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WWW.PWYWCA.ORG

2020 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION PACKET

Application due date: **April 30, 2020**

Email applications to: Scholarship@pwywca.org

Required supplemental documents only (see application procedures) should be mailed to:

Phyllis Wheatley YWCA

901 Rhode Island Ave. N.W., - Unit #1 - Washington, D.C. 20001

Attn: Executive Office/Scholarship Committee



About Phyllis Wheatley YWCA

The history of Phyllis Wheatley Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA), Inc., is a long and exciting one. It is the story of African-American women with a vision to start a YWCA for "Colored" women and girls in the early years of the twentieth century when such a deed was impractical and required great courage.

On the corner of Ninth Street and Rhode Island Avenue, Northwest, stands a four-story building of eclectic architecture and gracious looks. Within the walls lies a tremendous story that spans nearly one hundred years. Although the organization itself was founded in 1905, the building was dedicated on December 19, 1920, as the first "Colored" YWCA in the United States of America. In 1923, the name Phyllis Wheatley [2] was chosen and the organization was incorporated as the Phyllis Wheatley Young Women's Christian Association, Inc.

Committed to service and excellence, the mission of the Phyllis Wheatley YWCA is *"to provide affordable housing and programs to women regardless of race, creed, or color. We serve women in transition to prevent homelessness. We also provide outreach services to children and the community. The Phyllis Wheatley YWCA operates as an independent living facility."*

The Scholarship

The Board of Directors created the Scholarship Program to complement its annual Mid-Summer Soiree program. The Mid-Summer Soiree and Talent Showcase was established to provide a platform for the youth of the District of Columbia to compete for scholarships as well as showcase their natural and creative talents. In keeping with our 75th anniversary celebrated in 2017, applicants will compete for scholarships in varying amounts to help off-set any cost towards their college expenses and to contribute their skills and talents towards the improvement of their community. The amount of scholarships awarded will range between **\$1,000 and \$2,500; we will award one to five scholarships**. The Scholarship and Talent Showcase has two primary components:

- 1) Students will complete an application packet consisting of three essays, response to questions, along with the submission of two letters of recommendation and an official high school transcript with a starting GPA of **2.5 through 4.0**.
- 2) Students are asked to identify and describe a talent they must present as part of the Talent Showcase competition/Mid-Summer Soiree scheduled for July 19, 2020. The talent could be any of the following: vocal performance, visual art, spoken word/poetry, dramatic reading, dance or innovative technology discovery.

The scholarship program is open to **female and male graduating seniors who reside in the District of Columbia and attend a D.C. Public, Charter, or private high school**.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

To be considered for a scholarship, a completed application must be sent to the address listed below and postmarked by **April 30, 2020**. Applications and/or supplemental documents received after the postmarked date will not be considered. A complete application must include the following:

1. Scholarship Application Form
Please note, the application must be signed and dated.
2. One 300-500 word typed, doubled-spaced essay, titled Community Service, detailing your involvement in community service work.
3. One 300-500 word typed, doubled-spaced essay, titled Personal Statement, detailing your personal goals and aspirations and why you chose your college major.
4. One 500 word typed, doubled-spaced essay addressing the following topic:
 - How will the current political climate impact your educational future?

Please note, the essays will be evaluated based on content, grammar, and presentation.

5. Two Letters of Recommendation: one completed by a teacher at your school and the other completed by a counselor also at your school. The letters must be on official letterhead and signed. The recommending official must provide comments regarding your intellectual ability, maturity, motivation, interpersonal skills, as well as verbal and writing skills.
6. An official high school transcript is required and should be mailed directly from your school to the address below in a sealed envelope with the official's signature or the school stamp across the sealed portion of the envelope.
7. Color photograph (ex. Wallet size senior picture)
 - Include your name on the back of your photograph
 - Ensure that a signature has been provided in the Photo Release section of the packet for the use of the photograph
8. **Finalists must participate in the talent competition in order to be given full consideration for the scholarship.**
9. Completed application packets except for the official school transcript preferably should be emailed **in one Adobe file** to Scholarship@pwywca.org. The official transcript, sealed pursuant to instructions noted above, should be mailed to: Phyllis Wheatley YWCA, 901 Rhode Island Ave., NW, - Unit #1, Washington, DC 20001, Attention: Scholarship Committee. If electronic submission poses a hardship, please mail completed packets to the aforementioned address by the deadline.

APPLICATION

Application Deadline: April 30, 2020

Name:

Parent(s) or Guardian(s) Name:

Address:

Telephone Number(s):

Email Address:

Name of School:

***Grade Point Average (GPA):

Clubs/Organizations:

College Acceptance:

Community Service/Volunteer Affiliation:

Briefly describe the talent you intend to showcase:

	Application check list:
	Application
	Three Essays
	Two letters of recommendation
	Transcript
	Color Photo

Photo Release Statement:

As the parent/guardian, I give my permission for the Phyllis Wheatley YWCA of Washington, DC to use photographs (head and/or group shots) of my child/ward in their official publications and website as one of their scholarship recipients. I will hold harmless and indemnify them from any and all liability that may arise from the use of the photographs and for the purposes stated upon.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Signature Date

CERTIFICATION

By indicating your signature below, you affirm that all information you provide is true and complete.

Applicant Signature

Signature Date