

Regulations

The fund supports students in the School of Fine Arts at the University of Canterbury who face financial challenges that would prevent them from considering entry to tertiary education. It is also to assist with costs associated with Art History field trips for students.

1. A scholarship, known as the Chrystabel L Aitken Scholarship for Fine Arts, provides financial assistance to a value of \$1,000.
2. One scholarship is available annually.
3. Applicants for the scholarship must be New Zealand citizens or holders of New Zealand residence class visas.
4. Applicants must have applied to enrol full-time at the University in their first year of a programme for an undergraduate degree in Fine Arts.
5. The scholarship must be taken up in the year of application.
6. The scholarship is tenable for one year, during a recipient's full-time enrolment in his or her first year of study in a programme for an undergraduate degree in Fine Arts at the University.
7. Recipients of the scholarship must qualify for admission to the University, through achievement of University Entrance or an equivalent qualification, by at least one week before the first day of Semester 1 of the year of tenure.
8. The scholarship is awarded by the Council of the University, on the recommendation of a selection committee that comprises:
 - a. the Vice-Chancellor (or nominee);
 - b. the Head of the School of Fine Arts (or nominee); and
 - c. a representative of the donor.
9. In making its recommendation for the award of the scholarship, the committee will give consideration to:
 - a. quality of achievement in Level 2 or 3 NCEA, or equivalent qualifications;
 - b. interest and potential in Fine Arts practice, and/or Art History, and/or Art Theory; and
 - c. financial need.

In selecting between any candidates of equal merit, the gender of those candidates will also be considered: in such a case, any female applicants will be given preference.
10. Applications for the scholarship must be made online at the Scholarships website,¹ by 31 January.
11. If, in any year, there is no candidate of sufficient merit for the scholarship, no scholarship will be offered. In such a case, the Head of the School of Fine Arts may apply to the Council of the University for the resulting surplus (up to the value of the unawarded scholarship) to be used to assist the School with the cost of Art History field trips arranged by the School.

¹ <http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/scholarships/>

12. The scholarship may be held with any other award unless the conditions of the other award preclude this.
13. Unless otherwise specified in the offer letter, an offer of a scholarship will lapse if it is not formally accepted within one calendar month of the date of the offer.
14. The value of the scholarship will be credited to a recipient's nominated New Zealand bank account as soon as practicable after acceptance of the scholarship offer and confirmation of enrolment in the recipient's first year of a programme for an undergraduate degree in Fine Arts at the University.
15. A condition of acceptance of the scholarship is that recipients permit publication and announcement of their acceptance of the award.
16. In the event of a recipient's withdrawal from study during the term of the scholarship, such that he or she is no longer enrolled full-time in a programme for an undergraduate degree in Fine Arts at the University, the scholarship will be withdrawn and any paid funds may be recovered.
17. Continuation of the scholarship is conditional on satisfactory academic progress and adherence to the University's statutes and regulations.

History of the Award: The fund was established in 2005 from an endowment under the will of Chrystabel Laurene McArthur, the artist known as Chrystabel Aitken (1904–2005). Chrystabel Aitken had been a student of the School of Fine Arts at the University of Canterbury, where, in 1925, she was awarded the School medal for "Special Excellence in Modelling". At the time of the establishment of the fund, this was the only time the annual medal had been awarded to a sculpture student. The medal, along with a number of pieces of the artist's work, is now in the collection of the Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa. The University of Canterbury holds the largest public collection of art works by Chrystabel Aitken, many donated by the artist's family.² Chrystabel Aitken was a member of the Christchurch "Group" art collective from 1936 to 1966, an elected member of the New Zealand Society of Artists, and a member of the Canterbury Society of Artists.

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² See the University's online heritage database, [Kā Kohika](#).