ Entries should be double-spaced and in 12 point Times New Roman font. (Larger font and/or bold or italicized print may be used in titles, headings, or sparingly as a stylistic tool in the work.) Number all pages.
- ☐ Entries must include a statement of originality **signed by the student, parent/legal guardian, and a teacher/mentor or counselor.** The statement of originality may include any information the student chooses. However, the student must include, **in his/her own handwriting**, the following statement: *The enclosed writing sample is my original work.*
- ☐ Submit two copies of work in an essay folder (both copies can be in same folder).

Though it should be submitted in conjunction with LAD Fair entries, this scholarship is not part of the LAD Fair writing competition, and an applicant should *not* use a LAD Fair entry sheet as the application for this competition. Use the Nick Harkins Memorial Application Form.

Mail entry to:

Casey Daugherty
Nick Harkins Scholarship
Republic High School
4370 Repmo Drive
Republic, MO 65738

Questions?

Contact: Kim Piddington
kpiddington62@gmail.com

DEADLINE: Postmarked by March 20, 2026 or delivered in person to Republic High School, 4370 Repmo Drive, Republic, MO by 4:30 p.m. on March 27, 2026.

2026 Nick Harkins Memorial Scholarship Application

Diversity Issues

The Piddington family is sponsoring a scholarship to honor the memory of Nick Harkins, who passed away in October 2013 due to a very rare and deadly brain disease PML. Nick lived his short life to the fullest, embracing it with gusto, love, and an infectious laugh. He was truly “one of a kind” and stood up proudly for what he believed. Hopefully this scholarship in his memory will remind others that even if you walk a different path than the majority, you are not walking alone. Entries must focus on any theme related to diversity, equity and/or inclusion. May be descriptive and/or issue orientated and may be of any genre.

Fill out form COMPLETELY!

Student's Name: _____

Parents'/Guardians' Names: _____

Home Address: _____

Student's Phone/Text: _____ Student's email: _____

College you plan to attend (if known): _____

High School: _____

Sponsor's Name: _____ Sponsor's Phone/Text: _____

Completely follow the submission process detailed on the NICK HARKINS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY and include this form with your submission. Your submission may be included with a member's LAD Fair writing entries and delivered in person to Republic High School, 4370 Repmo Drive, Republic, MO by 4:30 p.m. on March 27, 2026, or postmarked no later than March 20, 2026 when mailed.

***CHECK LAD website (ladfair.com) for latest information
for submitting mailed or in-person entries.***