

Illinois State Historical Society

411 E. Monroe Street • P.O. Box 1800
Springfield, IL 62705-1800
Phone 217/525-2781 • Fax 217/525-2783
www.historyillinois.org

Attention Illinois High School Students!

Is a \$1,000 Scholarship in your future?!

Are you the next winner of the Illinois State Historical Society's Verna Ross Orndorff Scholarship? The ISHS is offering this prestigious award of \$1,000 for the best 1,500-word essay written by an Illinois high school student on the subject of Abraham Lincoln or the Civil War era in Illinois. **Essays must be submitted by January 15th of every year.**

(1) The focus of the essay should be about Abraham Lincoln or a significant event in the Civil War period in Illinois.

(2) Essay should be 1,500 words with a title page, outline, annotated bibliography, and suggestions for further reading.

(3) The name of the student; address and e-mail; phone number; name of school; and name of student's teacher, must be provided with submission of the application for the scholarship. Included in this mailing is the application. Please feel free to make as many copies as needed. You may also email kim.jones@historyillinois.org for a copy to be emailed.

The student whose essay is chosen will receive a \$1,000 scholarship and a Certificate of Achievement. The Award will be presented at the Illinois State Historical Society's Annual Awards Banquet in 2026. Additionally, the winner's paper will be published in a forthcoming issue of *Illinois Heritage* magazine. For more information, call (217) 525-2781 ext. 2.

Entries should be mailed to the Society office at 411 E. Monroe St., PO Box 1800, Springfield, IL 62705-1800 or email Kimberly Jones at kim.jones@historyillinois.org. This scholarship is named for a lifelong student of Illinois history, Vera Ross Orndorff, a native of River Forest, Illinois.

Illinois
State Historical Society

**VERNA ROSS ORNDORFF SCHOLARSHIP
ILLINOIS STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Strawbridge-Shepherd House PO Box 1800
Springfield, Illinois 62705-1800
Telephone: 217-525-2781
www.historyillinois.org

Email: kim.jones@historyillinois.org

Submission must be postmarked or emailed by January 15, 2026

Student First Name: _____ **Last Name:** _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Grade: _____ **School:** _____

Teacher-Name: _____

Address (school): _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Name of School: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

(over)

Name of local newspaper: _____

Address: _____

Email address or website: _____

Essay:

(please use additional paper if necessary)