



2018 Model NATO Challenge Scholarship Program

Norfolk NATO Festival (formerly Norfolk’s International Azalea Festival) is a non-profit organization founded in 1953, just one year after the establishment of NATO's Allied Command Atlantic in Norfolk, Virginia. In that year, the citizens of Norfolk organized a salute to these allied forces in order to create new friendships, provide a basis for cultural exchange, pursue new lines of trade between Norfolk and the world, and to recognize NATO’s role in maintaining peace and stability in the world.

Working in cooperation with Norfolk’s NATO Headquarters, Supreme Allied Commander Transformation and Norfolk Public Schools, the Festival started the Model NATO Challenge in 2007 to provide a unique opportunity for high school juniors and seniors interested in the advancement of international studies. Students who are selected to participate in the Challenge serve as Student Diplomats in a role-playing exercise which simulates real world issues faced by today’s NATO Alliance. 29 students and 6 alternates will be chosen to participate and assigned to represent one of the 29 NATO member nations.

Scholarship Description: This scholarship program is designed to recognize the achievement of those Student Diplomats who have demonstrated excellence in the execution of their assigned responsibilities. Scholarships are paid directly to the college or university of the winning students’ choice. Three scholarships will be awarded: one at \$2,500, one at \$1,500, and one at \$1,000. Scholarships are non-renewable.

Where/When: **Wednesday, March 28, 2018** · **Location:** Virginia Wesleyan University
Refreshments will be provided.

Eligibility: Applicants must be: 1) enrolled high school juniors or seniors in good standing as a full-time student with intentions of continuing to college or university; 2) U.S. citizens; and 3) 2017 Model NATO Challenge Scholarship winners are not eligible to apply. **Applicants must submit an essay along with the application by Friday, January 12, 2018 (see page 4) in order to be considered for a scholarship.** Materials received after the deadline will not be considered.

Criteria: Selected participants will be evaluated based upon following:

Essay – Diplomat’s ability to follow formatting instructions	10%
Essay – Diplomat’s originality, organization of ideas, and accuracy of facts	30%
Model NATO – Diplomat’s ability to represent their assigned nation’s interests	30%
Model NATO – Diplomat’s ability to work towards a consensus with all NATO member nations	30%

Model NATO Challenge Applicant Requirements

Essay

Applicants must submit an essay by **January 12, 2018** along with the application in order to be considered for a scholarship. Materials received after the deadline will not be considered.

The following essay rubric must be followed in order for applicants to be eligible for a scholarship:

Formatting:

- 600-750 words
- Grammatically correct with references cited
- Indicate on the first page of the essay which Topic Option Number you have chosen to write about.
- Please DO NOT include your name or school on your essay; you will be assigned a number to use instead.

Content:

- Essay should be focused, reflect critical thinking, and include research and other details that support the chosen essay topic.
- Essay should be grammatically correct and contain a bibliography and references.

Topic Options:

- Option 1: How has global terrorist activity in the 21st Century influenced NATO's role in global security? How are NATO Member Countries affected by terrorism?
- Option 2: How has the present global economy affected NATO's resources and activities? How has NATO ensured operational readiness during this economic challenge?
- Option 3: Choose two former Warsaw Pact Member Nations and explain how the addition of these nations to NATO has affected 1) European Security, 2) Global Security, and 3) the economies of the chosen Warsaw Pact Members.
- Option 4: Discuss the creation of NATO's Partnership for Peace program. Choose three current PfP member countries and explain 1) why they are not members of NATO, 2) how they can become members of NATO, and 3) do they want to be members of NATO; why or why not?

Preparation for Model NATO Challenge

The Model NATO Challenge is an exciting simulation modeled on the North Atlantic Council (NATO's highest decision-making body), where Student Diplomats are confronted, through a crisis scenario, with real-life challenges to the Alliance. While representing the interests of their assigned country, Diplomats will be asked to work with each other in order to reach consensus on a specific course of action to address the crisis scenario. Diplomats will need to prepare in advance of the exercise by:

- Engaging in independent study to understand the nation he/she has been selected to represent;
- Contacting their mentor to discuss their assigned nation's interests via email or phone at least twice;
- Completing the Model NATO Online Course modules

Diplomats will receive information regarding Model NATO Challenge requirements and will have the opportunity to meet their mentor at the Program Orientation meeting.

On the day of the Challenge, selected Student Diplomats will be evaluated on following weighted criteria for the scholarship awards:

Model NATO – Diplomat's ability to represent their assigned nation's interests	30%
Model NATO – Diplomat's ability to work towards a consensus with all NATO member nations	30%

Important Dates and Required Events - subject to change

Friday, January 12, 2018	Application Deadline (must include essay)
Friday, January 19, 2018	Student Notification of Acceptance
Thursday, February 8, 2018	Program Orientation – Virginia Arts Festival 440 Bank St, Norfolk, VA 23510
Thursday, February 22, 2018	Field Trip to ACT NATO HQ, Norfolk Naval Base
Wednesday, March 14, 2018	Student-Mentor Study Sessions – Virginia Wesleyan University
Wednesday, March 28, 2018	Model NATO Challenge – Virginia Wesleyan University
Friday, April 6, 2018	Scholarship Award Notification
April 26 – 28, 2018	Norfolk NATO Festival Weekend
Thursday, April 26, 2018	Flag Raising Ceremony & Introduction of Student Diplomats at the Virginia International Tattoo
Saturday, April 28, 2018	Presentation of Student Diplomats at the Parade of Nations/Norfolk NATO Fest

Requirements for Scholarship winners

- Must be enrolled at the college or university of his/her choice within 24 months from being awarded the scholarship.
- Award is a one-time occurrence. Past winners are ineligible to receive another scholarship.
- If a winner does not attend college or university within 24 months of award notification, student will forfeit the scholarship.
- Scholarships are sent directly to the college or university to pay for tuition only; the Festival does not award cash directly to students.
- Winners are required to complete the scholarship transmittal form, including their university student ID number and address for the university student finance office. Failure to submit a completed form may result in the forfeiture of the scholarship.

Rubric for Student Diplomat Applications - Essay portion - 2018 Model NATO Challenge

	Limited Proficiency - None	Some Proficiency	Proficiency	High Proficiency	Rating
	0-1 points	2 points	3 points	4-5 points	0-5
Thesis/Focus, Originality	Thesis is missing.	Thesis may be obvious or unimaginative.	Thesis is somewhat original.	Develops a fresh insight that challenges the reader's thinking.	
Thesis/Focus, Clarity	Reader cannot determine thesis & purpose or Thesis has no relation to the writing task.	Thesis and purpose are somewhat vague or Thesis is only loosely related to the writing task.	Thesis and purpose are fairly clear and match the writing task.	Thesis and purpose are clear to the reader; closely match the writing task.	
Organization	Unclear organization or Organization plan is inappropriate to thesis. No transitions.	Some signs of logical organization. May have abrupt or illogical shifts and ineffective flow of ideas.	Organization supports thesis and purpose. Transitions are mostly appropriate. Sequence of ideas could be improved.	Fully and imaginatively supports thesis and purpose. Sequence of ideas is effective. Transitions are effective.	
Support/Reasoning - Ideas and Details	Offers simplistic, underdeveloped, or cryptic support for ideas. Inappropriate or off-topic generalizations, faulty assumptions, errors in fact.	Offers somewhat obvious support that may be too broad. Details are too general, not interpreted, irrelevant to thesis or inappropriately repetitive.	Offers solid but less original reasoning. Assumptions are not always recognized or made explicit. Contains some appropriate details or examples.	Substantial, logical, and concrete development of ideas. Assumptions are made explicit. Details are germane, original, and convincingly interpreted.	
Use of Sources and Documentation	Neglects important sources. Overuse of quotations or paraphrase to substitute writer's own ideas.	Uses relevant sources, but lacks a variety of sources and/or skillful combination of sources. Quotations and paraphrases may be too long and/or inconsistently referenced.	Uses sources to support, extend, and inform, but not substitute writer's own ideas. Does not over use quotes.	Uses sources to support, extend, and inform, but not substitute writer's own development of ideas. Combines material from a variety of sources, including personal observation, scientific data, and authoritative testimony. Does not over use quotes.	
Grammar/ Spelling/Usage/Punctuation	Mechanical and usage errors so severe that writer's ideas are hidden	Repeated weaknesses in mechanics and usage. Punctuation flaws.	Mechanical and usage errors that do not interfere with meaning.	Essentially error free. Evidence of superior control of diction.	
Presentation	Essay is untidy and does not follow basic, common formatting rules.	Essay looks fairly neat but violates some formatting rules.	Essay looks neat but violates one or two formatting rules.	Essay looks neat, crisp, and professional.	