

MARTIN BARNES SCHOLARSHIP FUND

“KNOWLEDGE IS THE KEY TO SUCCESS”

Dear Academic Advisor:

The Martin Barnes Scholarship Fund was established in 1997, and awarded its first scholarships for the 1998-1999 academic year. The Fund is a Christian-based public, non-profit organization established by the family and friends of the honoree to continue the type of community service with which he was earnestly involved.

We cannot successfully administer the Fund without your participation. It is our goal to work in partnership with you to identify qualified students for our scholarships. We encourage all students meeting the selection criteria and having a minimum cumulative Grade Point Average of 2.50 to apply. Community service, leadership and academics all play a significant role in our selection process.

Recipients may use these scholarships at any accredited U.S. college or university of their choice.

We ask that you review the enclosed materials, as they will help in your understanding of the application process. We suggest that materials be distributed immediately to allow ample time for applicants to familiarize themselves with the program, consult with you, discuss it with their parents, and complete the application.

Further, if possible, collectively mail all completed applications to the address below to decrease the possibility of individual forms becoming misplaced, separated or lost. Thank you in advance for your assistance and cooperation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Danita L. Colbert", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Danita L. Colbert
President

MARTIN BARNES SCHOLARSHIP FUND
Post Office Box 448
Oxon Hill, Maryland 20750

BACKGROUND

The honoree, for which this scholarship is named, was the youngest of fourteen children born to Georgiana L. and the late Andrew J. Barnes, Sr. on January 21, 1956. Martin received his primary and secondary education in the Diocese of Washington, D.C. Catholic Schools. He graduated from Holy Comforter-Saint Cyprian Catholic School in June, 1969 and completed Mackin High School in May, 1973. For the next two years, Martin continued his education at Howard University.

During his career, Martin was employed in several capacities. His final occupation was Assistant Manager at a Washington, D.C. area restaurant until illness curtailed his career.

Martin, like too many other young persons, became involved in the recreational use of drugs. When this was discovered, Martin was convinced to enter a rehabilitation center. With the support and prayers of his biological and Church families, Martin successfully overcame his drug dependency. Four years after his successful drug treatment, Martin was diagnosed as HIV-positive.

Martin became a champion in the struggle to help others as he was supported. He was an active member of the Holy Comforter-Saint Cyprian (HCSC) Community Action Group, Financial Secretary of the HCSC Usher Board, a member of Promise Keepers, and a founding member of the Strong Men of God, based at HCSC. In his role as a member of the Strong Men of God, Martin was one of the initiators of the weekly sessions responsible for spreading God's Word as it relates to everyday life. This group assisted all men, especially those battling drug and alcohol abuse and homelessness.

With determination, Martin made tremendous strides in his life. His faith sustained him through many difficult phases of his illness. His changes in life served as an inspiration to many childhood friends who had taken a wrong turn on the road of life. Most say "Martin was a friend on whom you could depend". Many were amazed at his brilliance and patience. He would spend hours with others discussing philosophy, listening and advising. He interceded in many difficult situations on behalf of those he called "friend". However, he refused to accept "repayment" for his many acts of kindness, replying "My Father will repay me for all the good deeds I've done".

Martin succumbed to his illness on August 8, 1997 at the early age of 41. To honor his life, his family and friends established the Martin Barnes Scholarship Fund, presents scholarships annually. The purpose of the Scholarship Fund is to assist the recipients in their educational journey and encourage them to commit their lives to the type of community service that was an integral part of Martin's life.

Annually, two scholarships in the amount of \$1,500 each will be presented to students attending an accredited college or university. The funds will be forwarded to the institution selected by the recipient.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be eligible, the student must meet the following requirements:

1. Applicant must be a U.S. citizen.
2. Applicant must be currently attending school full time.
3. Applicant must be scheduled to advance to the next educational year of studies.
4. Applicant must have performed **100** hours of community service within the current academic year. Certification of community service must be on organization or school letterhead with the original signature of the supervisor or guidance counselor.
5. Applicant must submit an essay of **250** words based on one of the two following topics: "How Would You Use Your Religious Beliefs and Career Goals to Positively Impact Your Community?" or "How Does Today's Entertainment Culture Impact Your Moral Judgment and Behavior?"
6. Applicant must provide proof of a minimum GPA of **2.50** on a 4.00 scale.
7. Applicant must provide three written recommendations or character references from:
 - a. Pastor
 - b. Instructor
 - c. Applicant's choice

SELECTION CRITERIA

Selection of recipients is based on eligibility criteria, personal merit, and individual character. Merit is demonstrated in a variety of ways: leadership in school; civic and other extracurricular activities; academic achievement; and motivation to serve and succeed. All applicants not selected are invited to apply in future academic years.

GUIDELINES

To facilitate the process of applications, applicants must adhere to the following:

1. Must ensure that the applications are fully and accurately completed with all appropriate signatures;
2. Official student transcripts and essays must be forwarded with completed applications;
3. Applications postmarked after the **July 1 deadline** will not be considered; and
4. All materials received will become the property of the Martin Barnes Scholarship Fund.

INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED!

Completed application packages MUST be mailed to:

MARTIN BARNES SCHOLARSHIP FUND
Post Office Box 448
Oxon Hill, Maryland 20750

Martin Barnes Scholarship Fund Application Form

PERSONAL INFORMATION

NAME: _____ SSN: _____ - _____ - _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: () _____ - _____ E-MAIL: _____

SCHOOL CURRENTLY ATTENDING: _____

SCHOOL ATTENDING NEXT ACADEMIC YEAR: _____

HOW DO YOU DESCRIBE YOURSELF? (Mark only one)

- American Indian or Alaskan Native
- Asian, Asian American or Pacific Islander
- Black or African American
- Caucasian
- Hispanic
- Other (Please specify) _____

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

1. Indicate your OFFICIAL cumulative GPA: _____

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

2. Indicate each club/organization in which you were a member, office held if applicable:

NATIONAL/STATE/LOCAL AWARDS AND HONORS

3. Indicate each award/honor received at the national, state or local level. Indicate only those received while in high school or college:

INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS

4. Indicate each interscholastic athletic team, whether you were Captain or Co-Captain, and grade/college level in which you participated:

CHURCH/COMMUNITY/VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

5. Indicate each church, community or volunteer organization to which you have belonged since the beginning of your junior year of high school:

CERTIFICATION

A. Applicant

I certify that all the information stated on this application form is true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

B. Counselor/Principal-Headmaster

I certify that the information included in this application form is true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

CHECKLIST

To ensure that your application is complete and accurate, here is a checklist with all of the requirements:

- Completed and signed application
- Recommendation Letters:
 - Pastor
 - Instructor
 - Applicant's choice
- Essay – 250 words
- Proof of Grade Point Average/Transcripts
- Certification of Community Service

INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED!