

P.E.A.R.L.S., Inc.

*Charitable arm of the Nu Xi Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.
P.O. Box 11011, New Brunswick, NJ 08906-1011
January 12, 2021*

To Whom It May Concern:

P.E.A.R.L.S. Inc., in collaboration with Nu Xi Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., is pleased to announce that we will be offering scholarships to graduating high school seniors of Middlesex and Somerset counties.

Enclosed are the guidelines and application for our Maurice M. Williams Scholarship, Constance R. Pizarro Community Service Leadership Award, Diamonds and Pearls Scholarship (in partnership with The Diamond Foundation Inc., of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc) and Shawn Marie Stephens Memorial Scholarship. Please note, this year we will be accepting online submissions ONLY via the link provided below. The application will also be available for online submission at the link provided below. The Maurice M. Williams Scholarship is offered to both male and female students, the Constance R. Pizarro Community Service Leadership Award is offered to female students only with substantial community service, the Diamonds and Pearls Scholarship is offered to male students only, and the Shawn Marie Stephens Memorial scholarship is offered to students planning to pursue a STEM degree, preferably at an HBCU. The online application is available at: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1znCfBe9Xed1BTigE1Nut9w5Why7STMW5pq0fMYqP_jU/edit?usp=sharing

We ask that you recommend students who meet the qualifications, and instruct them to submit the online application by Sunday, March 7, 2021 at 11:59pm EST. The letters of recommendation, official transcript and W-2 are expected to be sent via US Mail and postmarked no later than Friday, March 5, 2021 to the indicated address within the application packet. Qualified candidates will be invited for interviews in March and April.

Selected candidates will receive a scholarship certificate to be presented during their senior award program as well as recognition during the Maurice M. Williams Scholarship Brunch, which will be held at a later date. The actual scholarship funds will be sent to schools upon proof of matriculation from the college or university of the student's choice.

About P.E.A.R.L.S., Inc.

P.E.A.R.L.S., Inc. is the charitable arm of Nu Xi Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc., and it is an acronym for Pursue Education And Really Learn Something. The foundation was organized exclusively for education and charitable purposes; including exercising, promoting, and protecting the privileges and interests of residents in Middlesex and Somerset counties.

About Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. is the nation's first sorority established for women of color. The sorority was founded in 1908 on the campus of Howard University, and has a history of over 110 years of supporting programs in education, the arts, healthcare, science, and technology. The major focus of the sorority continues to be scholarship, the education of our youth, and service to our community.

About the Diamond Foundation

The Diamond Foundation Inc. is the philanthropic foundation of the New Brunswick Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. The primary purpose of the foundation is to provide educational opportunities to high school seniors.

Should you have any questions, please direct all inquiries to scholarship@nuxiomega.org.

Best Regards,

Cynthia Stallings-Smith
President

Candice M. Alfonso & Yomi Forsh-Hamilton
Scholarship Co-Chairmen

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Best Regards,

Cynthia Stallings-Smith
President

Candice M. Alfonso & Yomi Forsh-Hamilton
Scholarship Co-Chairmen

Yomi A. Forsh-Hamilton President

Board of Directors

Cynthia Stallings-Smith
*Immediate Past
President*

Maria Cleveland-Jones
Past President

Constance R. Pizarro
Founder & 1st President

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Candice M. Alfonso
Kimberly Racine
Scholarship Co-Chairmen

Incorporators

Karen Everett
Rita Butler Holliday
Andrea Moten
Constance R. Pizarro
Melodie Warner

Dr. Nicole Brown

SCHOLARSHIP CRITERIA

Maurice M. Williams Scholarship

- Must be a resident of Somerset or Middlesex Counties of New Jersey
- Must be an under-represented (minority) female or male
- Must demonstrate financial need
- Must be in good academic standing with a minimum 2.5 grade point average
- Should have served in a leadership capacity in school and/or within the community
- Should be a high school senior with plans to attend a two-year or four-year college or university
- An official sealed transcript must be submitted via mail to the noted address below

Constance R. Pizarro Community Service Leadership Award

- Must be a resident of Somerset or Middlesex Counties of New Jersey
- Must be African-American or Hispanic **female**
- Must be in good academic standing with a minimum 2.8 grade point average
- Must attend public school
- Must have a minimum of 125 community service hours over 4 years of high school
- Currently holds a leadership position in at least one organization
- Should be a high school senior with plans to attend a two-year or four-year college or university
- An official sealed transcript must be submitted via mail to the noted address below

Diamond & Pearls Scholarship

- Must be a resident of Somerset or Middlesex Counties of New Jersey
- Must be a minority **male** student
- Must demonstrate financial need
- Must be in good academic standing with 2.5 grade point average
- Should have served in a leadership capacity in school and/or within the community
- Should be a high school senior with plans to attend a two year or four year college or university
- An official sealed transcript must be submitted via mail to the noted address below

Shawn Marie Stephens Memorial Scholarship

- Must be a resident of Somerset or Middlesex Counties of New Jersey
- Must be an under-represented (minority) female or male
- Must demonstrate financial need
- Must be in good academic standing with 3.0 grade point average
- Must be planning to pursue a major in a STEM field (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics)
- Should have served in a leadership capacity in school and/or within the community
- Should be a high school senior with plans to attend a two-year or four-year college or university
- An official sealed transcript must be submitted via mail to the noted address below

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Deadline:

The online application must be submitted by **Sunday, March 7, 2021 at 11:59PM EST** and supporting documents (official high school transcript, 2 letters of recommendation, and W-2 form(s)) must be postmarked by **Friday, March 5, 2021** and sent to the below mailing address. _____

*****NOTE: This year we will be accepting online submissions ONLY via the link provided below.***

Checklist:

Online Application

- Application (includes ability to upload essay and photograph) submitted online via
- Official high school transcript via US Mail
- Parent/Guardian W-2 form(s) via US Mail (option to upload via online application)
- Two (2) Letters of Recommendation via US Mail

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1znCfBe9Xed1BTigE1Nut9w5Why7STMW5pq0fMYqP_jU/edit?usp=sharing

Mailing Address:

ATTN: Mrs. Kimberly Racine
Scholarship Co-Chairman
109 Levgar St
Piscataway, NJ 08854