



## **THE DIVINE DIVAS OF JACKSONVILLE, INC.**

### **Deborah G. Richardson Scholarship Award**

#### **Application Packet**

#### **I. Scholarship Overview**

The Divine Divas of Jacksonville, Inc. proudly presents the **Deborah G. Richardson Scholarship Award**, established to honor the legacy of **Deborah G. Richardson** and her unwavering commitment to education, leadership, and community uplift. This scholarship recognizes an outstanding Sophomore or Junior in college who exemplifies academic excellence, integrity, and a demonstrated dedication to serving others.

The recipient will be selected by the Scholarship Committee based on the criteria outlined in this packet and the strength of the submitted application materials.

## **II. Eligibility Criteria**

Applicants must meet **all** the following requirements:

### **1. Enrollment Status**

- Must be a current sophomore or junior in college or university for the upcoming year.

### **2. Academic Standing**

- Must hold a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 verified by an official transcript.

### **3. Leadership and Involvement**

- Must demonstrate documented leadership experience through school organizations, extracurricular activities, employment, or community engagement.

### **4. Community Commitment**

- Must show a consistent record of volunteerism, service, or initiatives that positively impact the community and reflect the values of The Divine Divas of Jacksonville.

### **5. Post-Secondary Intent**

- Must provide proof of current enrollment in an accredited college, university, or vocational/technical program for the upcoming academic year.

### **6. Application Materials**

A complete application packet must include:

- Completed application form
- Personal essay
- Two letters of recommendation
- Official college transcript
- Any additional documentation requested by the Scholarship Committee

### **7. Character and Conduct**

- Must demonstrate integrity, professionalism, and a positive reputation among peers, educators, and community members.

**III. Application Instructions** to be considered, applicants must submit **all required materials** by the stated deadline of 11:59 PM, June 20, 2026. **Incomplete or late applications will not be reviewed.**

### **Submission Requirements**

- All documents except application form must be typed.
- All materials must be submitted in one packet (physical hard copy only).
- Letters of recommendation must be recent, signed and dated by the recommender.
- Transcripts must be official and sealed if submitted physically. (**preferred**)
- Transcripts can be submitted by email **but must come directly from the school.**

## **IV. Required Documents**

### **1. Completed Application Form**

(See Section VI)

### **2. Personal Essay**

Applicants must submit a **500–750-word essay** addressing the following prompt:

**Essay Prompt: How will you focus, plan, and pursue your education to contribute meaningfully to society?**

Your essay must address these questions:

1. How do you plan to sustain and grow your career over time?
2. How will you strategically contribute to positive change in your community?
3. How do you plan to remain committed to your goals despite challenges or setbacks?

Essays will be evaluated on clarity, depth, originality, and alignment with the values of the scholarship.

### **3. Letters of Recommendation**

Two letters are required:

- Current letter of recommendation from a teacher, counselor, or school administrator
- Current letter from a community leader, employer, mentor, or volunteer supervisor

Letters should address the applicant's character, leadership, academic performance, and community involvement

#### **4. Official Transcript**

Must include cumulative GPA and be issued by the school registrar.

### **V. Selection Process**

The Scholarship Committee will review all completed applications. Selection will be based on:

- Academic achievement
- Leadership experience
- Community involvement
- Strength of essay
- Letters of recommendation
- Extra Bonus Points

## **VI. Application Form (must be returned with all required documentation.)**

### **APPLICANT INFORMATION**

- Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_
- Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_
- Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_
- Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_
- Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

### **EDUCATION INFORMATION**

- Expected Graduation Date: \_\_\_\_\_
- Cumulative GPA: \_\_\_\_\_

### **POST-SECONDARY PLANS**

- Intended College/Program: \_\_\_\_\_
- Intended Major/Field of Study: \_\_\_\_\_

### **LEADERSHIP & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT (List up to five activities, roles, or organizations)**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

**CERTIFICATION** I certify that all information provided in this application is accurate and truthful. I understand that providing false information may result in disqualification.

Applicant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **VII. Submission Deadline**

All application materials must be submitted & received by: **11:59 P.M. Saturday June 20, 2026.**

Applications may be submitted:

- **By email:** [divinedivasofjacksonville@mail.com](mailto:divinedivasofjacksonville@mail.com)
- **By mail:** 6506 Thurgood Circle W. Jacksonville, FL 32219
- **In person:** 6506 Thurgood Circle W. Jacksonville, FL 32219

## **VIII. Contact Information**

For questions or additional information, please contact: **The Divine Divas of Jacksonville, Inc.**

Email: [divinedivasofjacksonville@mail.com](mailto:divinedivasofjacksonville@mail.com)

Phone: 904-993-0899

Website: [divinedivasofjacksonville.com](http://divinedivasofjacksonville.com)