

# THE AVINGER SCHOLARS PROGRAM

## Purpose of the Scholarship

Established in honor of Robert L. Avinger, Jr., a member of the Davidson Class of 1960 and Professor of Economics from 1967-1980, this award will identify and recognize an outstanding rising sophomore, junior or senior who shows the vision, qualities and passions of a true entrepreneur and who demonstrates an entrepreneurial spirit, giving evidence of creativity and energy that will lead to future success in either business or civic engagement.

## Criteria for Selection

Recipients will give evidence of their entrepreneurial experience, success, plus their goals and strategies for future enterprises.

## Award Value

The Avinger Scholars award is valued at \$10,000. Scholars will also benefit from an on-going relationship with Mr. Avinger and mentoring opportunities with members of the Avinger Scholarship Advisory Team.

## Award Details

The Avinger Scholars award funds can be disbursed in one of several ways:

- Applied directly to the cost of attendance at Davidson.
- Upon approval of a submitted proposal and budget:
  - To cover the cost of the onetime purchase of a new computer and software appropriate to the recipient's entrepreneurial enterprise(s).
  - To fund summer internships and/or travel linked directly to the entrepreneurial aspect of the program.
  - To cover appropriate graduate school preparation costs – e.g. interview travel, application fees, tuition deposit, etc.
  - To provide post-graduate support of start up costs for a new business venture or appropriate internship or travel abroad opportunities, to be completed within 24 months of graduation from Davidson. (The scholarship recipient would be responsible for any taxes associated with funding.)

## Method of Selection

Finalists chosen on the basis of their submitted applications – **to include a candidate information form, application essay, and letter of recommendation from a faculty, staff, or community member directly involved with the candidate's entrepreneurial background** – will be interviewed by a committee including a member of the Avinger Scholars Advisory Team and Davidson faculty and/or staff members designated by the Director of Merit Programs.

# **AVINGER SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION ESSAY**

Please craft a personal statement (no longer than two attached pages) describing for the selection committee the experiences, goals and talents that make you a competitive candidate for this award. The following prompts may help you frame that statement.

- What are the qualities of a great entrepreneur?
- Why do you think you have what it takes to be one?
- What experiences have helped you develop these qualities? What might the Avinger Scholarship do to help you develop them further?

# **AVINGER SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM**

NAME:

PREFERRED NAME:

CLASS YEAR:

CELL NUMBER:

EMAIL:

MAJOR:

ADVISOR:

RECOMMENDER:

NAME:

TITLE:

PHONE NUMBER:

EMAIL:

## **Avinger Scholarship Applicant's Agreement**

I have read this information and wish to present myself for consideration for the Avinger Scholarship. Submission of this application grants permission to the Selection Committee to review my Davidson College transcript and student personnel records and to contact any references named in this application.

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

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_