

SARATOGA ROTARY CHARITABLE FOUNDATION (SRCF)

The Saratoga Rotary Charitable Foundation (SRCF) is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt California non-profit corporation. The SRCF Board of Directors meets quarterly to grant funds to charitable, educational and other nonprofit organizations. Foundation grants support requests for capital needs and one-time special expenses.

In addition to providing funding for community grants, the SRCF funds Youth and Community Service projects initiated by the Rotary Club of Saratoga. In recent years, this funding for club projects has been between \$25,000 and \$30,000 per year. This funding is invaluable; it enables the club to assist with nine youth programs and a dozen community service projects.

The SRCF also oversees two scholarship funds:

1. The Thompson Fund: a permanent endowment account that provides scholarships for undergraduate education. Each spring, scholarship interviews are conducted and recipients of one-time recognition scholarships and four-year legacy scholarships are selected. Annual scholarship expenditures are between \$25,000 and \$30,000. The majority of students receiving scholarships attend Prospect High School or Saratoga High School. Significant funding also has gone to support students and programs at West Valley College.
2. The Sesh Ramaswami Memorial Scholarship: established by the Rotary Club of Saratoga to honor the life and legacy of Seshadri Ramaswami, a devoted humanitarian, Rotarian, and global citizen. This scholarship is awarded to a student who exemplifies Sesh's values: compassion, integrity, a commitment to learning, and a desire to make a positive impact in the world.

The Foundation's primary source of income is from fundraising efforts of the Saratoga Rotary Club, primarily the annual Saratoga Rotary Art Show. SRCF has distributed approximately \$3 million to community nonprofit organizations since its inception in 2003. Before SRCF was founded, community grants and projects were supported through the Saratoga Rotary Service Fund.

To apply for a grant, applications must be submitted no later than 30 days prior to an upcoming Board of Trustee meeting. The Board of Trustees generally meets on the third Thursday in February, May, August and November. The grant application form may be downloaded from our website, saratogarotary.org.

Please note that the Saratoga Rotary Charitable Foundation and The Rotary Foundation are different non-profit organizations with different purposes, bylaws, and procedures. SRCF receives the funds raised by our club and uses these funds to support non-profits that are usually in our community. Although direct donations can be made to SRCF, the majority of its funding comes from club fundraisers. The vast majority of funding for TRF comes from donations made by Rotarians around the world. See the description of The Rotary Foundation for information about that organization.

SRCF GRANT INFORMATION & GUIDELINES

1. SRCF does not grant funds for construction or acquisition of real estate, liquidation of loans or fiduciary obligations, or ongoing operating expenses, such as salaries, rents, utilities, travel expenses, and lodging. Requests must be for projects comprised of quantifiable packages of goods and/or services, including a valid cost estimate for each identifiable item. Requests must contain the commencement and estimated completion date of the project.
2. No grant may have a material financial benefit to any individual requesting the grant or an SRCF Board member.
3. Grants awarded that are for less than the total costs of capital items or projects will be released when all the funds needed to purchase the item(s) or complete the project have been pledged or received.
4. The SRCF generally does not grant awards to the same organization in consecutive years.
5. The SRCF shall consider grant requests only from tax-exempt organizations. The applicant shall provide evidence of their tax-exempt status.
6. The applicant shall complete the Rotary Grant Application form. No other form shall be accepted.
7. Applicant shall include names of three people or agencies that can be contacted as references, if necessary. Please provide telephone numbers and addresses of each.
8. Applicant shall indicate on the Grant Application the ability of the organization requesting the grant to provide personnel and the number of hours as volunteers to help at the Art Show.
9. The organization's current annual budget shall be provided for review.
10. Applicant shall submit a report to SRCF at the completion of the project describing the positive impact it had on the community.
11. Applicant shall provide upon request a video or written testimonial that SRCF can use in promotional material for the Art Show.

Grant Applications shall be evaluated as follows:

- The need for the program in the community it serves
- The impact on the audience and the number of people who will benefit from the grant request
- Location of the community to be served. Preference is given to projects locally, although requests on the state, national and international projects may be considered
- The uniqueness of the program or project
- The impact of the request on the organization requesting it

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- The viability and financial management of the organization
- The applicant has demonstrated that the costs of the program or project are cost effective and due diligence was performed to ensure the costs are reasonable

The Board of Trustees will review all qualified applications. Prior to Board review, a Director shall be assigned to conduct a personal interview with the applicant and then report to the full Board the findings and his/her recommendations. All applicants will be notified of the Board of Directors decision.

Contact Information:

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