

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic®
The 2009 Marion Huber Learning Through Listening® Awards
For RFB&D® Members who are High School Seniors with Learning Disabilities

DEADLINE: Applications must be *postmarked no later than April 6, 2009*

ABOUT THE AWARD

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic (RFB&D), a nonprofit volunteer organization, is the nation's educational library serving people who cannot effectively read standard print because of visual impairment, dyslexia or other physical disability. Our mission is to create opportunities for individual success by providing, and promoting the effective use of, accessible educational materials.

Each year, the **Marion Huber Learning Through Listening (LTL®)** awards are presented to RFB&D members who are high school seniors with learning disabilities, in recognition of extraordinary leadership, scholarship, enterprise and service to others.

Marion Huber made her first gift of \$200 to RFB&D in 1959. By 1990, she was making gifts in the range of \$20,000. Marion was particularly focused on RFB&D's expanded mission, reaching out to students with learning disabilities. She observed the power of "Learning Through Listening" to transform lives, and it was for this reason that she endowed our award for students with dyslexia and other disabilities that prevent effective reading. By creating a permanent endowment, Marion Huber ensured that the work she valued during her lifetime continues today.

Offered since 1991, the awards are given to six students who are chosen by a selection committee. RFB&D presents the three top winners \$6,000 each and three special honors winners \$2,000 each. The three top winners will be presented with their awards at an event to be announced.

Applicants should be aware that:

- As a top winner, you must be present at the celebratory event in order to receive your award.
- All winners may be asked to represent RFB&D as a spokesperson and advocate at various local and national events. Costs associated with these events will be covered by RFB&D.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Only fully completed applications will be considered for the awards. Please **DO NOT** include further information (such as news clippings, photos or additional references) other than that which has been specifically asked for. Such information will not be considered and will not be returned.

Documents must be paper-clipped together (**do not staple**) in the following order:

- A fully completed and signed personal application (*Form 1*)
- Essay – with your name at the top of each page
- List of honors, achievements and community activities
- Two letters of recommendation on official school letterhead with two signed referral forms (*Form 2*)
- An official school transcript

Any questions regarding the awards may be directed to RFB&D at **609-243-7051** or **866-732-3585** (toll free) or e-mail dnagy@rfd.org.

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DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED TO APPLY

Candidates that meet all of the eligibility criteria must submit the following documents:

1. **A fully completed and signed personal application (*Form 1*)**
2. **One Essay:**

Provide us with an essay of 1,000 words or less that includes all of the following:
 - Tell us about yourself and your life, including what you consider important about your background and your future personal and professional aspirations.
 - How and when did you discover RFB&D?
 - What difference has RFB&D made in your life and what role will it play in your future?
 - What role could you play as an RFB&D spokesperson and advocate?
3. **Honors, achievements and community activities:**
On a separate sheet of paper, list and describe the following:
 - Honors, awards and honorary society memberships.
 - Special achievements (scholarships and talents).
 - Extracurricular and community activities. Please provide timeframes and the extent and level of involvement.
4. **Two letters of recommendation for this award** from teachers or school administrators who have known you personally and can evaluate classroom performance and extracurricular activities. Attached to each letter of recommendation must be a referral form (*Form 2*) signed by the teacher/school administrator. The letters **must** be on official school letterhead.
5. **An official transcript** of your high school grades at the time of application, covering grades 10 through 12. *All transcripts must include some grade 12 marks.*

MAIL TO:

2009 LTL Awards
c/o: Diana Nagy
Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic
20 Roszel Road
Princeton, NJ 08540

Applications must be ***postmarked no later than April 6, 2009***

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FORM 1 – PERSONAL APPLICATION

Please type or print clearly and include ONLY the information that is requested in the spaces below.

To apply for this award, you must be able to respond affirmatively and check **all** of the following eligibility criteria:

- I have a specific learning disability (please note that visual impairment alone does not indicate eligibility for this award). For the purposes of this award, a learning disability is defined as a neurological disorder that affects a person's ability to receive, process, store, and/or respond to information, and which affects the person's ability to read standard print
- I have been registered as an RFB&D member for at least one year, up to and including the period of March 2, 2008 — March 2, 2009 (individually or through a school)
- I am a member of the 2009 graduating class of a public or private school or home school in the United States or its territories, including U.S. military installations
- I have an overall grade average of B (i.e. 3.0 out of 4.0) or above, based on grade levels 10 through 12 at the time of application
- I plan to continue my formal education beyond high school at either a two- or four-year college or vocational school

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Home Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Anticipated Graduation Date: _____

Grade Point Average: _____

Describe your particular disability: _____

Are you registered with RFB&D individually? Y/N _____ If Yes, provide ID # _____

If you have a membership through an institution/school, provide details below:

Name/Membership # of institution/school: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Contact Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Continued on page 2

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FORM 1 – PERSONAL APPLICATION CONTINUED

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Duration of your membership? _____ Approximate number of **RFB&D** audiobooks read in the last 3 years (or, if membership is under 3 years, during your membership): _____

Name of school you are currently attending:

Name of school you will be attending next year (two- or four-year college or vocational study):

If you have not selected a college, please list the schools to which you have applied:

SIGNATURE

The applicant (or guardian) signature constitutes a pledge that this application is accurate to the best of their knowledge, that the application is entirely the work of the applicant and that the applicant meets all of the eligibility criteria. In addition, by signing this form, the applicant (and guardian, if under age 18) agrees to participate in RFB&D media activities and gives RFB&D the absolute right and permission to feature the name, photograph, videotape, quotes and/or information about the applicant in any RFB&D publication and/or public relations materials; and hereby waives the right to approve the finished product(s).

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Signature of parent or guardian: _____ Date: _____
(required if applicant is under 18 years of age)

Name of parent or guardian: _____

RFB&D USE ONLY: Inst. Ind. Reg. Date: _____ Exp. Date: _____

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FORM 2 – TEACHER/SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR REFERRAL FORM

This form must be attached to your letter of recommendation, which **must** be on school letterhead and both documents mailed with the candidate's application.

PLEASE TYPE OR CLEARLY PRINT

Applicant's Name: _____

Name of High School: _____

Name of Teacher/School Administrator: _____

Title and Department: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

The student whose name appears above is applying for a **Marion Huber Learning Through Listening** award, presented by **Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic** to members who are graduating high school seniors with learning disabilities, in recognition of extraordinary leadership, scholarship, enterprise and service to others. Your recommendation offering specific information about the accomplishments and qualifications of the applicant, and your comments as to how RFB&D has helped this student, will be most helpful to the selection committee in its evaluation.

Your estimation of the applicant's performance, abilities and personal qualities will be carefully reviewed. If you are aware of contributions the applicant has made to the school or community, please comment on his/her talent, dedication and effectiveness.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

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