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**Diversity Scholarship Program & Application
2013-2014**

TEXAS YOUNG LAWYERS ASSOCIATION

Diversity Scholarship Program 2013–2014

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 approximately 15 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. Several TYLA programs directly impact law students and new lawyers.

The TYLA Diversity Committee

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

- * to facilitate and encourage minorities to enter the legal profession; and
- * 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.

The Diversity Scholarship Program is one of the many Diversity Committee sponsored projects designed to meet these objectives each year. The Diversity Committee members, many of whom are diverse attorneys, review all applications and select the scholarship recipients. TYLA supports diversity in the profession and includes in its definition of diversity both ethnic and gender diverse populations in the bar.

Scholarship Objectives

The Diversity Scholarship Program fulfills both of the Diversity Committee objectives. It facilitates diverse attorneys entering the legal profession by providing financial assistance to selected diverse law students to help them meet the rigorous challenges and financial burdens of law school. It encourages involvement in TYLA, and thus the State Bar, by introducing and familiarizing diverse students with the association's activities. A \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded to one diverse student at each of the following schools:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Baylor Law School | Texas A&M University School of Law |
| SMU Dedman School of Law | Texas Tech University School of Law |
| South Texas College of Law | University of Houston Law Center |
| St. Mary's University School of Law | University of Texas School of Law |
| TSU Thurgood Marshall School of Law | |

Scholarship Criteria and Eligibility

The scholarship will be awarded to a law student who is a member of a recognized diversity group, inclusive of students of varying gender, national origin, racial and ethnic backgrounds, sexual orientation and gender identity, and of students with disabilities. The recipient must either be attending or have been admitted to an ABA-accredited Texas law school. Selection criteria will include: financial need, merit, and scholastic performance. Consideration will also be given to extracurricular activities both inside and outside law school.

An application may be accessed and 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 |
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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 25, 2013.
(We will not accept any applications postmarked or emailed after October 25th.)

TEXAS YOUNG LAWYERS ASSOCIATION

Diversity Scholarship Program 2013–2014 (Application)

The Texas Young Lawyers Association (TYLA) will award a \$1,000 scholarship to one diverse law student at each ABA-accredited law school in Texas. Any member of a recognized diversity group, inclusive of students of varying gender, national origin, racial and ethnic backgrounds, sexual orientation and gender identity, and of students with disabilities is eligible to apply. Selection criteria includes: financial need, merit, and scholastic performance. Consideration is also given to extracurricular activities both inside and outside law school.

The purpose of this scholarship is to facilitate and encourage diverse law students entering the legal profession to meet the challenges and financial burdens of law school. This application should be completed and returned to the TYLA Diversity Committee, 1414 Colorado St., 4th Floor, Austin, TX, 78701 or by email to Bree Trevino, btrevino@texasbar.com. **Applications must be postmarked or emailed no later than October 25, 2013. Incomplete applications and or applications mailed or emailed after the deadline will not be considered.** This scholarship will be awarded in December 2013.

Please print or type in black ink.

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

NAME: _____

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

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: _____

DISABILITY: YES NO

II. LAW SCHOOL INFORMATION

LAW SCHOOL NAME: _____

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

LAW SCHOOL ACTIVITIES: _____

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES: _____

III. RECOMMENDATIONS AND ESSAY

Please attach (1) at least two letters of recommendation prepared for the TYLA Diversity Scholarship and (2) prepare a two-page typewritten essay on one of the following questions:

1. What role(s) should the diverse attorney play in the community and profession? Please reference your previous activities and how they will serve as a foundation for your own contributions to the profession.
2. The legal profession is perennially under attack as self-serving and non-responsive to the needs of the public. As a future member of this profession, what role do you think an attorney, specifically a diverse attorney, should play in improving its image? Please state your personal experiences as an example.

IV. EMPLOYMENT AND FINANCIAL STATUS

Please provide an employment record for the past two (2) years.

| Employer | City, State | Dates Employed | Position | Salary |
|----------|-------------|----------------|----------|--------|
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |

Spouse's Employer: _____

Address: _____

Position: _____ Salary: _____

Last Year's Annual Income: _____ Last Year's Expenses: _____
(including spouse's)

Current Income: _____

Present/Anticipated Expenses: (please itemize): _____

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

Financial Support Expected from Other Sources: Amount \$ _____
(please list sources of financial awards, grants, fellowships, scholarships, gifts, and contributions that you currently receive or anticipate receiving)

Are you or do you anticipate living with your parents while enrolled in law school? _____ NO _____ YES

Military Experience: _____ NO _____ YES If yes, please complete the following:

Branch: _____ Dates of Service: _____

Are You Eligible for G.I. Bill Assistance? _____ Amount \$ _____

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: _____