

10th Mountain Division Descendants K-12 Education Project

Grade Level - 12

Finn-Thornton Descendant Scholarship

Introduction: The 10th Mtn. Div. Desc. K-12 Education Project was developed to help our younger members become “engaged” in the story of WWII as experienced by the 10th Mountain Division. Students will have the opportunity to complete an activity at each grade level which will help them better understand the significance of WWII and, in particular, the contributions and sacrifices made by the 10th Mtn. Div. Upon completion of each activity the student will receive an achievement certificate, a patch or medal and recognition in the Blizzard.

The story of the 10th Mtn. Div. is one that must be remembered. It is the hope that by completing these activities, their legacy will continue.

SEMPRE AVANTI!

Background: Captain Frederick Finn was a soldier in the 10th Mountain Division who was KIA in Italy, 1945. At the time of his death he was married and had three children; Kathleen, John and Patricia. Patricia grew up not knowing her father but became very involved with the 10th Mountain Division Descendants as a way of honoring her father. Through her involvement with Descendants Inc., she was able to meet many veterans including a few who knew her father and were able to share stories about Captain Finn with her. In 2000, Patricia Thornton was elected President of the 10th Mountain Division Descendants and devoted many, many hours further developing the organization and mentoring a number of future officers including her sister Kathleen. She became ill and in 2014 lost her battle with cancer. At the time of her death the Descendant scholarship had only recently been developed and the Board of Directors approved renaming the scholarship to, *10th Mountain Division Descendants Finn-Thornton Scholarship* as a way of giving tribute to both Patricia and her father. The \$2500 scholarship is awarded to two graduating high school seniors.

It is hoped that in completing previous activities the student will have satisfied scholarship requirements and be well prepared for submitting a completed application.

Objective: to have high school seniors complete the application for the Finn-Thornton Scholarship

Directions: The application to the Finn-Thornton Scholarship can be found at <https://10thmtndivdesc.org/scholarship/>

The student will submit the completed application to:

Vrios913 @ aol.com or mail to:

Val Rios

6228 Woodson Ave

Fresno, CA 93711

We hope that you have enjoyed completing the various grade level activities and, that in so doing, you have gained a better understanding and appreciation of the 10th Mountain Division. Please remember that the 10th Mountain Foundation offers college level scholarships which can be found on their web site. *And please, we hope you continue to be a member of 10th Mountain Division Descendants, Inc.*

Thank you!

The Pre-K-12 Education Committee

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