



**EMERGING STARS SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY COMPETITION**  
c/o Women of Color Cultural Foundation, Inc.  
100 Festival Park Ave., 2nd Floor Jacksonville, Florida 32202  
(904) 683-1751 or (904) 635-5191

April 17, 2023

Dear Friend:

On behalf of the Women of Color Cultural Foundation, Incorporated, I wish to express our sincere appreciation for your continued support of our educational programs for youth. The programs provide a supportive and congenial environment for self-awareness, personal growth, and respect for others from diverse backgrounds. We are currently accepting applications only for the Emerging Stars Scholarship Essay Competition through **midnight, Friday, May 12, 2023**.

The competition is open to **Tenth and Eleventh Grade High School Students** for the 2022-2023 school year. The theme for this year is: *"THE IMPORTANCE OF WHAT FIRST RESPONDERS DO"*. This essay competition provides an opportunity for both young men and women currently enrolled in high school, to compete for a postsecondary educational scholarship. The students will be empowered to display their inner creativity, strengthen their self-confidence while sharpening their verbal and non-verbal communication skills. Students will be afforded a chance to win up to a \$1,000 scholarship. Winners will be notified during the month of August. The Orientation session will provide specific details about the essay requirements, mentoring workshops and the 50 Stars Gala.

All contestants are required to meet the following criteria:

- Have a minimum 2.5 Cumulative GPA (Submit an unofficial copy of the High School transcript with the application)
- Attend one Virtual Student/Parent Orientation Session- **Saturday, June 3rd at 10 AM OR Thursday, June 8th at 7 PM**
- Attend all mentoring workshops (June and July dates will be announced during Orientation)
- Attend the *50 Stars Gala-September 8, 2023*, and the Gala Rehearsal (TBA)

Join us in supporting our youth as they give recognition to first responders for all that they have done and continue to do for our community and country. Please distribute the attached application to interested students. The completed application, including signature authorizations from the student and their parent or guardian are to be emailed by midnight on May 12, 2023 to the W.O.C. Cultural Foundation [womenofcolorcf@comcast.net](mailto:womenofcolorcf@comcast.net).

Thank you for your support and continued commitment to our youth. We look forward to seeing youth representation from your school. For any questions please call (904) 576-1611 or (904) 635-5191.

Sincerely yours,

Helen D. Jackson, Ph.D. President/CEO

Donations to the Women of Color Cultural Foundation, Inc., a 501(c)(3) organization are tax deductible. Women of Color Cultural Foundation, Inc. meets all requirements specified by the Florida Solicitation of Contribution Act. A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling toll free within the state (1-800-435-7352). Registration does not imply endorsement, approval or recommendation by the state.

**2023 APPLICATION FORM** [PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE]  
EMERGING STARS SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY COMPETITION  
*"THE IMPORTANCE OF WHAT FIRST RESPONDERS DO"*  
**Application Deadline: Midnight, May 12, 2023**

Participant's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell# \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Name of School \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ GPA \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Briefly Describe your Career Goals: \_\_\_\_\_

You will be assigned a specific First Responder profession to write about (i.e., Air Force Air Traffic Controller, Army Civil Works, Fire Fighter Engineer, etc.). Please see the list of professions below and number the top three professions (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>) you would like to write an essay about. **Candidates will be notified about which First Responder profession they are assigned after May 26, 2023.**

<input type="checkbox"/> Army	<input type="checkbox"/> National Guard	<input type="checkbox"/> Firefighters	<input type="checkbox"/> Medical Professionals
<input type="checkbox"/> Navy	<input type="checkbox"/> Reserves	<input type="checkbox"/> Paramedics	<input type="checkbox"/> American Red Cross
<input type="checkbox"/> Airforce	<input type="checkbox"/> JEA	<input type="checkbox"/> EMTs	<input type="checkbox"/> Corp of Engineers
<input type="checkbox"/> Marines	<input type="checkbox"/> FPL	<input type="checkbox"/> Law Enforcement	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Coast Guard	<input type="checkbox"/> CSX		

I have read and agree to the rules for the Scholarship Essay Competition set forth by the Women of Color Cultural Foundation, Inc. I certify that I meet all of the participant requirements. I further understand, in the event that I win, the Scholarship check will be mailed to the College/University I plan to attend.

Participant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**PARENT PERMISSION**

\_\_\_\_ I give permission for my son/daughter to enter THE EMERGING STARS SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY COMPETITION and agree to attend the Orientation session with my child. I also agree for my son/daughter to participate in the *50 Stars Gala* on September 8, 2023.

\_\_\_\_ In the event they win a scholarship, I give permission for their picture and name to be included in a news announcement and mentioned publicly.

Parent Name (Please Print) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Cell# \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

You will be contacted upon receipt of your application after May 26, 2023.

Please email to: [Womenofcolorcf@comcast.net](mailto:Womenofcolorcf@comcast.net)

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Website: WOCCF.org

