

2008

**NEW JERSEY
MARTIN LUTHER
KING, JR.
COMMISSION**

**SCHOLARSHIP
APPLICATION**



State of New Jersey

Department of State

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. COMMEMORATIVE COMMISSION

TRENTON, NJ 08625

(609) 777-4134

JON S. CORZINE
Governor

NINA MITCHELL WELLS
Secretary of State

November 16, 2007

Dear Friend:

Dr. King believed that education was one of the cornerstones for changing attitudes and behaviors, so that we could change society for the better. Building upon this legacy of positive change, the New Jersey Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Commission is proud to announce the 2007-2008 King Scholarship Program.

Since 1999, the King Commission has annually awarded scholarships of \$5000 to college students whose fields of study advance the philosophies of the late civil rights leader and have a direct impact upon the development and enhancement of labor, justice, social and economic policies. Recipients must be enrolled full-time at an accredited institution of higher learning in New Jersey and be a permanent resident of the state. This year, the King Commission will award ten such scholarships.

I encourage you to nominate a deserving student for a Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Commission Scholarship. I have enclosed a copy of the scholarship application and guidelines. Please feel free to make copies and share with friends and colleagues. **The deadline for submission is January 25, 2008.**

Thank you for disseminating this information. If you have any questions, please contact the New Jersey Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Commission at 609-777-4134.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nina Mitchell Wells".

Nina Mitchell Wells

Enc.

New Jersey Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Commission

Scholarship Application

Purpose

Established in 1999 in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the King Scholarship Program recognizes New Jersey college students for their academic and extra curricular achievements to further the causes championed by the civil rights leader. Scholarships in the amount of \$5000 are awarded annually to college students who have demonstrated an active interest and meaningful involvement in areas of human rights, social justice, labor, and world peace; and who intend to pursue academic and/or career paths that would enable them to advance these causes as future leaders. Students must demonstrate knowledge of Dr. King's legacy and life's work and must be able to show how their academic pursuits reflect the ideals that Dr. King has come to symbolize.

The person making the nomination must submit this application packet;

Individual students may not submit applications.

The nominator may not be a relative of the student.

Mission Statement

The mission of the **New Jersey Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Commission** is to raise public awareness of Dr. King's ideals and philosophy. This includes:

- Maintaining a commitment to preserving constitutional freedoms for all Americans.
- Assisting all components of American society to embrace Dr. King's messages on achieving social justice through nonviolent activism.
- Celebrating diversity and promoting education as well as accepting and appreciating others.
- Helping youth make a difference in their lives and inspiring them to contribute to the well-being of their families, schools, communities, and government.
- Encouraging the citizens of New Jersey to recognize their commonalties and to appreciate the potential strength of the racial, ethnic and cultural diversity that so richly enhances our great state and nation.

Eligibility

Students are eligible if they:

- Are enrolled full-time at an accredited college or university in the State of New Jersey at the time of award.
- Show evidence that they intend to pursue a course of study in social work, labor, history, political science, divinity or religion, sociology, psychology, or other fields that will enable them to further the causes championed by Dr. King.
- Have attained a **minimum cumulative G.P.A of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.**
- Have demonstrated leadership ability through participation in community service, and/or co-curricular activities.
- Are U.S. citizens or permanent residents.
- Have permanent resident status in New Jersey at time of award (i.e., the nominee's permanent home address is in New Jersey).
- Have completed 15 credits.
- High School students and College Graduating Seniors are not eligible.

The complete nomination packet must include the following:

- One (1) Nomination Form
- One (1) Student Personal Information Form
- One (1) Essay from Student (in both hard copy and CD or 3 ½ floppy disc format)
- Two (2) Letters of Recommendation: one from the nominator and one from someone who knows the student's academic accomplishments and/or community service achievements and accomplishments. **Neither recommendation should be from a member of the student's family.**
- One (1) **official** academic transcript
- One (1) copy of Fall registration PRIOR to receiving scholarship
- One list of extracurricular activities
- **Nominator must enclose seven (7) additional copies of the nomination packet or the packet will be considered incomplete and automatically disqualified.**

**The completed nomination packet
must be received in the Commission's office no later than**

January 25, 2008.

Nominations will not be considered after the deadline.

Incomplete packets will be automatically disqualified.

**Nomination packets can be accessed via the Martin Luther King, Jr.
Commemorative Commission Website: www.njmlkcommission.com**

Send completed nomination to:

New Jersey Department of State
Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Commission
King Scholarship Program
225 West State Street, 4th Floor
P.O. Box 456

Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0456

(Faxed or e-mailed information will not be accepted)

For more information about the
New Jersey Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Commission
call (609) 777-4134, e-mail mlk@sos.state.nj.us or
visit www.njmlkcommission.com

PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS

NOMINATOR

(Please type or print legibly)

NAME OF STUDENT NOMINEE:

Last Name

First Name

MI

How long have you known the student? _____

In what capacity? _____

Nominator is required to submit a Letter of Recommendation for the student. Please see page 6.

PERSONAL DATA - NOMINATOR

Name: _____

Title: _____

Employer: _____

Address: _____

E-mail Address: _____ Phone Number: _____

DISCLOSURE

I acknowledge that _____ is currently enrolled full-time in an accredited college or university in the State of New Jersey and that the nominee possesses a minimum cumulative G.P.A. of 3.0.

Further, I hereby certify that the information provided in this nomination packet is, to the best of my knowledge, true and correct. I have not knowingly withheld any facts or circumstances that could otherwise jeopardize consideration of this nomination.

SIGNATURE OF NOMINATOR: _____ DATE: _____

NAME OF STUDENT NOMINEE:

Last

First

MI

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Last Name

First Name

MI

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In what capacity? _____

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SIGNATURE OF NOMINATOR: _____ DATE: _____

1. Please provide a response of at least one page double spaced to one of the following three questions:

a) In what way(s) did the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. have a lasting effect on American society?

b) Has the status of ethnic minorities in the United States changed in any significant way(s) since the time of Dr. King? If so, how? If not, why?

c) What are your personal/academic/career goals, and in what way do you hope to incorporate them toward the advancement of social justice, human rights and world peace?

On the enclosed form or on official letterhead, please provide a Letter of Recommendation for the nominee. Please consider the student's academic performance, commitment to academic study, and involvement in community service. Student should be engaged in a field of study that will enable him or her to further the causes championed by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. including, but not limited to human rights, social justice, and world peace. You are welcome to include any other relevant comments that may be helpful in evaluating this student for the scholarship.

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