

# THE AMERICAN HERITAGE SCHOLARSHIP

Sponsored by Island Christian Church

## Summary

Two \$2,000 scholarships, to be awarded to graduating seniors, one male, one female, for Long Island students whose lives exemplify genuine character and promote the Scriptural values upon which our country was founded. Up to four \$500 High Honorable Mention scholarships may also be awarded regardless of gender. A committee appointed by the church will make the selection. Selection of the winners will be based upon a personal nomination and essay by the applicant, as well as three recommendations—one by a school official (teacher, guidance counselor, coach, or school administrator), one by the applicant's spiritual leader (minister, priest or rabbi), and one by another adult. Finalists will be interviewed. The scholarship will be presented at a special Baccalaureate Service, held at the church, on Sunday, June 13, 2021. Selected recipients will be required to attend this service.

## Background

Island Christian Church wishes to promote genuine character development in the youth of our community. While the church has a very active youth ministry and outreach, it is our desire, with this scholarship, to reach beyond the confines of our church community to the community-at-large in order to recognize and reward young people of proven and genuine character.

In the very first inaugural address of our nation, given by George Washington in New York City on April 30, 1789, he insists: "there is no truth more thoroughly established, than there exists...an indissoluble union between virtue and happiness." He further contends "the propitious smiles of Heaven can never be expected on a nation that disregards the eternal rules of order and right, which Heaven itself has ordained." As the Psalmist confidently asserts, "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord." Psalm 33:12 This we believe.

## Criteria for Award

The American Heritage Scholarship Committee will judge applicants using each of these values, as revealed in the Scriptures, both the Old and New Testaments: genuine, personal faith in God; patriotism; personal honesty and integrity; compassion and concern for others; and the traditional moral beliefs described in the Ten Commandments including honor for parents, the sanctity of life, chastity, and honesty and truthfulness in all dealings with others.

Two scholarships will be awarded to graduating high school seniors, one male and one female, residing on Long Island. Graduating seniors of families of Island Christian Church who are engaged in full-time ministry, in a location other than Long Island, are also eligible. The scholarship award will recognize genuine character in two dimensions:

**Example**-how is the applicant's life an example of each of the personal values listed above?

**Influence**-in what activities is the applicant engaged that promote the personal values listed above?

## Application Process

The applicant must complete the enclosed personal nomination form and essay.

The applicant must procure three recommendations on the enclosed forms:

1. A school official who knows the student well (teacher, guidance counselor, coach, or school administrator).
2. A spiritual leader (minister, priest, rabbi).
3. An adult other than family, school representative or member of the clergy.

Finalists will be invited for interview before the winners are selected.

All applications, required nominations and recommendations must be postmarked **February 19, 2021, or earlier**. Applications postmarked after this date will not be considered. Applications and recommendations may also be e-mailed to [scholarship@islandchristian.com](mailto:scholarship@islandchristian.com) no later than **noon of 2/19/21**. Further copies of this application can be downloaded from our website:

[www.islandchristian.com/scholarship](http://www.islandchristian.com/scholarship)

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