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**Diversity Scholarship Program & Application
2014-2015**

TEXAS YOUNG LAWYERS ASSOCIATION

Diversity Scholarship Program 2014–2015

TYLA Organizational History & Committee Overview

The Texas Young Lawyers Association (TYLA) began over 80 years ago as the Texas Junior Bar association. Growing from an initial membership of 200 lawyers, the organization now boasts over 24,000 members. Each attorney licensed in Texas who is age 36 or younger as of June 1, or who is within his or her initial 60-month licensing period before June 1, is a regular member of TYLA. No application or separate dues are required.

TYLA has 7 special committees that promote projects and programs aimed at either assisting lawyers in their profession or serving the public. Each committee's specific goals are accomplished through the work of its volunteer members.

The TYLA Diversity Committee

The Diversity Committee was created in 1985. Its objectives are:

- to facilitate and encourage minorities to enter the legal profession;
- to promote increased participation by diverse lawyers in the activities, programs, and projects of the Texas Young Lawyers Association and the State Bar of Texas, and
- to encourage all members of the Texas Young Lawyers Association and the State Bar of Texas to acknowledge the importance of diversity, to promote greater inclusion of diverse members of the profession, and to facilitate greater access to programs, services, and employment opportunities for diverse members of the profession.

The Diversity Scholarship Program is one of the many Diversity Committee sponsored projects designed to meet these objectives each year. The Diversity Committee members review all applications and select the scholarship recipients based on the criteria described below.

TYLA recognizes diversity based upon gender, national origin, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, socio-economic status and geography.

Scholarship Criteria and Eligibility

The Diversity Committee intends to award a \$1,000 scholarship to one or more law students at each of the ABA-accredited law schools in Texas. The recipient must either be attending or have been admitted to one of the Texas law schools. In awarding the scholarships, the Diversity Committee will consider the applicant's resume, response to the attached essay questions, letter(s) of recommendation, demonstrated commitment to diversity, academic performance, and financial need.

An application may be downloaded from the TYLA website (www.tyla.org). Applications may also be obtained at the law school financial aid office or by contacting either of the addresses or phone numbers below:

Texas Young Lawyers Association
Tracy Brown, Director
1414 Colorado, 4th Floor
Austin, Tx 78701
P.O. Box 12487
Austin, Texas 78711-2487
(512) 427-1529 (800) 204-2222, ext. 1529

Office of Minority Affairs, State Bar of Texas
Caren des Vignes, Director
1414 Colorado, 6th Floor
Austin, Tx 78701
P.O. Box 12487
Austin, Texas 78711-2487
(512) 427-1538 (800) 204-2222, ext. 1538

TO APPLY:

Mail or email a completed application to:

TYLA
1414 Colorado St., 4th Floor
Austin, Tx 78701
Bree Trevino, btrevino@texasbar.com

ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED OR EMAILED NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 10, 2014.
(We will not accept any applications postmarked or emailed after October 10th.)

TEXAS YOUNG LAWYERS ASSOCIATION

Diversity Scholarship Program 2014–2015 (Application)

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

NAME: _____

AGE: _____ D.O.B. _____ SEX: M ___ F ___

PERMANENT MAILING ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

CELL PHONE: _____ ALTERNATE PHONE: _____

ETHNIC BACKGROUND: (Check the appropriate designation)

_____ African American _____ Asian American _____ Caucasian _____ Hispanic

_____ Native American _____ Other (please specify)

MARITAL STATUS: _____ Single _____ Married NUMBER OF DEPENDENTS: _____

II. LAW SCHOOL INFORMATION

LAW SCHOOL NAME: _____

CLASSIFICATION: _____ GPA: (cumulative) _____ EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: _____

LAW SCHOOL ACTIVITIES: _____

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES: _____

III. FINANCIAL NEED (optional)

Education and Living Expenses for 2014-2015 (please itemize): _____

% Education Personally Financed: _____ % Living Expenses Personally Financed: _____

Financial Support Expected from Other Sources: _____

(please list the amount and source of any financial awards, grants, fellowships, scholarships, gifts, and contributions that you will receive in the 2014-2015 academic year)

IV. RESUME, ESSAYS, AND RECCOMENDATIONS

Please submit the following materials along with this application:

- (a) A current resume.
- (b) A typewritten response to each of the following questions (*limit your response to two pages total*):
 - 1. Why do you believe that diversity is important in the practice of law?
 - 2. What can the Texas Young Lawyers Association and the State Bar of Texas do to promote and support diversity in the legal profession?
- (c) At least one (1) letter of recommendation that specifically addresses the factors that make you a good candidate for a TYLA Diversity Scholarship.

AFFIRMATION OF APPLICANT: I have reviewed the information listed in this application for omission and errors. To the best of my knowledge the information is complete and accurate as reported. I understand that the TYLA Diversity Committee reserves the right to investigate all information stated in this application.

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____