



## 2012 Model NATO Challenge Scholarship Program

Norfolk NATO Festival (formally Norfolk's International Azalea Festival) is a non-profit organization founded in 1953, just one year after the establishment of NATO's Allied Command Atlantic in Norfolk, Virginia. In that year, the citizens of Norfolk organized a salute to these allied forces in order to create new friendships, provide a basis for cultural exchange, pursue new lines of trade between Norfolk and the world, and to recognize NATO's role in maintaining peace and stability in the world.

Working in cooperation with Norfolk's NATO Headquarters and Norfolk Public Schools, the Festival started the Model NATO Challenge in 2007 to provide a unique opportunity for high school juniors and seniors interested in the advancement of international studies. Students who are selected to participate in the Challenge serve as Student Diplomats in a role playing exercise which simulates real world issues faced by today's NATO Alliance. 28 students and 4 alternates will be chosen to participate and assigned to represent 1 of the 28 NATO member nations.

**Scholarship Description:** This scholarship program is designed to recognize the achievement of those Student Diplomats who have demonstrated excellence in the execution of their assigned responsibilities. Scholarships are paid directly to the college or university of the winning students' choice. 6 scholarships will be awarded at 3 levels: one at \$1,500, three at \$1,000, and two at \$500. Scholarships are non-renewable.

**Where/When:** Model NATO Challenge will be held on **Thursday, March 22, 2012 at Norfolk's NATO Headquarters located on the Norfolk Naval Base, from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM.** Refreshments will be provided. Information regarding transportation to the Headquarters will be available at the orientation.

**Eligibility:** Applicants must be: 1) high school juniors or seniors enrolled and in good standing as a full-time student with intentions of continuing to college or university; and 2) U.S. citizens. **Applicants must submit an essay along with the application by January 13, 2012 (see page 4) in order to be considered for a scholarship.** Materials received after the deadline will not be considered.

**Criteria:** On the day of the Challenge, Student Diplomats will be evaluated on following weighted criteria for the scholarship awards:

Essay – Diplomat's ability to follow formatting instructions	10%
Essay – Diplomat's originality, organization of ideas and accuracy of facts	30%
Model NATO – Diplomat's ability to represent their assigned nation's interests	30%
Model NATO – Diplomat's ability to work towards a consensus with all NATO member nations	30%



## Model NATO Challenge Applicant Requirements

### ***Essay***

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Applicants must submit an essay by **January 13, 2012** along with the application in order to be considered for a scholarship. Materials received after the deadline will not be considered.

The following essay rubric must be followed in order for applicants to be eligible for a scholarship:

#### **Formatting**

- 600-750 words
- Double spaced
- Grammatically correct with references cited
- Indicate on the first page of the essay which Topic Option # you have chosen to write about
- DO NOT include your name or school on your essay; you will be assigned a number to use instead
- Essay should be focused, reflect critical thinking, and include details that support the topic

#### **Topic Options**

- Option 1 Describe three examples of NATO peace-keeping efforts.
- Option 2 Describe three examples of NATO humanitarian efforts.
- Option 3 Explain the role NATO will have in the 21st century and how it is preparing for this role
- Option 4 What lessons have been learned from the successes and failures of NATO activities since its creation?
- Option 5 Considering the emergence of China as a world power, should an alliance like NATO be formed (that is, an Asian Alliance) for Japan, South Korea, Australia, India and the United States?
- Option 6 Explain the historical role played by NATO (along with the United States) as a peacekeeper for Western Europe; make recommendations to change that role given 1) the end of the Cold War 2) non-western countries are joining NATO, and 3) the immense challenges to the Alliance brought about by the threat of terrorism.

### ***Preparation for Model NATO Challenge***

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Student Diplomats will each represent 1 of the 28 NATO member nation's interests in the Model NATO Challenge, a spirited debate modeled after real NATO problem solving techniques. Diplomats will be given a crisis situation in which all NATO member nations must reach a consensus on a course of action while still representing their nation's interests. Diplomats will need to prepare in advance of the exercise by:

- Engaging in independent study to understand the nation he/she has been selected to represent
- Contacting their mentor to discuss their assigned nation's interests via email or phone at least twice
- Completing the Model NATO Online Course modules

Diplomats will receive information regarding Model NATO Challenge requirements and will have the opportunity to meet their mentor at the Program Orientation.

## ***Important Dates and Required Events***

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Friday, January 13, 2012	Application Deadline (must include essay)
Friday, January 20, 2012	Student Notification of Acceptance
*Thursday, February 9, 2012	Program Orientation – Virginia Arts Festival 440 Bank St, Norfolk, VA 23510
Weeks prior to March 22, 2012	Trip to ACT NATO HQ, Norfolk Naval Base, Arranged between student diplomat and mentor on an individual basis
*Thursday, March 22, 2012 6PM – 9PM	Model NATO Challenge – Allied Command Transformation NATO Headquarters, Norfolk Naval Base
Friday, April 6, 2012	Scholarship Award Notification
April 24 – 29, 2012	Norfolk NATO Festival Week
*Friday, April 27, 2012	Introduction of Student Diplomats at the Virginia International Tattoo
*Saturday, April 28, 2012	Presentation of Student Diplomats at the Parade of Nations

***\*Denotes required events to be attended by Student Diplomats - Details will be provided at the Program Orientation.***

## ***Requirements for Scholarship winners***

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- Must be enrolled at the college or university of his/her choice within 24 months from being awarded the scholarship
- If a winner does not attend college or university within 24 months of award notification, student will forfeit the scholarship, which then will be awarded to an alternate.
- Scholarships are sent directly to the college or university; the Festival does not award cash directly to students.
- Winners are required to complete the scholarship transmittal form, including their university student id number and address for the university student finance office no later than May 31, 2012. Failure to submit a completed form may result in the forfeiture of the scholarship.