



**NORTHERN VIRGINIA SECTION  
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NEGRO WOMEN, INC.  
SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE**

Greetings,

The National Council of Negro Women (NCNW) was founded in 1935 by Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune. NCNW is a national organization committed to helping all women and families strengthen their communities and improve quality of life. We, the Northern Virginia (NoVA) Section of NCNW, are a dedicated group of volunteers whose sole mission is to implement NCNW's goals throughout the Northern Virginia area. The NoVA Section was chartered in 1976 and has grown to be one of the largest Sections in the Mid-Atlantic region. Our multitude of successful community service initiatives within the Northern Virginia area include conducting and supporting health events, packing care packages for active military personnel, feeding the homeless, and giving grants/donations to schools and other community establishments.

The NoVa Section is hosting our **Second Annual Oratorical Scholarship Competition** with the mission to provide scholarships to college-bound seniors. We are seeking African-American or African-descent high school seniors to apply for "The Stanza To Inspire My Future" scholarship. This year scholarships will be awarded to deserving recipients in the amounts of \$1,500 (1<sup>st</sup> place), \$1,000 (2<sup>nd</sup> place), and \$500 (3<sup>rd</sup> place).

Enclosed is a copy of the complete application package. Feel free to make additional copies and distribute to students who meet the criteria. Please encourage all eligible seniors to apply for this scholarship. If you need additional information, please send an email to [NoVANCNWScholar@gmail.com](mailto:NoVANCNWScholar@gmail.com) or call 703-829-7449.

Sincerely,

*Karita L. Richardson*

Karita L. Richardson

Third Vice President, NoVA Section

Mary Mcleod Bethune George Washington Carver Toni Morrison Dick Gregory

THE NORTHERN VIRGINIA SECTION OF NATIONAL COUNCIL OF  
NEGRO WOMEN, INC.

PRESENTS

# "THE STANZA TO INSPIRE MY FUTURE"

## Oratorical Scholarship Competition

AWARDS

\$1,500 – First Place

\$1,000 – Second Place

\$500 – Third Place

The Scholarship competition is open to African-American or African-descent high school seniors who will be attending an undergraduate program/ university during the 2018-2019 academic year.

Visit [www.novancnw.org](http://www.novancnw.org) and click on Scholarships.

Completed applications are due by **Friday January 19, 2018.**

For more information contact us at [NoVANCNWScholar@gmail.com](mailto:NoVANCNWScholar@gmail.com) or phone (703)-829-7449

Angela Davis Maya Angelou Joe Madison Dorothy I. Height James Baldwin

Mary Mcleod Bethune George Washington Carver Toni Morrison Dick Gregory  
Bertha Pitts Campbell Gabrielle Douglas  
James Cameron  
Martin Luther King Jr.  
KRS One  
W.E.B. DuBois

Margaret Garb Nina Simone Terry A. Alford Jim Haskins Medger Evers Christopher Webber Ida. B Wells



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**The Northern Virginia Section offers scholarships to African-American and African-descent high school seniors who have excelled academically and plan to pursue a college degree during the 2018-2019 school year.**

**SCHOLARSHIP REQUIREMENTS:**

- Must be an African-American or African-descent high school senior attending a public or private high school in the Northern Virginia area and residing in Arlington, Alexandria, Fairfax County, or Falls Church.
- Students must submit an **official** high school transcript
- Must have a GPA of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale
- Must be planning to apply to an accredited institution of postsecondary education for the 2018-2019 academic year.

**SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION PARTICIPANTS WILL BE SELECTED BASED ON THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:**

- Completed scholarship application, postmarked by Friday, January 19, 2018  
(Grammatically correct and legible)
- High school senior
- Official high school transcript
- Minimal GPA of 2.5 (on a 4.0 scale)
- Completed essay of 500-525 words, double-spaced, 12 pt. font
- **Photo** - Please attach a recent professional photograph (acceptable formats-PDF, JPG, or TIFF) of yourself to this application.

**SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

**Application must be emailed to [NoVANCNWScholar@gmail.com](mailto:NoVANCNWScholar@gmail.com) by Friday, January 19, 2018 or mailed to NoVA Section NCNW, P.O. Box 119, Merrifield, VA 22116 postmarked by Friday, January 19, 2018. Applications that are not fully completed will not be considered. You will be notified no later than Wednesday, January 31, 2018, if you are selected.**



**NORTHERN VIRGINIA SECTION  
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SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE**

**SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION**

**PART I: PERSONAL DATA**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Name of Parents or Guardians: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Northern Virginia High School: \_\_\_\_\_

Cumulative Grade Point Average: \_\_\_\_\_ **(Attach Official Transcript)**

Identify the university or college to which you have been accepted and/or plan to attend:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

List other scholarships for which you have applied:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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**PART III: Parent Permission and Confirmation**

Name of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

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

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Email: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade/Classification: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent /Guardian Names: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact Number: \_\_\_\_\_

I (Parent/Guardian) \_\_\_\_\_ grant permission for my child, \_\_\_\_\_, to participate in the 2nd Annual NOVA NCNW Scholarship Competition on Saturday, February 24, 2018.

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

*Must be postmarked or emailed to [NoVANCNWScholar@gmail.com](mailto:NoVANCNWScholar@gmail.com) by Friday, January 19, 2018 to be considered.*

**I hereby acknowledge that the information submitted in this application is true and that it is accurate to the best of my knowledge.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Application must be emailed to [NoVANCNWScholar@gmail.com](mailto:NoVANCNWScholar@gmail.com) by Friday, January 19, 2018 or mailed to NoVA Section NCNW, P.O. Box 119, Merrifield, VA 22116 postmarked by Friday, January 19, 2018. Applications that are not fully completed will not be considered. You will be notified no later than Wednesday, January 31, 2018, if you are selected.**



**PART IV: Oratorical Competition Theme: “THE STANZA TO INSPIRE MY FUTURE”**

**Prompt:** In 500-525 words, use the following context to stimulate your writing prose for the oratorical competition. Essays may be written as a poem, spoken word, rap, or speech.

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*Looking at the state of our nation whether it be televised or social media, school or at home, we all have a message. What is your message of inspiration to share with the world? What song, artist or activist inspires you with a message for change that would better us individually, promote our communities and build our future in the right direction? If this essay was your peace and inspirational stanza, what would your words of inspiration sound like? (Site all sources)*

*In your written words, eloquently elaborate on or discuss the artist, activist, civil rights leader of choice. What gets and keeps you moving or energizes you to attain your future goals? It can be a gospel, jazz or rap (clean), an abolitionist of our past, civil rights activist, leader of today, an educator or parent that motivates and moves you.*

*In our families, communities, educational channels and workspaces, music unifies and inspires each of us to make life changing moves to reach milestones. For every song we hear, poem we recite, book we read and move we make, old and new visions can easily come into focus. They're mostly our memories accompanied by emotions and in that moment, it's your message. What does it look like?*

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## **Oratorical Competition Speech Guidelines:**

### **1. PURPOSE**

- A. To provide an opportunity for individual high school seniors to be recognized for individual accomplishments and speaking abilities.
- B. To provide an opportunity for the (NoVA) Section of NCNW, Inc., to support and help community youth to pursue their postsecondary educational goals.

### **2. APPLICABILITY**

These rules, unless otherwise noted, shall apply to all speech competitors selected by NoVA Section of NCNW, Inc. to participate in the **“The Stanza To Inspire My Future”** Second Annual Oratorical Competition. These rules may not be supplanted or modified, and no exceptions.

### **3. ELIGIBILITY-** Competitor must be:

- A. A college-bound high school senior attending an accredited high school, and all paperwork must be in appropriate order.
- B. Maintain eligibility at all times of this competition. If at any time it is discovered that a competitor is ineligible to compete, the competitor will be disqualified.
- C. Chosen competitors must be checked in 90 minutes prior to competition for briefing rules and facility orientation.

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**Thank You & Best Wishes!**