

# Opterus Rebel with a Cause Awards

## Terms and Conditions 2021

Opterus is providing 2 scholarship awards for young women, between the ages of 16-28 and enrolled/will enrol at a Canadian post-secondary institution, who are pursuing a STEM or Arts educational path. The awards are inspired by Founder, Janet Hawkins' mother, Dr. Helen McKilligin, and sister, Valerie Ann Hawkins.

*Hi fellow rebels!*



*I'm Janet Hawkins, the CEO and co-founder of Opterus and founder of the Opterus Rebel with a Cause scholarships. That groovy pic is of me back in the 70's. I was lucky, that even at that age, I was given the freedom to be creative, to explore and to do things that made me happy. There were no rules around my choices, and I admit, I was one of those kids you might call a little weird, but I like to think I just had to grow into my kind of cool.*

*I am very proud that 2021 is going to be our third year offering the scholarships and I love that I can make these scholarships happen in the name of my mom and sister. This year we have introduced new questions in hopes of stimulating your creativity.*

*From the start, I didn't want these scholarships to be like all the others. I truly believe that putting a lot of weight into someone's grades is not the way to find the best and the brightest. People learn and express themselves in so many different ways and that is what excites me. For this scholarship you don't have to be a straight A student who ticks all the boxes. We are looking for women who can engage with us, think outside the box and maybe surprise us. This is your opportunity to share something that is meaningful to you, something that makes you who you are. Make us laugh, make us cry, are you super artistic or musical, or do you have an unusual interest that you would like to share with us? Be creative, but most of all, just be yourself.*

*We know a \$10,000 prize would definitely make life easier, but will winning this award change your life?*

*I saw a tweet recently from Ben Cichy, who worked for NASA at one point in his career. It said: "Got a 2.4 GPA my first semester in collage. Thought maybe I wasn't cut out for engineering. Today I've landed two spacecrafts on Mars and am now designing one for the Moon. STEM is hard for everyone. Grades ultimately don't matter. Curiosity and perseverance matter." I love that. Be curious, be tenacious be a rebel! We are looking forward to learning about you.*

*Cheers,*

*Janet*

The scholarship awards will be open for applications between April 15, 2021 and June 30, 2021 at 11:59PM EDT. Applicants are permitted to submit only one application and cannot apply for both awards. Applications for the 2021 year can be submitted via the online application (<https://opterus.scholarshipscanada.com/>). We will communicate the outcome to the successful applicant by August 15<sup>th</sup>.

We welcome all international students to apply. Proof of acceptance at a recognized Canadian post-secondary institution and proof of a valid study permit will be required by winners. Failure to produce this information within 30 days of being notified of winning the Opterus award will result in disqualification.

#### **Opterus Helen Rose STEM Award**

1. The bestowing of the Award is conditional upon the successful completion and receipt of the requested documentation. If the requested information cannot be verified or is not in compliance with the terms and conditions, it will be disqualified. The award recipient will receive a payment of \$10,000 CAD on or before August 31, 2021. You may be asked to report periodically, to an Opterus representative, on your program progress.
2. To apply for this Award, you must be a woman between the ages of 16-28 and pursuing an education in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) at an accredited Canadian university or college. The student we are looking to fund is pursuing a field of study that will help them in the future to create or contribute to a new mindset for a better world.
3. Finalists must provide proof of enrolment at an accredited Canadian university or college for the 2021-2022 academic school year.
  - a. If the applicant is still in high school or not yet enrolled in post-secondary education, then the money will be held in trust until they are enrolled.
4. All applications must be submitted in English.

5. You must provide a complete application at [opterus.scholarshipscanada.com](https://opterus.scholarshipscanada.com), including uploading a document containing responses to the following questions:
  - a. An answer to the question (maximum 275 words): *Think about a time in your life when you achieved something you are proud of. Tell us about it and why you are proud to have accomplished this.*
  - b. An answer to the question (maximum 275 words): *Tell us something about yourself that you would not typically be asked about on a scholarship application. What differentiates you from your peers that is never asked in typical scholarship applications?*
  - c. An answer to the question (maximum 275 words): *What do you plan to study within the STEM field? Why do you want to study this?*
  - d. An answer to the question (maximum 275 words): *How would winning this scholarship help you achieve your goals?*

### **Opterus Valerie Ann Arts Award**

6. The bestowing of the Award is conditional upon the successful completion and receipt of the requested documentation. If the requested information cannot be verified or is not in compliance with the terms and conditions, it will be disqualified. The award recipient will receive a payment of \$10,000 CAD on or before August 31, 2021. You may be asked to report periodically, to an Opterus representative, on your program progress.
7. To apply for this Award, you must be a woman between the ages of 16-28 and pursuing an education in the Arts at an accredited Canadian university or college. The student we are looking to fund is pursuing a field of study that will help them in the future to create or contribute to a new mindset for a better world.
8. Finalists must provide proof of enrolment at an accredited Canadian university or college for the 2021-2022 academic school year.
  - a. If the applicant is still in high school or not yet enrolled in post-secondary education, then the money will be held in trust until they are enrolled.
9. All applications must be submitted in English.
10. You must provide a complete application at [opterus.scholarshipscanada.com](https://opterus.scholarshipscanada.com), including:
  - a. An answer to the question (maximum 275 words): *Think about a time in your life when you achieved something you are proud of. Tell us about it and why you are proud to have accomplished this.*
  - b. An answer to the question (maximum 275 words): *Tell us something about yourself that you would not typically be asked about on a scholarship application. What differentiates you from your peers that is never asked in typical scholarship applications?*
  - c. An answer to the question (maximum 275 words): *What do you plan to study within the ARTS field? Why do you want to study this?*
  - d. An answer to the question (maximum 275 words): *How would winning this scholarship help you achieve your goals?*