

The Shelby Award

Purpose:

*To award a scholarship to one or more students who will be 16-18 years of age by August 31 of the year of the award, are preparing to enter college, and exemplify courage and steadfastness to truth in research concerning the Shroud of Turin.

*To encourage continuing research concerning the Shroud of Turin and to develop and support new research participants who will be eminently qualified and dedicated to truthful, fruitful discovery concerning the Shroud of Turin in all the various facets of Shroud studies.

*To form a self-sustaining legacy to endure for the preservation, conservation, and increased understanding of the Shroud of Turin, together with the development of an ever-increasing body of recorded research knowledge, evidence, and documents relevant to the Shroud of Turin.

Background:

Throughout history the Shroud has been a source of controversy as those who demand proof of faith argue with those who demand proof of "no faith". Neither is possible. Many who have worked in earnest to perform research concerning the Shroud of Turin, while practicing their skills in all truth and open sincerity, have been criticized for bias, while their work was prejudicially held to be without merit. This is extremely offensive to those who find themselves in this predicament, whether or not they are a person of faith in Christ. Either position is susceptible to such unjust misjudgment.

Recent political issues created vitriolic reactions and stayed reasonable discussion and debate on any topic even remotely related to religion or faith. The emotions surrounding "political correctness" interferes with open discussion concerning faith and morals, and further treats with disdain those who might openly demonstrate and acknowledge their Christian faith.

It was disheartening to hear of a high school student and her concerns on this malady of society. She performed ardent, truthful research for a history project about Shroud of Turin studies and the connection to New Mexico history. The historic 1978 study began in New Mexico and has had a major impact on international Shroud of Turin history and on methods of scientific research. That study presents a body of evidence most critical to further understanding of the Shroud of Turin.

The "Shelby Award" has been established to confront the challenges posed by those who would criticize or cast aside proper research done in truth simply because it disagrees with societal opinion or opposes a personal belief. It is our hope to encourage truthful research concerning the Shroud of Turin.

SHELBY AWARD RULES

1. All entries must be received at the mailing/shipping address of the Shroud Exhibit and Museum, Inc. (SEAM), or be delivered in person (not via mail or service) to the museum during normal operating hours, to arrive no later than 5:00PM on August 1, 2017. No mail or carrier delivery will be accepted at the physical address of the museum. No personal deliveries will be accepted at the mailing address. These addresses are:
 - A.) Mail Carrier address:
Shroud Exhibit and Museum, Inc.
3346 Robert H Bradley Dr.
Alamogordo, NM 88310
 - B.) Physical address:
Shroud Exhibit and Museum, Inc.
923 New York
Alamogordo, NM 88310
2. Text portions of entries shall be submitted as a PDF file on a standard USB thumb drive and shall also be printed and placed in a three-ring notebook binder of appropriate size.
3. All text, pictures, illustrations, and any other material related to the entry shall be open to any and all use of Shroud Exhibit and Museum, Inc. and shall become property of SEAM (SEAM) upon receipt. Therefore, use of any copyright or proprietary material or trademarks shall be cleared properly by the entrant obtaining permission(s) of the rights holder(s) prior to sending the entry to SEAM. Documentation of any and all such permissions must be submitted with the entry. Any violation of such rights will be the sole liability of the entrant and the entrant shall hold harmless SEAM and all parties associated with SEAM from such liabilities should any claims occur.
4. All entries shall be suitable for poster panel display, not to exceed one common tri-fold display in size, and any text accompanying any illustrations or images, such as display labels and descriptive statements, shall be printed and ready for mounting on the display, if the display is to be assembled by SEAM and is not delivered to SEAM already assembled, the latter (assembled) being the preferred method.
5. All shipping and all costs associated with the delivery method chosen by the entrant for the entry shall be borne solely by the entrant. SEAM shall not be held liable for any such direct expenses or any related expenses.
6. The judges of the Shelby Award entries shall be chosen and assigned at the sole discretion of SEAM. Their decisions to award or not to award any prize in any amount to any entrant or to any entrants shall be at their sole discretion and their decisions shall be considered final upon declaration.
7. The amount(s) and award(s), if any, to be given in any cycle or year of award shall be established by the Board of Directors of SEAM at a meeting to be held prior to the actual award ceremony and shall be solely at the discretion of the Board. For the August 1, 2017 entries, the initial estimate of the total award(s) to be offered is \$1000.00 (one-thousand

dollars). The award(s) will be announced on or before August 15, 2017. The award(s) will be presented at a ceremony to be held on Saturday, August 26, 2017.

8. Entrants must be able to receive the award in person at SEAM's physical location on the date of the award ceremony. Transportation, lodging, and other assistance might possibly be provided by SEAM, but at the sole discretion of SEAM as to the amount, if any, to be provided. Otherwise, a means of telecommunication, such as Internet streaming by some method, might be used to make the presentation, in which case the entrant receiving the award must be present at the assigned time and remote access location for their end of the link to be employed, if any.
9. Entries must demonstrate significant research and provide references to prior research performed by published, known, and respected Shroud research experts. The entry may be on any topic of true Shroud research, including, but not limited to, history, chemistry, biology, forensic sciences, relationships to descriptions of crucifixion and wounds, and so on. Entries can be faith-based or not, at the election of the entrant.
10. Other rules may come to apply concerning award. Changes, if any, shall be at the sole discretion of SEAM and shall be in force as determined necessary by SEAM at any time without notice.