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2023 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION PACKET

Application Extended to: **May 24, 2023**
Completed Applications and Required Supporting Documents
must be emailed to: Scholarship@pwywca.org



PHYLLIS WHEATLEY Y.W.C.A., INC. IS A 501(c)(3) ORGANIZATION. COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGN #31203.

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 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 the Mid-Summer Soiree's 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 **Virtual Talent Showcase competition/Mid-Summer Soiree** scheduled for **Saturday, July 8, 2023.** The talent could be, and is not limited to, 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 emailed** to Scholarship@pwywca.org and **received by 11:59 p.m. on May 24, 2023**. Applications and/or supplemental documents received after the deadline 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:
 - Mental health awareness is often a topic of discussion. Describe a challenge you encountered or overcame and discuss how this experience will help you make self-care a priority while pursuing your education.

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 (in ink or digitally). 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 emailed securely (password protected, if possible) directly from your school to the email address below.
7. A professional or senior photograph (**printed or jpeg**) no larger than 5x7. (*No selfies or cell phone pictures will be accepted*).
 - Ensure that the Photo Release form is signed and returned with your completed application packet.
8. **Finalists must participate in the talent competition to be given full consideration for the scholarship.**
9. The completed application packet, except for the official school transcript, should be emailed **in one Adobe file** to Scholarship@pwywca.org. The official transcript should be emailed as per the instructions found in #6 above. If electronic submission poses a hardship, please mail send an email explaining your circumstances to Scholarship@pwywca.org and await further direction.

APPLICATION

Application Deadline Extended to: May 24, 2023

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 (<i>no selfies, printed copy or jpeg file only</i>)

Photo Release Form:

The photo release form found below must be completed, signed, and returned with the applicant's completed application. packet

CERTIFICATION

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

Applicant Signature

Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature (if applicant is under 18 years of age)

Signature

Date

PHOTOGRAPH AND VIDEO AUTHORIZATION AND RELEASE FORM

I/We, _____ (“Parent/Guardian”), as parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of _____, give permission for the **Phyllis Wheatley Young Women’s Christian Association, Inc.**, (the “PWYWCA, Inc.”) to publish on the Internet or media still photographs or moving images, including, if applicable any sound recordings accompanying the images (“Images”) taken of my child at the **2023 Mid-Summer Soiree on Saturday, July 8, 2023**, without payment or any consideration and without notifying me.

I/We understand and agree that these Images will become the property of the PWYWCA, Inc. which shall have complete ownership of the Images. I hereby irrevocably authorize the PWYWCA to publish or distribute these Images for the purpose of publicizing the PWYWCA, Inc.’s programs, including the 2023 Mid-Summer Soiree. In addition, I waive any right to inspect or approve the finished product wherein my child’s likeness appears. Additionally, I waive any rights to royalties or other compensation arising out of or related to the use of the Images.

I/We hereby hold harmless and release and forever discharge the PWYWCA, Inc. and any of its Officers/Board members from any and all claims, costs, suits, actions, judgments, and expenses which my child, his/her heirs, representatives, executors, administrators, or any other persons acting on his/her behalf have or may have by reason of the use of the Images. This release specifically includes, without limitation, a complete release and discharge of any liability by virtue of any editing, distortion, alteration, or optical illusion, whether intentional or otherwise, that may occur or be produced in the taking of or editing of said Images, unless it can be shown that such was maliciously caused, produced and published solely for the purpose of subjecting my child to conspicuous ridicule, scandal, reproach, scorn and indignity.

I/we hereby certify that I/we are the parents/guardians of _____, and do hereby give my/our consent without reservation to the foregoing on behalf of my/our child.

Parent/Guardian Signature Date

Print Name

Parent/Guardian Signature Date

Print Name