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## 2023 Application Process

### About the Scholarship

Since its inception in 1916, YWCA Clark County has been dedicated to empowering women, children and families. We have also been dedicated to recognizing the efforts of community members who support our mission through leadership and community involvement.

The mission of YWCA Clark County is to eliminate racism, empower women and promote peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all people.

In 1985, YWCA created an awards program to recognize women identifying youth for their volunteerism, commitment to community, and leadership. Since then, we have honored 242 students from Clark County high schools for their efforts to build a stronger, healthier, and more vibrant place to live.

This year, we are excited to be able to provide one academic scholarship for young women in the 12th grade. Young Woman of Achievement Scholarship applicants must identify as female students enrolled in the 12th grade at a Clark County high school. Applicants will be evaluated on their demonstration of the following:

- Outstanding achievement in volunteer and school leadership roles
- Community involvement in addition to required community service for school
- Leadership qualities
- Service as a role model (based on reference letters)
- Commitment to YWCA mission

### Application Process

- Fill out the attached application cover sheet (on pg. 3) completely and accurately.
- Answer the 3 questions listed at the end of the application.
- Acquire 2 letters of reference.
  - Two signed reference forms must accompany the completed application. This can be done using the enclosed forms on pg. 5 & 6
  - One reference must be from a mentor/supervisor who can elaborate on the applicant's **non-school** related accomplishments.
  - Only one teacher may provide a reference. For example, if the mentor has been a teacher for the student, then no other teacher reference may be submitted.
- Please verify that your application is complete. **Incomplete applications will not be accepted.**
- Contact YWCA Clark County with any questions (see bottom of pg. 2)
- Return all application documents to YWCA Clark County by Friday, March 31st by 4:00pm

### Selection Process

The applicants will be selected by a review committee based on outstanding community service, achievement in academic and volunteer roles, and demonstrated leadership.

Scholarship winner will be notified via email by May 1st, 2023.

### Recognition & Celebration

Scholarship funds will be distributed before August 2023. The Young Woman of Achievement will receive a scholarship in the amount of \$1,500. The scholarship is generously granted by Soroptimist International of Vancouver.

### To Submit Complete Application

1. Use the checklist below to be sure your application is complete.
  - I have completed the application cover form (on pg. 3) completely and accurately.
  - I have completed 3 narratives in response to the topics on the cover sheet.
  - My parent/guardian and I have signed the waiver and signature page.
  - I have acquired 2 signed letters of reference along with completed pgs. 5 & 6.
    - ONE** of the references is from a mentor/supervisor.
    - NO MORE THAN ONE** of the references is from a teacher.
  - The above materials are packaged for delivery to YWCA Clark County.
2. Please submit the application cover form, the 3 questions with answers, and 2 letters of reference in one final package to YWCA Clark County **via email, mail, or in-person**. Documents must be received by **4:00pm on Friday, March 31<sup>st</sup> to be accepted**.
3. **By email to:** [avanorder@ywcaclarkcounty.org](mailto:avanorder@ywcaclarkcounty.org)  
**By mail to:** YWCA Clark County  
Attn: Allissa Van Order  
3609 Main Street  
Vancouver, WA 98663  
**In person:** 8:30am-5:00pm Monday-Thursday and 8:30am-4:00pm on Friday  
Attn: Allissa Van Order  
3609 Main Street  
Vancouver, WA 98663

All information provided is subject to verification.

False, inaccurate, illegible, or **incomplete applications will be disqualified**.

If you have any questions, please contact Allissa Van Order at [avanorder@ywcaclarkcounty.org](mailto:avanorder@ywcaclarkcounty.org) or 360 696 0167 ext. 146.

Name of applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

High school: \_\_\_\_\_

Career/guidance counselor: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of parent/guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/guardian phone: \_\_\_\_\_

## Questions

Use additional pages to respond to the following prompts. Please note:

- Answers must not exceed one typed page per question.
- Please use 12 point font.
- Number each answer and include your name and school at the top of each page.
- Please use complete names, rather than acronyms.

### 1. Describe your volunteer and community activities.

- a. Describe activities that you **ARE NOT** receiving school credit for. Include dates, leadership positions held, time spent (hours/month). Briefly describe your role in each group/organization, how you became involved, and what you have done or helped accomplish.
- b. Describe activities that you **ARE** receiving school credit for. Include dates, leadership positions held, time spent (hours/month). Briefly describe your role in each group/organization, how you became involved, and what you have done or helped accomplish.

### 2. Explain how you help create change in our community.

- a. Please specifically address your involvement in social issues, interracial communities, global peace, environmental concerns and/or leadership.

### 3. Write a short biographical sketch.

- a. Tell us about yourself, what is important to you, your hopes and dreams, and why you would like to be chosen to receive the Young Women of Achievement Scholarship.

## **Waiver and Signature**

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We certify that all information contained in this application is true and factual. I/We also agree that if the applicant is selected as a Young Woman of Achievement recipient or finalist, YWCA Clark County may use applicant's name and likeness and any other information or materials provided by the applicant in connection with this program, including photos and/or videos of him/her for purposes of news, publicity and advertising in all media including but not limited to print, photographs, video, electronic media, and websites.

Signature of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

***This waiver and signature page must be submitted as part of the application packet.***

To be completed by YWCA upon receipt of completed application.

YWCA staff signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_

**Reference Form 1**  
**Young Women of Achievement Scholarship**

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**Instructions - Applicants REFERENCE must fill in form below.**

- Please fill out all contact information below. Use a computer, typewriter or a black/blue ballpoint pen.
- Please answer the questions below to the best of your ability in a one-page letter of recommendation. Attach your letter to this reference form and return to the applicant or nominator **before** the completed packet submission deadline of **4:00pm, March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023**.
- **Incomplete applications will not be accepted.**

**Reference 1 Personal information**

Reference name: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant name: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to the applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Questions**

Please provide at least one specific example with your answers.

1. What are the applicant's contributions to the community as related to YWCA's Mission?
  - YWCA's mission is to eliminate racism, empower women, and promote peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all.
2. Why do you think this applicant should receive the scholarship?

Note: Applicants will be evaluated on their commitment to making a positive difference, their leadership skills, and their perseverance.

**Reference Form 2**  
**Young Women of Achievement Scholarship**

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**Instructions - Applicants REFERENCE must fill in form below.**

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- **Incomplete applications will not be accepted.**

**Personal information**

Reference name: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant name: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to the applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Questions**

Please provide at least one specific example with your answers.

1. What are the applicant's contributions to the community as related to YWCA's Mission?
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