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*Ruth  
Buxton  
Sayre  
Scholarship*



A Project of the  
 Country Women's Council USA  
 Established in 1982  
[www.cwcusa.org](http://www.cwcusa.org)



*Ruth B. Sayre*

**“A leader stays in long enough to make a contribution, but not long enough to prevent others from making theirs.”**

Ruth Buxton Sayre is considered by many to be the most influential farm woman during the 20th Century. She was born a banker's daughter in Indianola, Iowa. Upon becoming a farmer's wife in 1919 and mother of four children in due time, Ruth became abruptly exposed to the deprivations of farm families compared to their town cousins. She promptly determined to improve condition for rural families by encouraging women to work for change in their communities.

During the 1920s and 30s, she traveled the muddy, rutted roads of her county and region, organizing extension courses for young farm wives and working for simple amenities taken for granted today; electricity, indoor plumbing, and running water. She also tackled the large problems within rural communities, calling for better schools and establishing public libraries.

From 1947 - 1953 she served as the first working president of the Associated Country Women of the World. To date, Mrs. Sayre is the only American to have held that prestigious post. It was one of many leadership roles she fulfilled at state and national levels during her years as spokeswoman for rural change.

One of her many distinctions included being the only woman appointed to a U.S. Agricultural Advisory committee by President Eisenhower. Through decades of public service Ruth traveled the world encouraging women in developing countries to pool their resources to help themselves.

In 1982 the Country Women's Council USA established a scholarship in honor of Mrs. Sayre. The aim of this scholarship is to lift people in her name by helping them to help themselves through education.

*April 2020*

**Purpose:**

The Country Women's Council USA (CWC) offers the Ruth B. Sayre Memorial Scholarship for the purpose of fostering educational development for women.

**Consideration:**

Up to four \$500 scholarships will be awarded each year depending on the amount available.

**General Conditions:**

1. CWC shall administer the fund.
2. Scholarship(s) shall be paid up to the amount of \$500 for a 12-month period of study.
3. Funds may be used to supplement tuition, books, or other required educational needs.
4. Scholarship recipients may apply for the same award the succeeding year if satisfactory progress is made.

**Eligibility:**

Applicant shall:

1. be a legal resident of USA.
2. live in a state of a CWC member society.
3. demonstrate leadership ability.
4. have a financial need.
5. carry a minimum of nine (9) credit hours.

**Application:**

1. Applicant need not be a member of Associated Country Women of the World or Country Women's Council USA.
2. Application forms, available on (CWC) web site, must be sent through applicant's state society chair or president of an (ACWW - CWC) affiliated society listed on website [www.cwcusa.org](http://www.cwcusa.org). Due date is March 1.

3. Application shall contain;
  - a. two (2) reference letters (only) **must be from non-family members.**
  - b. transcript of grades.
  - c. a summary of applicant's experiences, goals and financial need.
  - d. photo required.
  - e. incomplete applications will be discarded.
4. Applications from society president or chair shall be postmarked to:  
CWC Vice-Chairperson by April 1.  
Name and address found on website [www.cwcusa.org](http://www.cwcusa.org)

**Winners will be posted on the website [www.cwcusa.org](http://www.cwcusa.org) after June 1**

**Scholarship Selection Committee:**

The scholarship selection committee shall consist of :

- a. The Vice-Chairperson of CWC who serves as chair.
- b. Three qualified judges appointed by the chairperson.

**Objective and Goals of CWC:**

The purpose of CWC is to meet for:

1. Discussion and consultation in matters pertaining to ACWW.
2. Help member societies to understand their role in ACWW.
3. Assist in proposing resolutions and recommendations to ACWW at the World Conference.
4. Encourage implementation of ACWW resolutions.
5. Inform societies about ACWW projects and activities.
6. Brief member societies on ACWW world conferences.

*Societies are members of :*

*Associated Country Women of World (ACWW)  
and  
Country Womens Council USA  
(CWC)*

*Links to the websites of all Societies  
can be found by  
visiting [www.cwcusa.org](http://www.cwcusa.org).*

This scholarship fund is made available by generous donations from individuals and member societies. Donations are accepted and added to the balance of the established funds to keep this scholarship viable for future educational development for American women.

**Societies and individuals are encouraged  
to  
contribute annually to the  
*Ruth B. Sayre Scholarship Fund***

**Make checks payable to CWC and  
designate for Sayre Scholarship Fund.**

**Send to:  
CWC Treasurer listed on website  
[www.cwcusa.org](http://www.cwcusa.org)**