



Bette Vote Memorial Scholarship

The Wickenburg High School English Department will award a \$5,000 scholarship (or five \$1,000 awards) to a deserving graduate/s who exemplify the work ethic, character and goals to further their education via four-year university, junior/community college or trade/vocational school.

Your teachers will decide who gets it! EVERY single WHS student has a chance at this money because to graduate, you all have had to take and pass four years of English. Go Wranglers!

Of course, you have to write a **one-page essay**, it's English but it doesn't have to be formal as long as you know "a lot" is two words and promise never, ever to make that misspelling! The Dragon Lady in her dungeon (basement) classroom would have drawn multiple red circles around that faux pas had you made that mistake back in the '70s and '80s. This fund is proof that if you work hard, even as "just a school teacher" you can give back to your community, realize your dreams and have lots of adventures. Did you know Bette Vote taught a year in Dubai? The kids were brought to school in limousines and had servants standing at the back of the room. BV taught them all about what it is to be an American student.

Bette Vote was a WHS English teacher, the one who started *Saddlebag Magazine*, a Columbia Press Association Award winning, 11-year student-produced community magazine. She did yearbook, mimeographed *The Wrangler Round Up* school newspaper, taught photography and built a dark room. She started the Mat Maids for our Wrangler Wrestlers and as a department, they developed an English mini course system that modeled college and gave us Wranglers a leg up on our futures and had cool classes like "Poetry in Music" in addition to grammar, literature and all the requirements.

"...she forced me to become better than I was in high school, which was what I most assuredly needed to become the English teacher I am today," wrote Adrian O, alum.

"I loved Ms. Vote! She will always be remembered. Our teachers form us for life. And, she always left an indelible mark. RIP dragon lady. You will be sorely missed," Joyce H, alum.

“Miss Vote aka dragon lady, grape gum hater ;) It’s those teachers that were the hardest on ya that you learn the most from. Thanks for the memories and the stories I have passed on to my kids, “ Barb P, alum.

“Yes, she was one of a kind. Yes, she was a great teacher. Yes, she was a challenge for me as an assistant principal and principal. She made me better and we grew together. I am not at all surprised she left her estate to fund a scholarship for kids; at her base, she was good for kids, and helping them improve, just not very patient about the rate of improvement!” Gary, colleague/WHS admin.

You had to apply to get into her Saddlebag class, just like you have to for this scholarship. But we can tell you from experience, she can change your life if you are willing to work hard, explore your talents, not miss **deadlines** and make the most of your WHS years.

Application Due: APRIL 1, 2025

APPLICATION : (Please attach a one-page essay about yourself, your higher education or vocational goals, highlighting what your WHS years mean to you...good luck!)

Name: _____ **Gender: M or F**

Address: _____ **Phone:** _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Email: _____ **GPA:** _____ **Major:** _____

Financial aid office contact info for university, college or technical program attending:

Award: 1. Two equal payments of \$2,500 before the start of each semester. or 2.) Two equal payments of \$500 before the semester/term start *payable to your college or vocational school's financial aid office.*

REQUIREMENTS: *US citizen or permanent resident and Arizona resident *GPA 2.5 or higher
*Letters of reference—one each, school and community/friend *Copy of high school transcript
*One page printed or typed essay *ACT/SAT score (if applicable) *Copy acceptance letter
*Declared major or study program *Attendance and graduation from Wickenburg High School

Please list school awards, activities, organizations, athletics, leadership or participation roles: _____

Please list community service, clubs and organizations outside school and/or employment history: _____

Student signature: _____ date: _____

Parental/guardian signature/s: _____ date: _____

Print name/s: _____ Phone #: _____