



CHARACTER THROUGH ACTS OF KINDNESS

**NORTHERN VIRGINIA SECTION
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NEGRO WOMEN, INC.
SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE**

Greetings,

The National Council of Negro Women (NCNW) was founded in 1935 by Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune. NCNW is a national organization committed to helping all women and families strengthen their communities and improve quality of life. We, the Northern Virginia (NoVA) Section of NCNW, are a dedicated group of volunteers whose sole mission is to implement NCNW's goals throughout the Northern Virginia area. The NoVA Section was chartered in 1976 and has grown to be one of the largest Sections in the Mid-Atlantic region. Our multitude of successful community service initiatives within the Northern Virginia area include conducting and supporting health events, packing care packages for active military personnel, feeding the homeless, and giving grants/donations to schools and other community establishments.

The NoVA Section is hosting our **Seventh Annual Oratorical Scholarship Competition** with the mission to provide scholarships to college and/or technical school-bound seniors. We are seeking African-descent high school seniors to apply for the "**Character through Acts of Kindness**" scholarship. This year's scholarships will be awarded to deserving recipients in the amounts of \$1,500 (1st place), \$1,000 (2nd place), and \$500 (3rd place). Awarded Funds will be sent directly to the University/College/ Trade school of choice. Please provide an Acceptance Letter no less than 30 days after making your final decision to the Scholarship Committee Chair for processing.

Enclosed is a copy of the complete application package. Feel free to make additional copies and distribute to students who meet the criteria. Please encourage all eligible seniors to apply for this scholarship. If you need additional information, please send an email to NoVANCNWScholar@gmail.com or call 703-829-0554.

Sincerely,

Deborah Foreman-Speller

Deborah Foreman- Speller

President, NoVA Section

www.novancnw.org

(703) 829-0554

Deja P Redding

Deja Redding

Third Vice President & Scholarship Chair, NoVA Section

NoVANCNWScholar@gmail.com

December 2022



CHARACTER THROUGH ACTS OF KINDNESS



Northern Virginia Section

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NEGRO WOMEN, INCORPORATED



CHARACTER THROUGH ACTS OF KINDNESS

Oratorical Scholarship for Northern Virginia High School Student

\$1,500 GRAND PRIZE

REQUIREMENTS

- Must be of African-descent high school senior in the Northern Virginia Area.
Minimum GPA of 2.50
Must be planning to apply to an accredited post secondary institution for the 2023-2024 academic year.

APPLY NOW

http://bit.ly/3hFbN8G





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**NORTHERN VIRGINIA SECTION
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NEGRO WOMEN, INC.
SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE**

The Northern Virginia Section offers scholarships to students of African-descent to high school seniors who have excelled academically and plan to pursue a college degree or post-secondary technical training during the 2023-2024 school year.

SCHOLARSHIP REQUIREMENTS:

- Must be of African-descent high school senior attending a public or private high school in the Northern Virginia area and residing in Arlington, Alexandria, Fairfax County, or Falls Church.
- Students must submit an **official** high school transcript
- Must have a GPA of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale
- Must be planning to apply to an accredited institution of post-secondary education for the 2023-2024 academic year.
- Must submit a one-paragraph biography. Please tell us who you are, how you see yourself, what motivates you and how you will navigate moving from high school to college.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION PARTICIPANTS WILL BE SELECTED BASED ON THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

- Completed scholarship application, postmarked by **Saturday, February 4th, 2023**
(Grammatically correct and legible)
- High school senior
- Official high school transcript
- Minimal GPA of 2.5 (on a 4.0 scale)
- Completed essay of 500-525 words, double-spaced, 12 pt. font
- **Photo** - Attach a recent professional photograph (acceptable formats-PDF, JPG, TIFF) of student to this application.

AWARDED FUNDS:

- Awarded Funds will be sent directly to the University/College/ Trade school of choice.
- Please provide an Acceptance Letter no less than 30 days after making your final decision to the Scholarship Committee Chair for processing.



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SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Application must be emailed to NoVANCNWScholar@gmail.com by Saturday, February 4th, 2023 or mailed to NoVA Section NCNW, P.O. Box 119, Merrifield, VA 22116 postmarked by Saturday, February 4th, 2023. Applications that are not fully completed will not be considered. You will be notified no later than Sunday, February 12, 2022, if you are selected. (Student images and presentations will be shared on NoVA NCNW Platforms)

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

PART I: PERSONAL DATA

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone: (____) _____ Age: _____

Email: _____

Name of Parent or Guardian: _____

Name of Northern Virginia High School: _____

Cumulative Grade Point Average: _____ **(Attach Official Transcript)**

Identify the university or college having been accepted and/or plan to attend:

List other scholarships applied for:

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PART II: Parent Permission and Confirmation

Name of Applicant: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

_____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Other: _____

Student Email: _____ Parent Email: _____

School: _____ Grade/Classification: _____

Parent /Guardian Name: _____

Emergency Contact Number: _____

I (Parent/Guardian) _____ grant permission for my

child, _____, to participate in the 7th Annual NOVA NCNW Scholarship Competition on **Saturday, February 25, 2023**.

Parent/ Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

*Must be postmarked or emailed to NoVANCNWScholar@gmail.com by **Saturday, February 4th, 2023** to be considered.*

I hereby acknowledge that the information submitted in this application is true and that it is accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Applicant's Signature

Date

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PART IV: Oratorical Competition Theme: "CHARACTER THROUGH ACTS OF KINDNESS"

Prompt: In 500-525 words or less, use the following context to stimulate your writing prose for the oratorical competition. Essays may be written as a poem, spoken word, rap, or speech.

LET'S TALK KINDNESS!

Kindness is the foundation of a strong and moral character. It is the act of showing compassion, empathy, and consideration towards others, even when it may not be easy or convenient. Through acts of kindness, we are able to build meaningful relationships, foster a sense of community, and make a positive impact on the world around us.

Kindness is the golden chain by which society is held together. Through our actions, we have the ability to make the world a better place one act of kindness at a time. "The gift of kindness may start as a small ripple that over time can turn into a tidal wave affecting the lives of many." Kevin Heath, Gospel Singer

Discuss in your essay the following questions:

** What inspired you to start practicing acts of kindness and how has this impacted your character development?*

**Can you give an example of a time when you demonstrated kindness towards someone and how it impacted them?*

**How has the practice of kindness helped you to become a more empathetic and compassionate person?*

**Do you believe that small acts of kindness can have a ripple effect and if so, how do you envision this happening in your own life?*

**How do you plan to continue incorporating acts of kindness into your life and how do you hope this will shape your character in the future?*

**In what ways do you think kindness can improve the world and how do you hope to contribute to this change through your own actions?*

Be sure to provide specific examples and anecdotes to illustrate your points and reflect on your personal growth and development as a result of practicing kindness.



CHARACTER THROUGH ACTS OF KINDNESS

Oratorical Competition Speech Guidelines:

1. PURPOSE

- A. To provide an opportunity for individual high school seniors to be recognized for individual accomplishments and speaking abilities.
- B. To provide an opportunity for the (NoVA) Section of NCNW, Inc., to support and help community youth pursue their postsecondary educational goals.

2. APPLICABILITY

Unless otherwise noted, these rules shall apply to all speech competitors selected by NoVA Section of NCNW, Inc. to participate in the “**Character through Acts of Kindness**” Seventh Annual Oratorical Competition. These rules may not be supplanted or modified, and no exceptions.

3. ELIGIBILITY- Competitor must be:

- A. A college-bound high school senior attending an accredited high school, and all paperwork must be in appropriate order.
- B. Eligible at all times of this competition. If at any time it is discovered that a competitor is ineligible to compete, the competitor will be disqualified.
- C. Checked into the competition platform for briefing rules and facility orientation 60 minutes prior to competition.

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