

California Blacksmith Association

Guidelines for the Bedayn-Thomson Grant Fund

(Revised 4/26/08 & 7/24/2016)

CBA offers two types of grants from the Bedayn-Thomson Grant Fund: a General Grant and a Scholarship.

I. General Grant

A General Grant is typically a grant for merit. It has more rigid eligibility requirements, a higher funding cap (up to \$2,000 per grant) and is for purposes that benefit CBA and the craft including:

1. Documentation projects for research purposes, projects, or scholarly pursuits such as photography and/or gathering information to provide a resource on some aspect of blacksmithing not otherwise available.
2. Work-stays in underdeveloped communities to help facilitate use of metalworking for the benefit of local economies, living conditions and culture and to assist in the preservation and revival of local blacksmithing craft and art while documenting these activities.

CBA Conferences do not fit the purposes of a General Grant.

Requirements and Guidelines

1. Before applying for a grant, an applicant must have been a CBA member in good standing for at least six months and attended at least one CBA function or contributed an article to the magazine. If he/she has not contributed or participated previously, then the membership requirement is one year.
2. Applications must be in the form of a letter and include all of the following:
 - a. the location of the project.
 - b. the reason for the project.
 - c. how the project will be accomplished.
 - d. the date and time frame for completing the project.
 - e. the total amount of funding that is needed and the amount requested from CBA.
 - f. a budget of how funds will be spent.
 - g. the type of recognition to be returned to CBA, e.g., magazine article(s), demonstration(s), workshop(s), videos for CBA YouTube.
 - h. a commitment date for recognition to CBA to be completed.
3. Once the application is reviewed, an initial reply will be given within two weeks. Grants will be considered two times a year; at the Spring Conference and Oktoberfest Board meetings. Completed applications are required one month before the board meeting. Applicants are urged to allow time for several interactions with the Grants Committee prior to the one month before the board meeting deadline.
4. Grants will be pooled and picked on a competitive basis among those presented at a board meeting.
5. Subject to other arrangements approved by the board, the first half of the grant amount will be disbursed within one month of the board meeting with the balance paid upon completion and approval of the recognition defined in the application.
6. It is preferred that the application letter be an attachment to an email to facilitate reply and dissemination between the Grants Committee and the Board of Directors.
7. This grant is limited to one grant per applicant per year. New applicants have priority over a repeat applicant. CBA Officers and Board members are not precluded from participation in these programs but the conflict of interest process must be scrupulously observed.

II. Scholarship

Typically a Scholarship is for need. It is limited to the purpose of improving a member's blacksmithing skills by attending a course at an approved school or workshop. Eligibility for this type of grant is more relaxed, and the maximum amount awarded is **\$800** toward the cost of the course but lodging at the school or workshop facility can be considered. Travel costs are not included in a Scholarship. CBA Conferences do not fit the purposes of a Scholarship.

Requirements and Guidelines

1. Before applying for a Scholarship, the applicant must be a CBA member in good standing for at least six months.
2. Applications must be in the form of a letter and include all of the following:
 - a. the name and location of the school and class.
 - b. the reason for taking the class.
 - c. the dates and number of days of the class.
 - d. the total amount of funding that is needed and the amount requested from CBA.
 - e. the type of recognition to be returned to CBA, e.g., magazine article(s), demonstration(s), workshop(s).
 - f. a commitment date for recognition to CBA to be completed.
3. Once the application is reviewed, a reply will be given within two weeks.
4. Scholarships will be considered four times a year (Spring, Fall, Winter and Summer Board meetings.) Completed applications are required one month before the Board meeting.
5. A minimum of two months lead-time is required from initial submission to the time the funds are disbursed.
6. Application must be in writing, preferably as an email for ease of reply and processing.
7. An application letter that does not contain all the required information will not be accepted.
8. A maximum of two Scholarship Grants may be granted to any member but may not be granted in the same or consecutive years. CBA Officers and Board members are not precluded from participation in these programs but a conflict of interest process must be scrupulously observed.
9. Scholarship grants offset the costs for classes, and the funds are sent by CBA to the approved school, not to the recipient.