Doherty & Donelon Scholarship awards

Five children of NALC members have been awarded NALC memorial scholarships for excellence in both school work and community involvement.

Five students will each receive $4,000 from the William C. Doherty Scholarship Fund. The award, renewable for three more years, was created in 1962 in honor of NALC’s president from 1941 to 1962.

One of those five, Jacqueline Gibson, will also receive the $1,000 John T. Donelon Scholarship, also renewable for three years. The Donelon award, established in 2004 by a separate trust, was created to recognize the long-time assistant to three national NALC presidents.

The NALC Scholarship Committee met April 27-29 at NALC Headquarters in Washington, DC. The Scholarship Committee is composed of Sandy Lamemmel, Detroit Branch 1; Jackie White, Los Angeles Branch 24; and Lawrence Kania, Buffalo-Western New York Branch 3. In making the final selection of this year’s winners, the committee was assisted by three respected educators: Michael O’Leary, vice president for enrollment, Goucher College; Dr. Georgia Booker, retired director, Office of Guidance Counseling Services, District of Columbia Public Schools; and Karen S. Felton, director of admissions, George Washington University.

The committee issued the following report:

“On this, the 53rd anniversary of the founding of the William C. Doherty Scholarship program and the 12th anniversary of the John T. Donelon Scholarship, we processed 903 applications, in contrast to 993 applications in 2014.

“For purposes of this scholarship program, the country is divided into five geographic regions. Under the procedure, eliminations were made to reach the allowed figure of five scholarships—one to each of the five regions. At present, each Doherty scholarship is valued at $16,000, which represents $4,000 annually, renewable for three consecutive years. The John T. Donelon scholarship provides for one scholarship of $1,000 annually, also renewable for three consecutive years.

“Including this year’s winners, our program has aided 593 children of letter carriers in their pursuit of higher education. We strongly urge the parents of high school seniors to watch the July through December 2015 issues of The Postal Record for 2016 scholarship applications, which will be printed only in those issues. It is also available on the website, nalc.org.

“It is essential that applications be complete and all submissions made timely. The Committee emphasizes the necessity of answering all questions on the required forms and providing all the information requested prior to the deadline date. We would like to stress the importance of applicants’ demonstrating diversity in extracurricular activities, sports, leadership, elective office and work experience as well as scholastic excellence. Applicants are rated on all of the above areas.

“The Committee appreciates the cooperation of the various branches and state associations and encourages them to continue to publicize the scholarship program. We appreciate the contributions from our members who generously support the scholarship program. The value of a college education to our upcoming young men and women is incalculable. With the continuing increase in the cost of college, we urge each of our members to make a contribution to the Doherty Scholarship fund. Any contribution will help to keep this worthy program as strong and effective as we can make it. (The Donelon Scholarship is funded by a separate trust fund.)

“The participation of President Frederick Rolando, Secretary-Treasurer Nicole Rhine and other resident officers and staff was an invaluable contribution to this committee’s work.

“Our thanks to this year’s judges—Michael O’Leary, Vice President, Enrollment Development, Trinity Washington University; Dr. Georgia Booker, Retired Director, Office of Guidance Counseling Services, District of Columbia Public Schools and Karen S. Felton, Director of Admissions, George Washington University—who assisted in performing the assessment of applicants and making the final selections. We wish to express our deepest appreciation to these very outstanding educators for their assistance to the NALC Scholarship Committee and the NALC.

“As it has for the past decade, the Committee accepted ACT test scores along with SAT scores. The scholarship committee used information provided by Dr. Jeff Schiel of the Statistical Research Department, Research Division, ACT Regional Office, to correlate the ACT and SAT scores to provide a fair evaluation for the scholarship selections.

“We sincerely express our appreciation for this opportunity to serve the NALC membership in administering this program.” PR