



The Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes celebrates inspiring, public-spirited young people from across the U.S. and Canada. Established in 2001 by author T. A. Barron, the Barron Prize annually honors 25 outstanding young leaders ages 8 to 18 who have made a significant positive impact on people, their communities, and the environment. Fifteen top winners each receive \$10,000 to support their service work or higher education.

Since its inception, the Barron Prize has awarded more than half a million dollars to hundreds of young heroes who represent the great diversity of America. The Prize has won the support of Girl Scouts of the USA, Jane Goodall's Roots & Shoots, The Wilderness Society, and National Youth Leadership Council, among other organizations.

“Nothing is more inspiring than stories about heroic people who have truly made a difference to the world,” says Barron. “And we need our heroes today more than ever. Not celebrities, but heroes – people whose character can inspire us all. That is the purpose of the Gloria Barron Prize: to shine the spotlight on these amazing young people so that their stories will inspire others.”

**ANNUAL APPLICATION DEADLINE is APRIL 15**

Applications must be completed and submitted online by 5:00 pm MT

Visit our website to read past winners' bios and learn about their inspiring work.

**[www.barronprize.org](http://www.barronprize.org)**

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# GLORIA BARRON PRIZE FOR YOUNG HEROES APPLICATION INFORMATION AND GUIDELINES

## ELIGIBILITY

The Barron Prize welcomes applications from public-spirited young people who are, on our April 15 deadline:

- between the ages of 8 and 18 (not yet age 19).
- permanent residents of and currently residing in the U.S.A. or Canada.
- currently working on an inspiring service project or have done so within the past 12 months.
- working as an individual to lead their service work. The Barron Prize does not accept applications from large groups of young people.

The Barron Prize does not discriminate against its applicants based on race, color, ethnicity, national origin, creed, religion, gender, sexual orientation, or disability.

## APPLICATION PROCESS TIMELINE

January 4: Online application system opens at 8:00 am MT on Monday, January 4, 2021.

By April 15: Application Deadline: Completed materials **must be submitted online by 5:00 pm MT.**

By Sept. 30: Winners will be announced. All applicants will be notified via email.

## WHAT WINNERS RECEIVE

\$10,000 Cash Award  
Recognition Gifts  
Young Heroes Materials  
Networking Opportunities  
Media Coverage

## SELECTION CRITERIA

**Our judges use the following criteria in choosing winners:**

1. Winners must have organized and led an extraordinary service activity which has clearly benefited other people or the planet we share. The service activity must have been initiated and motivated primarily by the winner himself or herself. The service activity cannot have been done solely to complete an assignment for school or work.
2. Winners must have:
  - demonstrated heroic character qualities such as courage, compassion, dedication, generosity, perseverance, and high moral purpose.
  - shown initiative, tenacity, and unselfishness in pursuit of their goals.
  - accomplished something with inspirational value—something that could inspire others to make a difference.

- done more than survive a difficult personal challenge. Their heroism must have made an impact on the world beyond themselves.
3. Winners may or may not have received recognition for their heroic work. Fame itself shall not have been a motivating factor.

**Please read these requirements carefully before you begin the application process.**

1. Applications **must be completed and submitted online** by our deadline of **5:00 p.m. MT on April 15** each year, when the system will automatically close.
2. We do not accept applications via fax, email, U.S. mail, or any other carrier.
3. Please contact us well in advance of our deadline for any technical assistance you anticipate needing. **We do not accept applications after 5:00 p.m. MT on April 15.**
4. Applications must include a letter from the Lead Reference. A Lead Reference is simply an adult advocate who has solid knowledge of the applicant's heroic activities. Examples of Lead References include teachers, librarians, school counselors, youth service officials, and religious leaders.
5. Members of the applicant's family cannot act as the Lead Reference nor write the other two Letters of Recommendation.
6. All required application materials, including the Lead Reference letter and two additional Letters of Recommendation, must be included at the time of submission. **Incomplete applications will not be considered.**
7. Contents of the application are considered public information once submitted and should not include private or privileged information.

By submitting an entry in the Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes, each applicant acknowledges reading and understanding all the selection criteria and application requirements published on the prize's website and agrees to observe them. Further, each entrant acknowledges and agrees that as a condition of receiving the prize, the selected individual will cooperate in publicizing the Barron Prize and will grant rights in the applicant's materials to the Barron Prize.

## LIST OF MATERIALS REQUIRED FOR SUBMISSION

Our online application requires that you submit:

1. Completed Application Form
2. Project Summary (250 word limit)
3. Project Essay (1,500 word limit)
4. Letter from the Lead Reference
5. Two additional Letters of Recommendation
6. One color photo of the applicant

Scroll through the application for details about the above required materials. Note that an optional section at the end of the application allows you to upload or provide links to supplemental materials. These are things such as articles and videos that will enhance the judges' understanding of your project.

## APPLICATION FORM

Your name and other contact info. will be pulled from the Profile you created when you first set up your WiseHive account. To view or edit your Profile at any point, Save Draft and return to Homepage.

**Project Website Address (if applicable):**

**Project Facebook Page (if applicable):**

**Project YouTube Address (if applicable):**

**Project Twitter Account (if applicable):**

**Project Instagram Account (if applicable):**

**Type of Project**

Please select either Humanitarian or Environmental depending on the focus of your project.

**Project Title and One Line Summary Description:**

Please limit to 50 words.

**How did you hear about the Barron Prize?**

Please select one option from the dropdown list.

**Name of School Applicant is Currently Attending:**

**Current Year in School:**

i.e Freshman, Sophomore, etc.

**School Mailing Address:**

**School City:**

**School State or Province:**

**School Zip Code or Canadian Postal Code:**

**School Country:**

**School Phone Number:**

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## SUMMARY AND ESSAY FROM THE APPLICANT

### Type or upload your Project Summary

- Your summary should not exceed 250 words.
- Feel free to include any personal challenges you have overcome.

#### Project Summary

Using the dropdown box, choose to include the Project Summary by (1) copying or typing it in the appropriate text box/text format or (2) uploading a digital file (.PDF, .Doc, or .Docx). After your selection, a text box or an upload field will appear.

### Type or upload your Project Essay

Your essay should not exceed a total of 1,500 words and must address the following three questions:

- What inspired you to organize this service activity?
- What did you hope to accomplish by leading this service activity, and what did you actually accomplish? If the two are different, then why?
- What have you learned from the experience—both about yourself and about the world?

#### Project Essay

Using the dropdown box, choose to include the Project Essay by (1) copying or typing it in the appropriate text box/text format or (2) uploading a digital file (.PDF, .Doc, or .Docx). After your selection, a text box or an upload field will appear.

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## LETTER FROM THE LEAD REFERENCE

**Applicants are required to submit a total of three letters of recommendation. One must be from a Lead Reference -- someone who knows you well and can write in detail about your service work.**

#### IT IS THE APPLICANT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO:

- share the letter-writing guidelines below with the Lead Reference
- complete the required Lead Reference contact information fields below
- obtain a copy of the Lead Reference letter and upload it to your application

If you are unable to upload letters because of confidentiality agreements, please email [admin@barronprize.org](mailto:admin@barronprize.org) for assistance.

**You cannot submit your application until you have uploaded your Lead Reference letter and two additional Letters of Recommendation (or have received assistance from us in doing so).**

**GUIDELINES FOR THE LEAD REFERENCE LETTER:**

- A family member cannot serve as the Lead Reference.
- The letter should not exceed 1,500 words.
- The letter must answer the following five questions:
  1. What is the relationship between the Lead Reference and the Applicant?
  2. What service activity did the applicant perform and what was the applicant's specific leadership role in that activity?
  3. What obstacles and/or challenges did the applicant overcome while leading this service activity?
  4. What were the verifiable results of the applicant's service activity?
  5. How has the applicant demonstrated heroic character qualities such as courage, compassion, dedication, generosity, and perseverance?

**LEAD REFERENCE CONTACT INFORMATION**

It is the applicant's responsibility to provide contact information for the Lead Reference and for those people writing the two additional Letters of Recommendation.

**Lead Reference's First Name:**

**Middle Name or Initial:**

**Last Name:**

**Organization/School:**

**Title/Position:**

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Mailing Address, Line 2:**

**City:**

**State or Province:**

**Zip Code or Canadian Postal Code:**

**Best Phone Number:**

**Summer Phone Number:**

**Summer Email:**

**UPLOAD YOUR LEAD REFERENCE LETTER:**

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## TWO ADDITIONAL LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

**Applicants are required to submit two additional Letters of Recommendation.**

**IT IS THE APPLICANT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO:**

- share the guidelines below with those writing the two additional Letters of Recommendation
- complete the required contact information fields below for each person writing a letter
- obtain a copy of the two additional Letters of Recommendation and upload them to your application

If you are unable to upload letters because of confidentiality agreements, please email [admin@barronprize.org](mailto:admin@barronprize.org) for assistance.

**You cannot submit your application until you have uploaded your Lead Reference letter and two additional Letters of Recommendation (or have received assistance from us in doing so).**

**GUIDELINES FOR THE TWO ADDITIONAL LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION:**

- Letters should verify the applicant's service achievements.
- Letters should attest to the applicant's general character and include how he/she has demonstrated heroic character qualities such as courage, compassion, dedication, generosity, and perseverance.
- Letters should include how the recommender knows the applicant.
- Letters should not exceed 500 words.
- Family members cannot provide Letters of Recommendation.

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## FIRST RECOMMENDATION CONTACT INFORMATION

It is the applicant's responsibility to provide contact information for those people writing the two additional Letters of Recommendation.

**First Name:**

**Middle Name or Initial:**

**Last Name:**

**Organization/School:**

**Title/Position:**

**Email Address:**

**UPLOAD YOUR FIRST LETTER:**

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## SECOND RECOMMENDATION CONTACT INFORMATION

It is the applicant's responsibility to provide contact information for those people writing the two additional Letters of Recommendation.

**First Name:**

**Middle Name or Initial:**

**Last Name:**

**Organization/School:**

**Title/Position:**

**Email Address:**

**UPLOAD YOUR SECOND LETTER:**

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### PHOTOS

Please upload at least one color photo of yourself. It is ideal if you can upload a close-up of yourself as well as one or two other photos of you involved in your project work. Our system will only accept .JPG files.

#### Photo 1

Upload your first photo here. It may be a personal photo or a photo of you working on your project.

#### Photo 2

Upload your second photo here. It may be a personal photo or a photo of you working on your project.

#### Photo 3

Upload your third photo here. It may be a personal photo or a photo of you working on your project.



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## SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

Please list and provide links or uploads for up to five (5) total supplemental materials (e.g., media articles) that you'd like our judges to review. For videos, please provide links rather than upload video files.

### Supplemental materials list:

Provide a numerical list of your uploaded supplemental material. Example: 1. Newspaper article - name of newspaper 2. Additional letter of reference - from Jane Doe, etc. You may also include links to websites or other social media.

#### 1. SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

You can upload additional materials, including photos or images, [here](#).

#### 2. SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

You can upload additional materials, including photos or images, [here](#).

#### 3. SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

You can upload additional materials, including photos or images, [here](#).

#### 4. SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

You can upload additional materials, including photos or images, [here](#).

#### 5. SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

You can upload additional materials, including photos or images, [here](#).

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## SAVING AND SUBMITTING

- In order to submit, you must have included three (3) recommendation letters (one from your Lead Reference plus two additional Letters of Recommendation).
- Your application has not been submitted/received by us until you select the green "Submit" button on the previous page.

- If your application was complete and successfully submitted, you will receive a confirmation email soon after you select "Submit."

Have questions? Need help? Email Jenny at [admin@barronprize.org](mailto:admin@barronprize.org)

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