

Growing and Empowering Minds for Success (GEMS) Scholarship



As a longstanding organization founded on principles rooted in empowering our communities, The Links Incorporated is proud to continue its unwavering support to African American girls dedicated to pursuing their vision for the future. Now in its second year, ***The Growing and Empowering Minds for Success Scholarship*** has afforded several young women resources to complement and expand on their plans for a college education. Our mission is founded in the idea that empowered girls become empowered women, and empowered women empower their communities!

The Greater Denton County (TX) Chapter, The Links, Incorporated will award a total of seven (7) scholarships as follows:

- ***GEMS 2019 SCHOLAR:*** Our top award will go to one outstanding scholar who we determine has gone above and beyond in her academic pursuits, character development and community service. This scholarship is valued at \$3000.
- ***GEMS 2019 STEM SCHOLAR:*** One scholar who plans to pursue her education in the STEM field will be awarded a \$1500 scholarship.
- ***GEMS 2019 ARTS SCHOLAR:*** A scholar seeking to pursue her education in the Arts will receive \$1500.
- ***GEMS 2019 HBCU SCHOLAR:*** One scholar who will attend a Historically Black College and/or University will be awarded a \$1500 scholarship. The student must apply, be accepted to and attend one of our nation's designated Historically Black College and/or Universities. If the student decides not to attend an HBCU, the scholarship will not be funded.

Requirements:

- 3.0 minimum GPA;
- Must be an African-American female, graduating senior (Class of 2019), who is a resident or attends a high school in Denton County, Texas;
- Must be able to provide documented acceptance to a four-year college or university; and
- Evidence of service and/or involvement in groups and activities that enhance the lives of people in their community.
- Daughters, step-daughters, and grand-daughters, and relatives of members of the Greater Denton County (TX) Chapter, The Links, Incorporated or other chapters of The Links, Incorporated are not eligible for scholarships.
- All applicants will be considered for all applicable scholarships; however only STEM majors will be considered for STEM scholarships and only Arts majors will be considered for Art scholarships. Only applicants who have applied to an HBCU will be considered for the HBCU scholarship.

Application Guidelines:

1. The basic application for scholarship consists of:
 - a) **Scholarship Application signed and dated by the applicant;**
 - b) **Recent photo attached to the application;**
 - c) **College Entrance Exam Score (SAT or ACT);**
 - d) **High School Transcript;**
 - e) **Two letters of recommendation.** One letter **MUST** be from one of the applicant's teachers;
 - f) **500-word essay (see section on essay guidelines);** and
 - g) **Confirmation of acceptance by college, if received.** If a confirmation letter has not been received, it **MUST** be submitted prior to the scholarship check being issued. In the event the applicant is not able to provide documentation of college acceptance, the scholarship will not be awarded.
2. The application must be completed in its entirety at the time of submission. Applicant will not be allowed to supplement the application and **INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE PROCESSED.**
3. **DEADLINE:** The completed application **MUST** be **postmarked by Monday, March 25, 2019.** Applications should be mailed to:

**Greater Denton County (TX) Chapter
The Links, Incorporated
P.O. Box 293893
Lewisville, Texas 75029**

4. Applicants who successfully complete the application and selected as finalists will proceed to the interview process. A personal interview with Greater Denton County (TX) Chapter, The Links, Incorporated Scholarship Committee will be conducted on Sunday, April 7, 2019. Written notification, via e-mail, will be sent to the applicant no later than Thursday, April 4, 2019.
5. Only applicants entering college in either the Summer of 2019 or the Fall of 2019 are eligible to receive this scholarship.

The Essay

Guidelines: 500 words, Typed, Double-space, Times New Roman 12 point font.

The MeToo Movement began with one woman's cry for help against systemic sexual harassment and sexual assault in her workplace. While "workplace" can be defined as an office setting, it extends well beyond there: into classrooms, churches, doctor's offices, college campuses, wherever we as women exist. Grasping a solid understanding of the MeToo Movement, explain your thoughts on the movement by answering these questions:

1. *Does the world need a MeToo movement?*
2. *How does this movement affect me as a young woman beginning my ascent to adulthood?*
3. *What will I do if I feel uncomfortable in a situation where unwanted advances are made towards me?*
4. *What are your views, for or against, using your voice as the MeToo Movement continues to permeate all aspects of social, cultural, professional, and political society?* Please feel free to express your thoughts as there is no right or wrong answer.

Greater Denton County Chapter, The Links, Incorporated Scholarship Application

APPLICANT INFORMATION			
Name:		Daytime Phone:	
Address:		Evening Phone:	
Email:		Social Media sites: Facebook/Twitter/Instagram/etc.	
Birth Date:	Name of Parent(s) or Guardian(s):		
Address:		Phone:	

EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION			
Grade Point Average (Cumulative):		Grade Point Average (Last Grading Period):	
High School:			Date of Graduation:
College(s) Applied To:			
Have you been accepted to a College? Yes No		List your College Acceptances (Use next line if needed):	
Major Course of Study:		Do you plan to pursue a career in STEM or The Arts? Yes No	
If yes , what are your STEM or Arts-related career plans and how will their focus in that area have a lasting, meaningful effect on our society?			
Do you plan to attend an HBCU? Yes No			

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES	
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
Organization(s) and Position(s) held with dates:	
Awards:	Honors:

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

ONE-PAGE ESSAY

Please provide a one-page essay indicating why you are majoring in the STEM field and why you should be selected as a Greater Denton County (TX) Chapter, The Links, Incorporated scholarship recipient.

I commit that the information provided is truthful and correct.

Signature of Applicant

Date

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date