Gulf Coast Italian Culture Society, Inc.
Scholarship Committee

c/o Sandra Russell, Chair

E-mail: gcicsscholarship2023@gmail.com

To preserve and promote the cultural heritage of our

GUIDE TO 2027APPLICATION FOR $2,000.00 (Minimum) SCHOLARSHIP
(A minimum of 5 scholarship will be available this year)

Deadline: Completed Application with all Attachments is to be **Postmarked** by March13,2027 (**N.B.** Late or incomplete Applications will not be considered or returned.)

Sandra Russell, Ed.D. Chair
5743 Wilena Place
Sarasota, FL 34238

Eligibility:

1. Meritorious High School Seniors with full or partial Italian ancestry.
2. Students at any public or private high schools in Sarasota County, those in Manatee County, south of the Manatee River. (Bayshore, Central, Lakewood Ranch, Manatee, SouthEast) and Lemon Bay H.S.
3. Minimum overall **unweighted** Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.50, and
4. Minimum SAT combined, verbal & math, of 1200 or ACT composite score of 25.

Bases for Scholarship Award (Listing order not reflective of priority or factor weight)

Academics: GPA, and SAT or ACT scores, as specified above.

Essay -500 word maximum – See App. Section (E) for topic and directions.
(Submisions become the property of GCICS. They may be edited, published or disposed as the GCICS sees fit. Applicant may be asked to read his/her submission at the Award Ceremony.)

School and Community Involvement, including work experience.

Italian Heritage: Lineage factors of applicant's Italian roots may be rated to resolve tie among eligible candidates.

(Applicant **NOT** disqualified due to receipt of financial aid or other scholarship).

Application & Documentation Checklist

_____	Completed GCICS four (4) page Scholarship Application form.	
_____	Resume`	Attachment A
_____	School Transcript (need not be official) with SAT/ACT test scores	Attachment B
_____	Essay [see Application section (E) for topic]	Attachment C
_____	Letters of Recommendation - (1 from Teacher or other school official **PLUS** 1 from a **non**-school official or employee)	Attachments D and E
_____	Copy College Acceptance Letter (if available at submission time)	Attachment F

Finalist must participate in a personal interview by selected commitee members, prior to the final award determination. Interview date is April 3,2027. Successful applicant must also commit to attend the GCICS Award Luncheon Festa, April 17,2027.

Scholarship funds will be mailed directly to the Bursar or other official of the chosen educational institution, with instructions that such funds may be used for any expense processed through such Bursar or other designated financial official.

All Applicants should be aware that Scholarship funds shall not be disbursed to any educational institution until the **GCICS** Scholarship Committee Chair is furnished a copy of the acceptance letter from the selected institution of higher education. The successful Applicant must also provide evidence of registration bearing Student ID Number, as well as a full-time class schedule at such institution at the beginning of the term that starts immediately following high school graduation. The contact data for the school's Bursar or other official to whom the check is to be sent, must also be included.

Unused scholarship funds must be returned to the **GCICS**, c/o the Scholarship Committee Chair, if:

a. The Scholarship Recipient ceases to attend classes, irrespective of reason:
b. The Scholarship Recipient withdraws from school, or
c. Recipient does not fully expend the Scholarship funds.

Should the Scholarship Recipient choose to attend a school other than the one originally selected, or having commenced study at such school decide to transfer to another accredited institution of higher education, the Scholarship Committee Chair must be notified immediately, so that the balance of the funds may be transferred accordingly.

Any funds returned to GCICS that are not transferred to another school will, at the discretion of the GCICS, be awarded to an alternate applicant or used for future awards.

Remember, neatness and legibility impact the evaluation of the application

Sincerely
Sandra Russell, Chair

ABOUT US. Founded in 1990, the Gulf Coast Italian Culture Society, Inc. (GCICS) is an IRS recognized tax exempt §501.(c).(3) non-profit organization whose members spring from all walks of life and ancestral diversity, bonding together to enjoy Italian culture and promote its dissemination and preservation.

The GCICS is committed to supporting future community leaders by offering merit scholarships to area college bound high school seniors of all or partial Italian ancestry. For additional details on GCICS, we invite you to check our website: www.gcics.org.