

## The Virginia Black History Month Association



# Audrey Jones Scholarship of Excellence

**The 2024 Black History Month National Theme:**  
"African Americans and the Arts"



**Ms. Audrey Jones**

**What:** The Virginia Black History Month Association **Audrey Jones Scholarship of Excellence.**

**When:** The scholarship application deadline is **Monday, February 12, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.**

**Where:** The **24<sup>th</sup> Annual Virginia Black History Month Gala** on **Saturday, February 24, 2024** (6pm to 9pm) at the **Falls Church Marriott Fairview Park Hotel**, 3111 Fairview Park Dr, Falls Church, VA 22042.

**Who:** All African-American High School students enrolled in any **Fairfax County Public Schools, Alexandria City Public High Schools, Spotsylvania County Public Schools** or **Fredericksburg City Public Schools** in Virginia with plans to pursue higher education.

**Why:** To honor the legacy of wife, mother, educator and community leader Ms. Audrey Jones.

**The Monetary Award**  
**\$500.00**

### The Winner Will Receive:

- A monetary award from the Virginia Black History Month Association.
- Two complimentary tickets to the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Virginia Black History Month Gala.
- A large poster-size check with his/her name, school and monetary award written on the check.
- A complimentary family portrait with a professional photographer at the Gala.
- A Certificate of Achievement from the Virginia Black History Month Association.

## Audrey Jones Scholarship of Excellence Application

### **Applicant's Information**

1. Applicant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Applicant's Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_
3. Applicant's Home Phone Number: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_
4. Applicant's Contact E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_
5. Applicant's Signature & Date: \_\_\_\_\_
6. Parent's Cell Phone Number: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

### **Applicant's School Verification Information** (Completed by School Counselor)

7. Applicant's High School: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Applicant's Grade (as of fall of 2023): \_\_\_\_\_
  - Applicant's Grade Point Average (as of fall of 2023): \_\_\_\_\_
  - Applicant's School Activities:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - Applicant's Plans After High School: (*check one*) 4 yr. college:  2 yr. college:
  - School Counselor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_
  - School Counselor's Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_
  - School Counselor's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Applicant's Community and Civic Activities**

1. Civic Activity 1: \_\_\_\_\_ Dates Active: \_\_\_\_\_

• Representative Signature & Date: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Civic Activity 2: \_\_\_\_\_ Dates Active: \_\_\_\_\_

• Representative Signature & Date: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Civic Activity 3: \_\_\_\_\_ Dates Active: \_\_\_\_\_

• Representative Signature & Date: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Civic Activity 4: \_\_\_\_\_ Dates Active: \_\_\_\_\_

• Representative Signature & Date: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Leadership Activity 1: \_\_\_\_\_ Dates Active: \_\_\_\_\_

• Representative Signature & Date: \_\_\_\_\_

6. Leadership Activity 2: \_\_\_\_\_ Dates Active: \_\_\_\_\_

• Representative Signature & Date: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Leadership Activity 3: \_\_\_\_\_ Dates Active: \_\_\_\_\_

• Representative Signature & Date: \_\_\_\_\_

8. Leadership Activity 4: \_\_\_\_\_ Dates Active: \_\_\_\_\_

• Representative Signature & Date: \_\_\_\_\_

9. Sports Activity 1: \_\_\_\_\_ Dates Active: \_\_\_\_\_

• Representative Signature & Date: \_\_\_\_\_

10. Sports Activity 2: \_\_\_\_\_ Dates Active: \_\_\_\_\_

• Representative Signature & Date: \_\_\_\_\_

11. Sports Activity 3: \_\_\_\_\_ Dates Active: \_\_\_\_\_

• Representative Signature & Date: \_\_\_\_\_

12. Sports Activity 4: \_\_\_\_\_ Dates Active: \_\_\_\_\_

• Representative Signature & Date: \_\_\_\_\_

13. Music Activity: \_\_\_\_\_ Dates Active: \_\_\_\_\_

• Representative Signature & Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## The Rules

1. This scholarship is open to All African-American High School students enrolled in any Fairfax County Public Schools, Alexandria City Public High Schools, Spotsylvania County Public Schools or Fredericksburg City Public Schools in Virginia with plans to pursue higher education.
2. The scholarship application deadline ends on **Monday, February 12, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.**
3. Entries should be limited to two pages plus the application form and cover sheet.
4. Each entry must be signed by the student, school counselor and civic representative(s).
5. The entry must be submitted on time. (No late entries will be accepted)
6. Include the title of your entry on both the first page of the essay and on the cover sheet.

**How to Enter:** In 500 words or less, write your response to the questions below:

**Essay:** African-American art is infused with African, Caribbean, and Black American lived experiences. In the fields of visual and performing arts, literature, fashion, folklore, language, film, music, **architecture**, culinary, and other forms of cultural expression, the African-American influence has been paramount. African-American artists have used art to preserve history and community memory as well as for empowerment. (ASALH, 2023).

**Consider the following scenario:** You are one of the leading architects in the country. As a result of your work, the President of Harvard University has invited you to their campus to give a TED talk to their freshman class of African-American students pursuing a degree in Architecture Studies. Your mission is to use black history as a starting point to encourage the students. **Question(s):** Can you identify one African-American woman architect and one African-American male architect past or present? Describe their experience and work. What style of architecture do they use? What building projects are they famously known for which are still standing today? Which of the two building projects inspires you the most and why?

7. **Judging Criteria & Rules:** The winners are selected by a neutral judging panel and rated in five areas:

a. **Criteria**

- (1) All African-American High School students enrolled in any Fairfax County Public Schools, Alexandria City Public High Schools, Spotsylvania County Public Schools or Fredericksburg City Public Schools in Virginia with plans to pursue higher education.
- (2) Good Academic Standing
- (3) Participation in the local community through civic programs and volunteerism
- (4) Plans to attend college after graduation from High School
- (5) Quality of Essay

b. **Rules:** The judging will take place under the supervision of **Dr. Denise Lambert**, a Strategic Resource Analyst and Community Leader. She will be joined by other community leaders and members of our organization to determine the winner of the scholarship.

- (1) Participants agree to be bound by these rules and the decisions of the judges.
- (2) All decisions are final.
- (3) The winner will be notified by phone call by Monday, February 19, 2024.

8. Send a cover sheet with your entry and include the following information: Title of the entry, name, home address, applicant phone number, parent name, and cell phone number.
9. **Note:** Mail all entries to: The Virginia Black History Month Association Audrey Jones Scholarship of Excellence, P.O. Box 41924, Fredericksburg, Virginia 22404. All entries must be received by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, February 12, 2024.
10. The Gala Details: Awards will be presented during **the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Virginia Black History Month Gala on Saturday, February 24, 2024 (Please arrive by 5:15pm)**. We would like for the winning contestants to be present at the Gala. Each winner and one parent will be given a free complimentary ticket to attend. Additional tickets are available for purchase.

**The Virginia Black History Month Association  
Audrey Jones Scholarship of Excellence Rubric**

<b>Description</b>	<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Score</b>
<b>Completed Application</b>	Application must be completed in full to be considered.	Required before application can be considered. No point value assigned.
<b>Application delivered <u>on time</u> before the cutoff date</b>	Must be postmarked before 5:00pm February 12, 2024.	Required before application can be considered. No point value assigned.
<b>Essay Submitted with Application</b>	Received essay and application.	Required before application can be considered. No point value assigned.
<b>The Word Count Limitation</b>	500 words or less.	Required before application can be considered. No point value assigned.
<b>Clearly Address the Essay Topic (Max 20 points)</b>	<b>Question(s):</b> Can you identify one African-American woman architect and one African-American male architect past or present? Describe their experience and work. What style of architecture do they use? What building projects are they famously known for which are still standing today? Which of the two building projects inspires you the most and why?	<b>Essay Topic Questions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Answered All Questions– 25 points</li> <li>• Answered Most Questions – 15 points</li> <li>• Answered Half the Questions – 5 points</li> <li>• Vaguely answered – 5 points</li> </ul>
<b>Grade Point Average (GPA) Report Card/Transcripts (Max 20 points)</b>	Will accept the following documents: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completed Application w/signatures</li> <li>• Official Sealed High School Transcripts</li> <li>• Official Report Card</li> <li>• Signed Letter from the School</li> </ul>	<b>Grade Point Average</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4.0 GPA – 25 points</li> <li>• 3.5 GPA – 20 points</li> <li>• 3.0 GPA – 15 points</li> <li>• 2.5 GPA – 10 points</li> </ul>
<b>Spelling and Proper Grammar (Max 20 points)</b>	Spelling and Proper Grammar.	<b>Spelling and Grammar Errors</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Four or Less Errors – 25 points</li> <li>• Between 5 – 7 errors – 20 points</li> <li>• Between 8 – 10 errors – 15 points</li> <li>• Between 11– 13 errors – 10 points</li> <li>• More than 14 errors – 5 points</li> </ul>
<b>Community or Civic Activities (Max 10 points)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completed Application.</li> <li>• Signed Letter from Organization.</li> <li>• Example: Hospitals, Scouting, or Boys &amp; Girls Club.</li> </ul>	2.5 points for each activity
<b>Leadership Experience (Max 10 points)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completed Application.</li> <li>• Signed Letter from Organization.</li> <li>• Example: Student Government, Class President, or Team Captain.</li> </ul>	2.5 points for each activity
<b>Sports Activities (Max 5 points)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completed Application.</li> <li>• Signed Letter from Organization.</li> <li>• Example: Football, Soccer, or Swimming.</li> </ul>	One point for each activity

*Disclaimer: Members of the VaBHMA Scholarship Selection Committee, may not participate in the selection process if their children, grandchildren, or any relatives plan to apply for any VaBHMA scholarships. They must recuse themselves from the decision-making process and have their names removed from the application.*