

## **Kemper Scholars Program at Phillips Academy Andover**

### **Historical Background of the Kemper Scholarship**

Beginning in the 1970s the number of international students increased at Andover. From 1972 on, Head of School Ted Sizer sought qualified European students who became known as “Kemper Scholars.” They were supported by a special fund named after former headmaster John Mason Kemper, who had been instrumental in the founding of School Year Abroad and diversifying Phillips Academy, among many other pioneering acts.

The first Kemper Scholar arrived in 1976. Kemper Scholars have primarily been recruited from four European countries: France, Germany, Italy, and Spain. While at times (in the 1990s), Phillips Academy had as many as nine Kemper Scholars, more recently the number has been three or four.

### **Eligibility:**

The candidate must be eligible to participate as a 12th grade or Post Graduate student of Phillips Academy and qualified to obtain a Phillips Academy diploma, after successful completion of the academic year. It is most advantageous for the student to attend Phillips Academy in the year after high school in their home country, though our German students are typically younger. Note that if the student is older than 18, they may be “too old” for this opportunity at Andover.

### **Qualifications/Qualities We Seek:**

Andover uses a holistic application review process when making admission decisions. A successful Kemper Scholar candidate will have demonstrated they are of strong character. Successful Kemper candidates also often demonstrate that they are:

- a capable student willing to put in the work effort to obtain good results,
- capable and comfortable communicating with a reasonable degree of fluency in both oral and written English,
- independent, self-disciplined and self-directed; capable of managing their time/workload (though support structures are in place),
- sufficiently self-aware to know when and how to self-advocate and will reach out to teachers or other trusted adults when in need of support,
- resilient and capable of adapting to new and various situations likely to be encountered in an American, boarding school setting,
- open-minded,
- caring and show concern for others, and are
- eager to facilitate friendships and otherwise engage in the classrooms/residence halls within an intentionally diverse community.
- Candidates should have extracurricular interests and skills (e.g., community service, music, athletics, drama, visual art, dance, leadership, etc.).
- Andover prefers to provide this opportunity to qualified candidates that have not previously studied in an English-speaking country and who would have no other means to study for a year in the US.

We also seek international students who are capable of making an impact on their peers. Though they may excel academically, students who do little more than study will rarely accomplish that goal at Andover. An ability to laugh at oneself is always a plus, too, though not an official qualification.

### **Financial Assistance:**

In addition to the application for admission, candidates for the Kemper Scholars Program are required to complete a financial aid application.

Based on the family's level of financial need, and as determined by their application, financial aid grant support may include:

- Boarding tuition
- Textbooks/Course Materials Fee
- Round-trip travel home for any two of the school's three holiday breaks (Thanksgiving, Winter, Spring)
- A Weekly stipend of \$25/week when school is in session
- Increased stipend for school supplies at the start of each academic term
- Increased stipend for a warm clothing allowance in the fall
- Increased stipend for travel spending money at the start of holiday breaks
- Support for student social events, when a cost is involved
- Private Music Lessons for one instrument (these could be fully supported, or discounted, depending upon their financial aid grant)

Note that all families are responsible for a refundable \$500 breakage deposit, as Financial Aid is unable to support that cost.

**Application process:**

Candidates should complete an ASSIST application through the online system.