

The Kirk Memorial Scholarship

This annual scholarship, administered under the auspices of the Woodbury Historical Society, honors Margaret S. and Adam Kirk, educators and community leaders well known in the area for over 50 years. Both had wide-ranging talents and interests and were lifelong learners in the truest sense.

Margaret Kirk was particularly interested in local history and drama. Her family was among the earliest Woodbury residents, and she was instrumental in the formation of the Woodbury Historical Society. She contributed her time, expertise, and memorabilia to the Society continuously until her death in 1991 while also assisting with the design of the auditorium stages at the present Central Valley Elementary School (then Monroe Woodbury Jr./Sr. High School) and North Junior High School in Newburgh, both of which featured some of the finest theater spaces at the time in Orange County. She taught English, drama and later was a librarian at Newburgh Free Academy for many years.

Adam Kirk taught science at South Junior High School in Newburgh for over 35 years. For much of that period, he was also a member of the Monroe Woodbury Board of Education, always making sure a teacher's viewpoint was heard by the Board. As a member of the first M-W Board, he was instrumental in the creation of the consolidated Monroe Woodbury district in 1950. Mr. Kirk was also an avid outdoorsman who enjoyed fishing, hiking, camping and teaching friends and family about our natural surroundings. Like a true Renaissance man, he was interested in most everything and enjoyed learning and teaching continuously until his death at age 91 in the year 2000.

The Kirk Memorial Scholarship endeavors to perpetuate the compassion, spirit and intellectual curiosity that both Margaret and Adam exemplified.

Application Guidelines:

The Kirk Scholarship is awarded to a high school senior who is a Town of Woodbury resident. Interested students should contact their Guidance Office for an application, or if that is not possible, the Woodbury Historical Society at (845) 928-6770 or 845-928-6479

Your application should include a detailed resume, a short summary of your intended use of the scholarship, recommendation letters, your transcript, accompanied by the form on the reverse signed by a parent or guardian, and releasing information to the scholarship committee. In addition, the applicant should include a brief statement showing evidence of strong commitment in the following areas:

- 1. Achievement in the sciences, social studies, or dramatic arts.**
- 2. Service to school and/or community demonstrating compassion, integrity, and leadership.**
- 3. Intellectual curiosity and creativity.**

Interviews will be held for all applicants before determining the award recipient(s). The number of scholarships and their amount is determined by the scholarship committee and may vary from year to year. All applicants will be notified of the results, and the scholarship(s) will be awarded at the appropriate high school academic award ceremony (if applicable). Completed applications for the Kirk Please stay tuned for our 2025 application dates, best of luck to our 2024 applicants!

The Kirk Memorial Scholarship

Name of Applicant: _____ Date: _____

Applicant's Phone number: _____

High School: _____ Grade: _____

Applicant's signature: _____

Guidance Counselor (name): _____ (signature): _____

I hereby give permission for my child to apply for this scholarship, and the use of any records or materials required as part of the application process.

Name of parent/guardian: _____ (signature): _____

Statement of purpose (to what end will this scholarship be applied?):

(Attach a separate sheet, if required, along with all other supporting documentation).

(Return to Guidance Office by school deadline or Woodbury Historical Society, P.O. Box 30, Highland Mills, NY 10930. 2025 dates will be announced soon).