



**The OPHELIA Foundation**

**Class of 2020 Scholarship Guidelines**

**Scholarship Application Deadline:** 11:59 p.m. EDT Friday, May 1, 2020

**The OPHELIA Foundation Class of 2020 Scholarships**

The OPHELIA Foundation is pleased to announce its Class of 2020 scholarships.

The OPHELIA Foundation Class of 2020 scholarships support graduating seniors from a high school in the DMV (DC/MD/VA) area. Eligibility requirements and instructions for applying for the 2020 scholarships are outlined below. Only applications **received by** 11:59 p.m. EDT on Friday, May 1, 2020, will be considered.

**Eligibility Requirements**

A Class of 2020 applicant must be:

1. A graduating senior from a high school in the DMV (DC/MD/VA) area.
2. A student with a minimum grade point average of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale.
3. A U.S. citizen.
4. Accepted as a full-time and first-term matriculating freshman at an accredited college or university (excluding the Army, Navy, or Air Force Academy) or an accredited two-year community college at the time the award is presented.
5. Planning to pursue a baccalaureate degree.
6. Eligible for the scholarship award as determined by the donor's criteria (refer to the scholarship description for specific criteria).

**Scholarship Awards**

Eligibility requirements for the OPHELIA Foundation Class of 2020 scholarships are based on criteria set by the donor. Applicants are encouraged to apply for all scholarships for which they are eligible. However, only one scholarship will be awarded to an applicant.



The one-year Class of 2020 scholarship awards will be paid to the recipient's academic institution in one disbursement (contingent on the terms of the Foundation's scholarship memorandum of understanding).



### **Scholarships for the Class of 2020**

Please indicate which scholarship(s) you are applying for.

- All Scholarships
- The Ophelia Scholarship (\$1,000). See scholarship criteria on page 3.
- The Joan Gooch Scholarship (\$1,000). See scholarship criteria on pages 3-4.
- The Edward Gerald Jones, Sr. Scholarship (\$1,000). See scholarship criteria on page 4.
- The Nellis Group Academic Scholarship (\$1,000). See scholarship criteria on page 4.
- The SJB Academic Scholarship (\$1,000). See scholarship criteria on pages 4-5.

#### **The Ophelia Scholarship (\$1,000)**

The Ophelia Scholarship is named in honor of the Foundation's two namesakes. These amazing women were trailblazers in their own right and excelled on multiple levels. This need-based scholarship will be awarded to a high school senior in the DMV area who is an all-around student. Preference will be given to students who demonstrate financial need.

#### **The Joan Gooch Scholarship (\$1,000)**

The Joan Gooch Scholarship is in honor of the late Joan Gooch. A native of St. Louis, Mo, Joan Gooch was the 6th oldest of 10 children. She was the daughter of a school custodian and a bank teller. Joan was a strong believer that education was the key to success. She finished high school and some college. Joan wanted nothing but the best for her own daughter, so she pushed her to continue her education after high school. She always wanted her daughter to pursue a degree in the field of medical sciences and to become a doctor. Joan enjoyed life and always encouraged others to get their education. In 2002 Joan succumbed to cancer. This scholarship honors one of the most important keys to success that Joan Gooch advocated for. (*Refer to criteria on page 4*).



The Joan Gooch Scholarship Criteria:

- Must have a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher
- Must provide 2 references from teachers
- Must attend a HBCU
- Must seek a degree in the field of Medical Sciences
- Must be from a low-income family in need of funding

The Edward Gerald Jones Sr. Scholarship (\$1,000)

The Edward Gerald Jones Sr Scholarship is named in honor of the donor's father. This amazing man spent his career at Kent State University and was a constant student himself. This need-based scholarship will be awarded to a high school senior in the DMV area who is majoring in STEM. Preference will be given to students who demonstrate financial need.

The Nellis Group Academic Scholarship (\$1,000)

Vicki Nellis, Founder of The Nellis Group, served clients in the Washington DC Metro Market for Real Estate since 1983. Vicki's belief in putting the client first and dedication to her business has left a lasting legacy. Her care and concern for others transcended Real Estate and her love poured over into all she did and everyone she met. She lived her life by putting others first so a business that involved serving was easy for her. She viewed real estate as her vocation. Vicki saw giving as her new ability to impact others for God.

Vicki realized the value of education and transforming the mind to create change. She encouraged her mother to graduate from high school in her 80s and enabled all of her children to pursue higher level degrees. Vicki received both local and international awards in Real Estate. She confided that her true joy was not the many awards rather the impact with families and creating generational wealth through real estate. This scholarship honors her desire to see the world impacted for God's glory through education, service and a transformed mind.

SJB Academic Scholarship (\$1,000)

The SJB Academic Scholarship is created in honor of lifelong educator, Sheryl J. Brown. For over 40 years, Sheryl Brown was an exceptional leader dedicated to educating students, grades Kindergarten-12, in schools across the world. Almost half of her career was spent at the Kindergarten level in Title 1 schools. Sheryl's many accolades include Mentor and Cooperating Teacher of the Year, and Teacher of the Year



(2016). Sheryl personally mentored and instructed twelve new teachers in a cooperative classroom environment, and she was Grade-level Lead for seven years.

It has always been her mission to inspire a love for learning that will last a lifetime for all of her students. Although she is now retired, she continues that inspiration through volunteer work with Spotsylvania County Schools (VA) and with gift of the SJB Academic Scholarship. This need-based scholarship will be awarded to a high achieving student who attended a Title 1 School. This student must demonstrate exceptional leadership potential and a commitment to his/her community.

Criteria:

- Must have a cumulative GPA of 3.2 or higher
- Must provide 2 references from teachers and/or service organizations with whom the student has worked
- Must provide a personal statement attesting to a strategy/practice used to assist in their objectives and goals
- Preference will be given to a student pursuing a degree in Education or with aspirations to be a teacher/professor

### **Application Requirements for the Class of 2020 Scholarships**

Applicants for The Ophelia Scholarship must provide:

1. A completed application neatly typed or printed, all questions answered, and signed by the parent/guardian and the applicant. The completed application and supporting documentation (excluding the official high school transcript) must be submitted electronically in one file to [scholarships@opheliafoundation.org](mailto:scholarships@opheliafoundation.org).
2. Official high school transcript (with school's seal and in a sealed envelope) mailed to the Foundation.
3. Proof of U.S. citizenship (e.g., certified birth certificate, U.S. Passport).
4. Two letters of recommendation from:
  - Teacher or Counselor and/or
  - Community Leader

5. Evidence that you have a minimum grade point average of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale.
6. A copy of your most recent Student Aid Report with your Expected Financial Contribution (EFC) from the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).
7. A typewritten resume listing extracurricular activities (schools, community, church, etc.), jobs, and honors and awards received.
8. A typed essay consisting of a maximum of 650 words that addresses the following essay topic:

**Essay Topic**

*Once you have finished college and have a career explain how you plan to help someone else achieve the same goal.*