



MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY

55 New Monmouth Road Middletown, NJ 07748

Phone: 732-671-3700 • [www.mtpl.org](http://www.mtpl.org)

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

Scholarship

April 20, 2026

Contact: Kathryn Hammond

Date for Release: Immediate

### **Library Announces Scholarship**

The Board of Trustees of the Middletown Township Public Library has announced that a Conover-Wihtol Scholarship will be awarded to a student interested in a career in the rewarding and challenging profession of librarianship.

The Scholarship was created in 1972 to honor and remember Edith B. Conover and Karl F. Wihtol, both long-time residents of Middletown Township and dedicated friends of the Library. Since its inception, the Fund has awarded 82 scholarships to qualified individuals, many of whom have become quite active in the information field.

Kathryn Hammond, Director of the Library, noted that there are a great number of career opportunities in academic, special libraries, and public libraries. For example, public libraries are no longer just books and audio-visual materials. Public libraries are cultural, educational, and informational centers. For the past several years, the New Jersey State Library has run programs across the state promoting the library profession. By offering the Conover-Wihtol Scholarship for 54 years, Middletown Township Public Library has shown its

commitment to the library field through its support of those individuals seeking to enter the profession.

The Conover-Wihtol Scholarships are offered for a minimum of \$500 to applicants possessing a bachelor's degree or who are in the final semester of undergraduate studies. The applicant will be expected to provide evidence of acceptance for graduate work at an ALA accredited school of Library Science.

Additional information and application forms are available at the Reference Desk at the Middletown Township Public Library, the Library website at [mtpl.org](http://mtpl.org) or by calling 732-671-3700 ext. 330. Completed application forms must be postmarked no later than July 1, 2026. Scholarship(s) will be announced at the July 15, 2026 Library Board of Trustees meeting and recipients will be invited to the September 16, 2026 Library Board of Trustees meeting for an awards presentation and photo opportunity.



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Please read the attached application and announcement in full before completing the application. Please return completed application, with transcripts, if possible, postmarked no later than July 1, 2026 to:

Scholarship Committee

Middletown Township Public Library

55 New Monmouth Road

Middletown, NJ 07748

Applicants accepted for further consideration may be asked to appear before the Library Board of Trustees for a personal interview.

**THE MIDDLETOWN LIBRARY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND**  
**INCLUDING THE CONOVER-WIHTOL BEQUESTS**

**PURPOSE:**

To provide funds for deserving scholars participating in Master of Library Science (MLS).

**SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNTS:**

The amount of each scholarship will be *no less than* \$500.00 per annum. The number of awards per year will be wholly within the discretion of the Board of Trustees.

**MANNER OF DISTRIBUTION:**

All monies awarded to scholarship recipients will be disbursed to the college or university they are attending, to be applied against tuition or fees charged. The check will be made out jointly to the college/university and the recipient.

**APPLICATION PROCEDURE:**

The candidate must:

1. Complete the standard application form which can be obtained from the Library or Library website.
2. Submit a written statement of 150-200 words indicating what contribution you can make to the library profession and librarianship as a career.
3. Submit a transcript from the college/university you are attending (Graduate/Undergraduate).

4. Submit two reference letters.
5. Submit evidence of enrollment or acceptance to an accredited program for a Masters in Library Science (MLS).
6. Submit all applications and attachments to the Middletown Township Public Library by July 1, 2026. (Scholarship(s) will be announced at the July 15, 2026 Board of Trustees meeting.)

**SCHOLARSHIP CONDITIONS REQUIRED:**

1. Must be a resident of New Jersey.
2. Must be attending or be accepted for admission at an accredited School of Library Science for a Masters degree in Library Science or other post graduate library science degree.
3. Must meet requirements of character and scholarship as determined by the selection committee.



**Intended use of scholarship if granted: School, date, courses**

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**Education**

High School (Name and Location)

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Year \_\_\_\_\_

College or University (Name and Location)

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Year \_\_\_\_\_ Degree \_\_\_\_\_ Major \_\_\_\_\_ Minor \_\_\_\_\_

Professional Library Education (School and Location)

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Year \_\_\_\_\_ Courses \_\_\_\_\_

**Work Experience** (List most recent first; use additional 8 ½ x 11" paper if necessary)

Library (Name and Address) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Position \_\_\_\_\_ Dates \_\_\_\_\_

Other (Names and Address) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Position \_\_\_\_\_ Dates \_\_\_\_\_

**References** (Professional or business and educational, NOT personal)

Librarian or Employer

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Email/Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher or Faculty Member

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Email/Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

## CONOVER-WIHTOL SCHOLARSHIP

The Board of Trustees of the Middletown Township Public Library is pleased to announce the availability of the Conover-Wihtol Scholarship for *no less than* \$500 for graduate study in Library Science.

The Scholarship Fund was established in memory of Edith B. Conover and Karl F. Wihtol, both long-time residents of Middletown Township and dedicated friends to the Library.

First consideration for eligibility will be given to residents of Middletown Township, but in the absence of qualified applicants from the Township, New Jersey residents will be considered.

Applicants must possess a bachelor's degree or be in the final semester of undergraduate studies. The applicant will also be expected to provide evidence of acceptance for graduate work at an ALA accredited school of Library Science.

Application forms are available from the Middletown Township Public Library, 55 New Monmouth Road, Middletown, New Jersey 07748 or from the Library website at [mtpl.org](http://mtpl.org).

Completed application forms must be postmarked no later than July 1, 2026.