VIC WOOD AWARD

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

The Victorian Woodworkers Association has established a scholarship to honour Vic Wood's legacy and to further the aims of the VWA. The intent of the award is to promote excellence in woodwork and to engender inclusive and supportive woodworking networks. The VWA is an inclusive woodworking organisation and encourages everyone to apply.

Applications Close Sunday 8th November 2026

AIMS OF THE SCHOLARSHIP

- The Vic Wood Scholarship will be awarded to a VWA member to undertake a woodworking course or educational opportunity:
- That supports an emerging fine woodworker
- That furthers the acquisition of woodworking skills and knowledge
- That promotes the sharing and development of skills and knowledge among the broader woodworking community

ELLIGIBILITY

- Application is open to all VWA members, residing in Australia.
- You may join the VWA at the time of making the application.
- Membership is for one year from the date of joining and is non-refundable.

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ABOUT VIC WOOD

Vic Wood was renowned locally, nationally and internationally as an innovator in the field of woodturning. He was highly sought after as a demonstrator of his craft. Vic encouraged and fostered future innovators in the field, mentoring their work, recommending them as demonstrators, and promoting them in articles he wrote for the UK magazine Woodturning. Many of the people he featured in these articles would go on to become internationally recognised turners.

Vic began his career as a teacher of woodwork in Victoria's government secondary school system where he was recognised as a first rate educator. He was seconded to Melbourne State College where he trained woodwork teachers, influencing educators who then went on to spread the word. Vic Wood's teaching philosophy was quite simple, and could be summed up as follows: 'share everything, have nothing to hide, and have no secrets; for ultimately it is in giving that you receive'.

Vic's connection with the Victorian Woodworkers Association (VWA) goes back to its inception when he and several other like-minded people saw a need for a place where creative woodworkers could meet and share knowledge and skills. This resulted in the formation of the VWA in 1979 with Vic as the inaugural President.

Over the years Vic moved from formal to private education and demonstrating. After a career spanning fifty two years, Vic's outstanding service to arts and crafts in Australia and the VWA was recognised with an OAM in the Australia Day honours list in January 2012.
Vic passed away in 2020.

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SCOPE

The successful applicant will receive a $2800 grant to further their skills in woodwork or woodwork teaching.

The grant is open each year with one successful applicant.

The scholarship can be applied to educational opportunities provided by woodworking schools, programs, instructors, or mentors and can be applied to course fees, tuition, travel or lodging costs.

Applicants can propose formal or informal activities including tertiary education, structured courses from private/not-for-profit wood schools, overseas courses, mentoring, apprenticeship, bench access etc.

Informal activities may need to be evidenced in some way, such as through a letter of support from the mentor and proof of expenses.

CONDITIONS

The activity must be commenced within 12 months of award.

The scholarship will be paid as reimbursement for costs incurred by the successful applicant. After the completion of the educational activity (or up to 18 months if the activity is ongoing), the scholarship holder is required to submit a report to the VWA describing how the funds have been used and, if requested, make a short presentation at one of the VWA's member meetings.

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HOW TO APPLY

Submit your application as .doc or .pdf to the VWA to **scholarships@vwa.org.au by Sunday 8th November 2026**
Your application must include the following:

- a document addressing each of the Assessment Criteria set out below. Please address each criteria separately. This should not exceed 3 pages.
- a bio outlining your experience with woodworking;
- a clear description of the educational opportunity. If it is a formal course, please include a link to the course information. If it is an informal/non-structured activity, please clearly describe the arrangement;
- anything else you think is relevant to your application.

Late entries will not be accepted.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Grants are awarded solely at the discretion of the VWA. The following criteria will be used to select the successful applicant:

- The applicant's connection to the woodworking community (for example through professional practice, volunteer work or teaching)
- The name or description of the proposed activity including a clear statement on the merits and quality of the proposed course of activity
- The benefits of the proposed activity to the applicant in terms of the development of woodworking skills and pedagogy
- The applicant's plans for sharing the skills gained among the Australian woodworking community (for example, through practical workshops, VWA presentations, etc.)