

Leland Little Auction to sponsor appraisal scholarship

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CHICAGO – The Foundation for Appraisal Education has announced the establishment of a new scholarship in the area of fine and decorative arts. In alliance with the scholarship sponsor, Leland Little Auction & Estate Sales Ltd., the foundation will be offering the Leland Little Auction & Estate Sales Ltd. Scholarship in Fine and Decorative Arts for the first time in 2012.

This \$1,500 scholarship will be awarded to an individual applicant under the age of 30, attending college level courses, seminars or specialty training in fine and decorative arts.

A nonprofit organization, the Foundation for Appraisal Education promotes the advancement of education related to the field of personal property appraising, and it assists individuals through scholarships for educational development to improve their capabilities by attending courses, classes, workshops and conferences. One of their key initiatives is the awarding of educational scholarships annually to aid those seeking to improve their knowledge in the field of personal property.

“We are enthusiastic about our new partnership with Leland Little Auction & Estate Sales, Ltd.” said Beth Szescila, president of the foundation. “Their innovative approach to promoting fine and decorative arts education among young adults will foster training and development of future appraisers and other professionals in the field. The sponsorship of this scholarship is an indication of their strong commitment to the field of fine and decorative arts and its future. We are grateful for their financial support and focus on education.”

Established by Leland Little in 1998, Leland Little Auction & Estate Sales Ltd. is located in Hillsborough, N.C., and specializes in the auctioning of quality estate objects. They have achieved national prominence through their specialties, including their fine art, decorative arts, fine jewelry, furniture, historical documents, coins, militaria and fine wine departments. Their Asian art department is nationally renowned with dramatic growth during the past two years with both domestic and international clients.

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In regard to the scholarship, company president Leland Little said, "We are honored to be able to provide this opportunity for a young adult to pursue fine and decorative arts training, as it is important to encourage and support young adults entering the professional careers of appraisers, auctioneers, and curators."

Individuals under the age of 30 may apply through the foundation's defined application process. Students, appraisers, auctioneers, museum curators or any individual wanting to further their educational development in the area of fine and decorative arts personal property may apply for the scholarship.

"This scholarship is the largest single scholarship ever awarded by the foundation for appraisal education," said Vicky Nash Shaw, foundation treasurer.

Scholarships are awarded to cover the costs for tuition of courses, classes, workshops, programs or conferences and do not include travel, hotel or other associated expenses.

Applications for this scholarship will be accepted through June 30, and detailed information and applications can be found on the website for the Foundation for Appraisal Education: www.foundationforappraisaleducation.org or by contacting Diane Marvin, vice president and scholarship director, at dmappraise@aol.com. Leland Little Auction and Estate Sales Ltd. can be contacted through its website: www.llauctions.com.

The Foundation for Appraisal Education offers two additional scholarships in the field of appraising personal property; one is for experienced and one for new appraisers. Information on those scholarships may be found on the same website and the application deadline is May 31. The foundation also promotes appraisal education through an annual publication, *The Journal of Advanced Appraisal Studies*. The 2012 issue will be released in April and further information will be forthcoming on the foundation's website.

Funding for all of these programs comes from donations, gifts and memorials from groups and individuals, as well as from corporate donations and sponsorships. Donations are tax deductible and may be made directly to the Foundation or through their website.

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