

Nina Tretiak-Shields Scholarship for Study Abroad

UB Study Abroad is pleased to offer the Nina Tretiak-Shields Scholarship for Study Abroad, made possible through the generous endowment gift of former UB professor, Nina Tretiak-Shields.

Nina Tretiak-Shields was born in 1914 in the Ukraine and attended Kharkov University during the totalitarian regime of Joseph Stalin. Despite threats to her life from Stalin's forces, she stayed at the university to complete her doctorate. In 1940, Dr. Tretiak-Shields fled the Ukraine and landed in a refugee camp in Germany. In 1950, she immigrated to the US with her family. Speaking no English, she was awarded a scholarship to study Russian Language and Literature at Indiana University. In 1959, Dr. Tretiak-Shields came to the University at Buffalo and opened the department of Russian Language and Literature. She retired from UB in 1982.

Based on available funds, the Nina Tretiak-Shields Scholarship for Study Abroad is awarded annually to UB students who study abroad in a non-English speaking country in order to further their proficiency in a foreign language. The maximum award amount is equal to one semester of resident tuition (or the corresponding resident tuition for a summer program).

Recipients will be required to submit a letter of thanks to be forwarded to the donor's family before disbursement of funds. Upon return, recipients will be required to complete a service project to assist with promoting study abroad to their fellow students. For this reason, applicants who will return to UB for at least one semester upon completion of their study abroad program will be given preference.

Eligibility requirements:

- Applicants must be currently enrolled, full-time, matriculated University at Buffalo students in good academic standing at the time of application.
- Applicants must have applied to participate in a study abroad program for academic credit (minimum of 3 credits at the undergraduate or graduate level).

Criteria:

- Awards will be based on financial need, academic merit, and seriousness of purpose.
- Preference will be given to applicants who have never studied or traveled abroad and to those who have selected a country or region in which they have little or no prior experience.
- Applicants must be able to demonstrate how the proposed study abroad program will help increase their language proficiency and their plans for utilizing these skills upon graduation.
- Students with documented financial need will be given preference.
- Students who intend to return to UB for at least one semester will be given preference.

Award Guidelines:

- Applications will be reviewed by the UB Study Abroad scholarships committee.
- Finalists for the scholarship may be called for personal interviews.
- The award decisions of the committee are final and not subject to appeal.
- Nina Tretiak-Shields Scholarship for Study Abroad recipients may not apply again.

Applications:

Applications are due by **March 15** for fall, year and summer programs, and **October 15** for spring programs. A complete application includes:

- Application Form
- Personal Statement and Service Requirement Statement
- Letter of academic recommendation, preferably from UB language instructor/professor
- If applicable, copy of current Financial Aid award (available from Student Response Center)

Complete applications and questions should be directed to:

UB Study Abroad, 210 Talbert Hall, Tel: 716 645 3912, Email: studyabroad@buffalo.edu

**Nina Tretiak-Shields Scholarship for Study Abroad
Application Form**

Name: _____

Person Number: _____

Class (e.g., Sophomore): _____

Expected graduation date: _____

Major(s): _____

Minor(s): _____

Cumulative GPA: _____

UB email address: _____

Study Abroad Information:

1. Have you already applied for a study abroad program? _____ Yes _____ No

Program name: _____

City/country: _____

Term of study abroad: _____

Sponsoring campus: _____

2. What language will you study on this program? _____

3. Please indicate your prior experience with studying this language (*list UB courses you have taken*).

4. Is this is your first college-level study abroad program? _____ Yes _____ No

5. Please indicate any prior experience with studying, traveling or living abroad (*please list locations, dates and purpose and attach additional page if necessary*).

Financial Information:

1. Please indicate any other scholarships which you have applied for and/or received for your study abroad program:

Scholarship name: _____

Amount: _____

Scholarship name: _____

Amount: _____

Scholarship name: _____

Amount: _____

2. Please indicate how you plan to finance your study abroad program by providing estimates available to you from the following additional sources:

Financial aid: _____ Loans: _____ Parent/guardian assistance: _____ Savings: _____

Other sources (please describe): _____

3. How likely is your study abroad participation without this scholarship?

_____ Impossible _____ Unlikely _____ Likely _____ Definite

4. For programs outside UB, what is the total program cost (*not including personal travel*)? _____
Please attach cost information for the program (e.g., brochure, web site printout, etc.).

Applicant Certification:

I certify that the information given above and in my personal statement is correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Academic Advisor Certification:

I recommend the above student for the Nina Tretiak-Shields Scholarship for Study Abroad, and certify that he/she is a full-time matriculated University at Buffalo student in good standing.

Name of Academic Advisor: _____ Title: _____

Advisor's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Nina Tretiak-Shields Scholarship for Study Abroad Personal Statement

Directions: Please provide a personal statement of 500 words using the space below or by attaching printed pages. In your statement, you must address the following:

- Language of study for your proposed study abroad program and your previous experience with studying this language through coursework and other activities
 - Your expectations for how this program will contribute to your language proficiency
 - Your plans for using your skills in this language and your study abroad experience upon graduation from UB
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Nina Tretiak-Shields Scholarship for Study Abroad Service Requirement Statement

Directions: Please provide a brief statement to outline how you would assist UB Study Abroad in the promotion of study abroad at UB, particularly for language study. Examples of possible assistance include serving as a peer advisor, visiting language classes, participating in study abroad events, or working on a project such as a presentation, scrapbook or another creative project. Please use the space below or attach a printed page (maximum length is one page).
