

Zion Baptist Church
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Ministry (MLK)
Dr. M. M. Peace, Jr., Pastor
523 Washington Avenue
Brooklyn, New York 11238
(718) 622-9161



Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
Scholarship Fund
Scholarship Application

Deadline for submitting applications: December 6, 2016

MLK Ministry Leaders

*Deacon James Brown
Sister Daphne Cain
Sister Geraldine Cunningham
Sister Cassandra Dancy-Potts
Brother James Fleet
Sister Linda Fleet
Sister Cynthia Gill
Deacon James Hunter
Sister Deborah Kennedy
Sister Sheila Marshall-Hunter
Sister Cynthia Murden-Battle
Sister Susana Skinner
Brother Mark Stokes*

Revised July 12, 2012

Mission Statement

The primary activities and purpose of The Martin Luther King, Jr. (MLK) Ministry of Zion Baptist Church are:

- To sustain the memory of the contributions Dr. King made to God's ministry and to all mankind.
- To provide a forum in which our children and youth can expose their talents and gifts.
- To engage in activities that will aid in the educational development of our children and youth.
- To identify fundraising initiatives that will help support the scholarship fund.
- To award scholarships to students for the pursuit of higher education.

Criteria

In order to be considered for the MLK Scholarship, applicants must:

- Be a high school senior and plan to attend an accredited college or university.
- Must display academic potential and a commitment to exert oneself.
- Be a member in good standing of Zion Baptist Church (must be a part of a ministry in the church).
- Demonstrated community service is a definite plus.

Scholarships

There are five different scholarships that are awarded by the MLK Ministry through Zion Baptist Church. They include:

- *The Academic Scholarship Award*
- *The Academic Achievement Award*
- *The Academic Challenge Award*
- *The Georgene Burke Community Service Award*
- *The Dream Chasers Scholarship Award (applications available 1/2016)*

The Academic Scholarship Award

- The initial amount of this award is \$1,000. Thereafter, based on grades, the amount can be either \$750 or \$400, per semester, totaling up to \$7,000 for up to 4 years of college. There are no awards for summer school.
- In order to qualify for this full scholarship, your cumulative average in high school must round to 80 or above. If the rounded average falls below 80, the applicant does not qualify for the full scholarship. All rounding would go to the nearest tenth.
- If you are a recipient of this scholarship, the college/university semester awards will be based on your Grade Point Average (GPA), as such:
 - 2.90 – 4.00 would receive the semester award of \$750.00
 - 2.00 – 2.89 would receive the semester award of \$400.00

The Academic Achievement Award

- This award is a one-time lump sum amount of \$750.00.
- The recipient(s) of this award must have a cumulative rounded average in high school of at least a 70 to receive the award. All rounding would go to the nearest tenth.

The Academic Challenge Award

- This award is a one-time lump sum amount of \$400.00
- This award is for students who were accepted to a college/university, but the cumulative rounded average in high school falls below 70. All rounding would go to the nearest tenth.

The Georgene Burke Community Service Award

- In collaboration with the Missionary Ministry, this award is a one-time lump sum amount of \$500.00 provided by the family/friends of the late Ms. Georgene Burke.
- This award is for students who were accepted to a college/university and has demonstrated outstanding community service.
- Applicants must write an essay on the **importance of community service and how it has changed your life, along with how your specific involvement has benefited the lives of others.**
- To apply for this scholarship, you must review the applicant packet for this award. Please see any MLK Ministry leader for the Georgene Burke Community Service Award packet.

The Dream Chasers Scholarship Award

The Dream Chasers scholarship was created by Mark "Shadow" Stokes and Dayalan "Dee" Sonaram. Both were born and raised in Brooklyn, New York around the Flatbush/Crown Heights areas. Shadow and Dee have known each other since 1997. They met through mutual friends in the music business and developed a friendship/business relationship shortly thereafter. In 1998-99, they started an independent record company called *Casino Entertainment*. In 2000, they proceeded to start a promotions and marketing company called *Leap of Faith Promotions*. From there, a real estate company called *D&M Builders* and several other entertainment companies including *Brooklyn Knights*, *Loyalty Marketing & Promotions* and most recently *Dream Chasers, Inc.* were established. In addition, Shadow and Dee have worked for many major recording companies at various capacities including Def Jam, Koch Entertainment, Virgin Records and recently Universal/Interscope Records.

In the likeness of God and in the spirit of giving back to the community, the purpose of the Dream Chasers Scholarship is to give a one-time award of **\$10,000** to a different student from Brooklyn each year who have demonstrated outstanding academic excellence and has the ability to have an entrepreneurial attitude, such as Shadow and Dee. This is their way of expressing that all glory belongs to God!

CRITERIA/ELIGIBILITY

In order to be considered for the Dream Chasers Scholarship, applicants must:

- Must have an entrepreneurial and Godly spirit.
- Be a recipient of the MLK *Academic Scholarship Award* and plan to attend an accredited college or university or currently attending.
- Be a member of good standing of Zion Baptist Church (must be a part of a ministry in the church).

DREAM CHASERS CRITERIA/ELIGIBILITY (continued)

- Must have a GPA 3.0 or better
 - High School applicant – the GPA of the last two years of high school will count.
 - College applicant – the GPA from the previous year of college will count.
- Demonstrated business-like activities is a definite plus.
- Must submit all bills/receipts from the college or university you plan to attend indicating total cost for tuition, room and board prior to receiving any Dream Chasers scholarship monies.

Please Note: If selected recipient is receiving financial assistance, a fellowship and/or other scholarships in connection with the college or university, the selected recipient will be eligible for the Dream Chasers academic scholarship for up to \$10,000 only to the extent that the recipient's costs are not paid by financial assistance, fellowships and/or other scholarships.

Also, there could be more than one winner (i.e., 1st, 2nd, 3rd runner-up), depending on financial need and availability of funds.

More information about how to apply for this award will be available in January 2016.

Please note that all scholarships are based on funding and availability. The award amount may vary depending on funding.

Letter of Instruction

Dear Scholarship Applicant:

Congratulations on your impending graduation! You have reached a very important milestone and we are proud of you. Now that you are about to embark on a new journey in your life--College, continue to make wise and Godly choices, strive for excellence, DREAM big and keep HOPE alive! We encourage you to apply for the MLK Scholarship fund in order to help offset some of your tuition costs. This letter will serve as an instruction letter to the application process. This is a very important part of being a recipient of the MLK Scholarship fund. **So, please take this seriously: complete all necessary documents as required, be timely and be professional and neat in your writing.** Please submit the enclosed application form, along with the following information:

1. Submit two (2) **signed** letters of recommendation from an educator (i.e., teacher, school counselor/advisor, principal).
2. If you have be involved in the community, please submit **signed** verification letter(s) detailing community service performed on letterhead of community service organization.
3. Please submit an outline of any extra-curricular activities, honors and awards, offices and positions of leadership held, school activities, volunteer experience, special recognition, etc.).
4. Submit your official school transcript and most recent report card, as soon as it is available.
5. Submit your letter of acceptance from the college/university which you will attend, as soon as it is available. It is imperative that you submit this letter, prior to receiving any monies of the MLK scholarship. If we do not get this letter before the first semester of college begins, we will have no alternative but to rescind the scholarship.
6. Must submit the required essay (no more than two pages, double spaced and typed).

We trust that you will adhere to all of the instructions for the application process. If you have any questions or concerns, or need assistance with this process, please don't hesitate to contact Cassandra Dancy-Potts at (646) 369-5219 or e-mail at hrqueen45@yahoo.com . You may also reach out to any member of the MLK Ministry.

To God Be the Glory for the great things that he has done and will continue to do!

Sincerely,

MLK Ministry

Zion Baptist Church
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Scholarship Fund

Scholarship Application

Name: _____ Email: _____

Home Address: _____

Primary Contact Number: _____ Alternate Number: _____

High School and address: _____

High School Principal or Contact Person: _____

Telephone Number where this person can be reached: _____

Cumulative Average: _____ Expected Date of Graduation: _____

Parent or Guardian: _____ & Telephone Number: _____

If available, please name the college you plan to attend: _____

Briefly state your career interest and aspirations:

In your own words on a separate sheet of paper, please address the following question in a clear, neat and professional format. It must be no more than two (typed and double-spaced) pages – 10pt. font preferred. This essay will be judged based on content, relevance, originality, grammatical accuracy, and professionalism (neatness and organization).

How do you envision yourself fulfilling the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.? Include from your perspective the importance of the American Civil Rights Movement and the series of non-violent protests and marches to end racial discrimination. Please make mention of Dr. King's faith in Jesus Christ as exhibited in many of his speeches.

I certify that the information that I have provided on this application, including additional required documents is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I authorize the Office of the Registrar to release my academic information to the MLK Scholarship Ministry of Zion Baptist Church. I give permission for the MLK Scholarship Ministry to release information about myself if I am awarded a scholarship based on this application.

Signature (required): _____ Date: _____

Incomplete and late applications will not be considered

1. Submit two (2) **signed** letters of recommendation from an educator (i.e., teacher, school counselor/advisor, principal).
2. If you have been involved in the community, please submit **signed** verification letter(s) detailing community service performed on letterhead of the community service organization. Include the number of hours completed and describe the type and quality of service performed.
3. Please submit an outline of any extra-curricular activities, honors and awards, offices and positions of leadership held, school activities, volunteer experience, special recognition, etc.).
4. Submit your official school transcript and most recent report card, as soon as it is available.
5. Submit your letter of acceptance from the college/ university which you will attend, as soon as it is available. It is imperative that you submit this letter, prior to receiving any monies of the MLK scholarship. If we do not get this letter before the first semester of college begins, we will have no alternative but to rescind the scholarship.
6. Must submit the required essay (no more than two pages, double spaced and typed).

Please mail the signed and completed application no later than Friday, December 6, 2016 to:

Zion Baptist Church
523 Washington Avenue
Brooklyn, New York 11238
Attn: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. (MLK) Ministry

Envelopes must be postmarked on or before December 6, 2016