



# The Santa Clarita Valley Press Club

Established in 1996 to Promote First Amendment Values  
Non-Profit Tax ID No: 95-4804976

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April 25, 2007

To: Principals, Teachers and Advisors  
Re: Randy Wicks Memorial First Amendment Scholarship

Hello,

I'm pleased to present the application package for the 11th Annual Randy Wicks Memorial First Amendment Scholarships, available to graduating local high school seniors and students at College of the Canyons.

The Santa Clarita Valley Press Club will award up to \$10,000 to a local graduating high school student who has chosen a First Amendment-related college major. Additional scholarships may be awarded at the Press Club's discretion — and, in fact, last year the club awarded scholarships in varying amounts to 10 students graduating from local high schools, for a total of \$40,000.

In addition to the scholarships for graduating high school students, the press club also offers a separate scholarship to students at College of the Canyons. The criteria and application for the COC scholarship are the same as those for students graduating from high school this year.

In 1997 through 2006 the Press Club awarded scholarships totaling \$196,500 to a variety of local students. The money for this year's scholarships was raised by the Press Club at its Santa Clarita Valley "Newsmakers of the Year" dinner in February.

We would appreciate your assistance in making the scholarship information available to any interested students. All of the information is included in this application package, but if you or any students have questions about the scholarship or the application, please call me at 661-297-9498.

Sincerely,

Tim Whyte  
Whyte House Media  
President, Santa Clarita Valley Press Club

**Address:** 24000 Creekside Road, Valencia CA 91355  
**Phone:** 661-259-1234 **E-mail:** info@scvpressclub.org



# The Santa Clarita Valley Press Club

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## Randy Wicks Memorial First Amendment Scholarship General Information

The Santa Clarita Valley Press Club was founded in 1996 to help promote and preserve the values and spirit of the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America.

The First Amendment Scholarship, in honor of the late Randy Wicks, former editorial cartoonist of The Signal newspaper, will be awarded to a student whose personal goals, college major and declared career path best promote and preserve the free dissemination of information. This includes a wide variety of college majors and careers, including but not necessarily limited to public relations, advertising, marketing, graphic arts, journalism, radio, TV, film, printing, newspapers, magazines, etc.

The scholarship recipient(s) will be chosen by members of the SCV Press Club board of directors, which consists of community leaders and local media professionals.

The Press Club plans to award up to \$10,000 to the top scholarship winner graduating from a local high school. There will be additional scholarships of amounts to be determined by the press club board if there are deserving applicants.

**High School Student Eligibility:** High school graduates entering any college as a full-time student in pursuit of a four-year degree are eligible. This includes students who plan to attend a community college first.

**COC Student Eligibility:** Any current student at College of the Canyons who plans to either continue at COC next fall or transfer to a university as a full-time student in pursuit of a four-year degree is eligible. Dollar amount(s) of COC scholarship(s) to be determined by the press club board upon review of the applications.

Funds will be disbursed directly to the college or refunded to the student upon presentation of proof of payment for tuition, books or dormitory rent.

Application deadline is **5 p.m. Thursday, May 17**. Interviews of finalists are scheduled to be conducted the afternoon of **Thursday, May 31**. **Applicants should plan to be available between 3 and 5 p.m. on May 31 to be eligible for consideration.** Applications may be mailed to the Press Club at the P.O. Box specified herein, or hand-delivered to The Signal office at the specified street address.

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## Randy Wicks Memorial First Amendment Scholarship 2007 Scholarship Application Rules and Instructions

**1.** Scholarship applicant must be a legal resident of the United States, living in the Santa Clarita Valley. Members of the Press Club and their immediate families are not eligible.

**2.** Complete scholarship application and...

**Mail to:**

Santa Clarita Valley Press Club  
Attn.: Richard Budman  
P.O. Box 801870  
Santa Clarita, CA 91380-1870

**OR...**

**Hand-deliver to:**

Santa Clarita Valley Press Club  
c/o The Signal, Attn. Richard Budman  
24000 Creekside Rd.  
Valencia, CA

All applicant information, references and grade information must be received by **5 p.m. Thursday, May 17.**  
If you are not certain about the timing of the mail, bring the application to The Signal office in person.

**3.** Include most recent transcript from your high school and/or COC. You must have a grade point average of 2.5 or better to be considered.

**4.** Include three letters of recommendation, at least one of which should come from a high school teacher or college professor. Make sure there is a phone number and/or e-mail address to reach each of the people who recommended you for this scholarship.

**5.** Applicant must be attending college in 2007-08 as a full-time student pursuing an undergraduate degree in a field related to the free dissemination of information, including but not necessarily limited to journalism, radio, TV, film, newspapers, magazines, public relations, printing, graphic arts, advertising, marketing, etc. This scholarship is not only for newspaper people!

**6. INTERVIEWS WILL BE CONDUCTED:** After the written applications are screened, a group of finalists will be chosen to participate in interviews with a panel of Press Club board members. That panel will make the final decision on the awarding of scholarships. The interviews are scheduled to take place the afternoon of **Thursday, May 31.** Applicants should plan to be available for interviews on those dates, and finalists will be called the preceding week to schedule appointments.

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# Randy Wicks Memorial First Amendment Scholarship

## 2007 Applicant Data Sheet

Please complete the following and attach it to your completed application:

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**I am a (circle one):**

Graduating High School Senior

COC Student

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Current School:** \_\_\_\_\_

(High school students only) **SAT Score:** \_\_\_\_\_

**and/or... ACT Score:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Overall GPA:** \_\_\_\_\_

**College Major:** \_\_\_\_\_

**College to Attend in 2006/07:**

\_\_\_\_\_

# **Randy Wicks Memorial First Amendment Scholarship**

## 2007 Scholarship Application

Please respond to the following. (Application must be type-written and you may use one or more separate sheet(s) of paper):

**1. CAREER GOALS.** Briefly describe why you chose this educational/career path.

**2. COMMUNITY/SCHOOL SERVICE.** Describe any participation in school or community service activities during high school.

**3. HONORS/RECOGNITION.** List any special awards, scholarships or other achievements earned.

**4. SPECIAL INTERESTS.** List hobbies, sports, interests, special skills, other activities you enjoy.

**5. WORK EXPERIENCE (paid or volunteer).** List work/volunteer experience during the past three years.

**6. ESSAY (200 words or less, no exceptions).** Please tell us about your college choice, your major, your desired profession, and why you believe you deserve this scholarship.

**7. FINANCIAL.** Financial need is one factor that will be considered by the judges, but is not necessarily a determining factor. Please note your annual household/family income, and explain any financial circumstances that you believe should be considered by the judges.