| **apa_shld** | **To:** Graduating African American Male High School Seniors - Philadelphia and Vicinity**From:** ODL Foundation in conjunction with the Omicron Delta Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc.**Re:** 2024 Dr. Charles H. Wesley Scholarship Competition |
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Since its founding on December 4, 1906 on the campus of Cornell University (Ithaca, New York), Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. has supplied voice and vision to the struggle of African-Americans and ALL people around the world.

The Fraternity was started by seven college men who recognized the need for a strong bond of Brotherhood among African descendants in this country. The visionary founders, known as the "Jewels" of the Fraternity, are Henry Arthur Callis, Charles Henry Chapman, Eugene Kinckle Jones, George Biddle Kelley, Nathaniel Allison Murray, Robert Harold Ogle, and Vertner Woodson Tandy. Initially, the Fraternity served as a study and support group for minority students who faced racial prejudice, both educationally and socially, at Cornell. As the organization grew, the Jewel founders and early leaders of the Fraternity succeeded in laying a firm foundation for Alpha Phi Alpha's principles of scholarship, fellowship, good character, and the uplifting of humanity.

Scholastic achievement and preparation for the future have always been concepts held high by Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. Much of our external emphasis has focused on aiding members of the communities in which we live in their quests to achieve their academic and professional goals. Even while recognizing the need to help correct the educational, economic, political, and social injustices faced by Americans of color, Alpha has continued to stress academic excellence among its members and its communities.

In 1922, the Fraternity established its landmark education initiative: "Go-to-High-School, Go-to-College". The program concentrates on the importance of completing secondary and collegiate education as a road to advancement. Completing school is one of the best predictors of future economic success. Statistics prove the value of academics and how it is making the difference in the success of young African-American men. Through the “Go-to-High-School, Go-to-College” educational initiative, young men receive information and learn strategies that facilitate success. Alpha men provide youth participants with excellent role models to emulate and, with scholarships, help them defray the costs of post-secondary education.

In 1986, the Charles H. Wesley Scholarship was established by one of the local Philadelphia Alumni Chapters, Omicron Delta Lambda (ODL). The establishment of the scholarship was based on our need to encourage students of the Delaware Valley to finish high school and go on to attend college. Dr. Wesley was at the forefront of society in the field of education and the need to document our own history. He once remarked to Carter G. Woodson, “Blacks need to write more about their own history.” Bro. Wesley has since departed us, but his spirit lives on in those to whom he dedicated the Alpha history book: “To the youth who march onward and upward towards the light…” It was his belief in the youth and his legacy in the fields of education and history that inspired us to award scholarships in his name. Since its inception, the scholarship has been able to provide financial assistance to many young men in pursuit of academic success. The first recipient of the scholarship was a young man from Philadelphia’s Central High School who went on to graduate from Morehouse College and Georgia Tech University. Proudly, that first recipient became an upstanding member of the Philadelphia community, Vice-President of a local Delaware Valley based financial institution, as well as an active Brother of our Fraternity and Chapter.

ODL the Fraternity have been dedicated in the struggle to achieve academic excellence. The ODL Foundation invites all qualified candidates to compete in this year’s competition for the Charles H. Wesley Scholarship. This scholarship will award applicants with a $1,000 stipend to support their educational journey at the four-year institution of their choosing.

Enclosed you will find the criteria for this year’s competition. You may also download the application at http://www.odlalphas.org. **Applications for consideration must be completed and returned by April 30, 2024.** After careful consideration, the winner will be notified by being presented with the award at a public event and/or during the scholarship awards ceremony held at the student’s high school.

Each applicant must:

1. Have a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale, and must provide proof of his academic standing via a transcript or official documentation from his school
2. Be classified as a graduating African American male high school senior and provide a high school photo.
3. Be accepted and planning to pursue
	1. a bachelor’s degree at a four-year college/university this fall (include acceptance letter and assigned college student ID number, if available)
	2. an associate’s degree at a two-year community college this fall (include acceptance letter and assigned college student ID number, if available)
4. Be recommended or nominated by an individual from his community or from his school (recommendation forms are included in the application packet and can be downloaded from http://www.odlalphas.org)
5. Write an essay on the following topic: **What does leadership mean to you and how will you use your leadership to make a better world for future generations?**
6. Both reside and attend a High School in the Delaware Valley restricted to the following counties – Pennsylvania (Philadelphia, Delaware, Chester, Montgomery, Berks, and Bucks), Southern New Jersey (Burlington, Camden and Gloucester) and the State of Delaware (New Castle county).
7. Complete the application packet and return it before the deadline:
***DEADLINE: April 30, 2024***

Completed applications should be e-mailed to:

scholarship@odlchapter.com

*Best wishes to all potential candidates.  Please continue to march onward and upward in pursuit of higher education.*

Sincerely,

***The ODL Foundation and Brothers of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated - Omicron Delta Lambda Chapter.***

**PART 1: PERSONAL INFORMATION:**

| **Name:** |       |       |       |
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|  | Last | First | Middle |
| ***ADDRESS:*** |
| **Street:** |       |
| **City:** |       | State: |       | Zip code: |       |
| **Home Telephone:** | (     ) |       -       | **Cell Phone/Pager** | (     ) |       -       xtn:       |
| **E-mail Address:** |       |
| **Age:** |       |  | **Date of Birth:** |       |  **African American Male: Yes or No** |
| ***PARENT(S)/GUARDIAN(S)*** |
| **Name:** |       |       |       |
|  | Last | First | Relationship (i.e. Mother, Father, Guardian) |
| **Name:** |       |       |       |
|  | Last | First | Relationship (i.e. Mother, Father, Guardian) |

### PART 2: HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION

| **Name of School:** |       |
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| **Address:** |       |       |
|  | Street | City, State, Zip code |
| **Guidance Counselor:** |       | **Phone:** | (     ) |       -       xtn:       |
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| **Cumulative G.P.A:** |       | **/** |       |  | **OPTIONAL** | **Percentile Rank** |       |
|  | (i.e. 3.5/4.0 scale) |  |  | (i.e. “Top 5%” or “2 out of 500”) |
| **Date of Graduation:** |       |  | **S.A.T. Score:** |       |  |
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**PART 3: COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES APPLICANT IS APPLYING TO:**

|  | **Name of Institution** | State Located |  | **Name of Institution** | State Located |
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| **1** |       |       | **5** |       |       |
| **2** |       |       | **6** |       |       |
| **3** |       |       | **7** |       |       |
| **4** |       |       | **8** |       |       |

**PART 4: EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

| List any school clubs, school organizations, and school activities that you have participated in since the 9th grade. For each item listed, put the year(s) you participated and any positions held (i.e. president, chairman, secretary, etc.).  |
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**PART 5: COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & CIVIC ACTIVITIES**

| List any community activities, organizations, and service projects (i.e. Church Choir, Project Alpha, Feed the Homeless, etc.) that you have participated in since the 9th grade. For each item listed, put the year(s) you participated and any positions held (i.e. chairman, organizer, etc.).  |
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**PART 6: ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT**

| List any academic honors, awards, and achievements that you have received since the 9th grade. For each item listed, put the year(s) you received the item.  |
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### PART 7: ESSAY

Write an essay on the theme or question below. The essay should be typewritten and should not exceed 2 pages in length. Your essay will be judged on grammar, clarity and relevance to the question/theme, and adherence to the above criteria. The essay will account for a **major** portion of the scoring criteria for the awarding of the scholarship. Strict adherence and relevance to the topic is key:

*QUESTION/THEME*:

**What does leadership mean to you and how will you use your leadership to make a better world for future generations?**

**PART 8: RECOMMENDATIONS, TRANSCRIPTS, AND VERIFICATIONS**

*RECOMMENDATIONS*

Included in the application package is a recommendation form. It can also be downloaded by the applicant or recommender at **http://www.odlalphas.org**. You will need to obtain a recommendation from an official in the school that you attend (teacher, coach, counselor, principal, or assistant principal) or from a person in the community (pastor, family, friend, church member, employer, etc.). Applications are considered incomplete until recommendations are received.

*TRANSCRIPTS AND VERIFICATIONS*

The applicant must obtain an official copy of his high school transcript or a sealed, official document verifying his academic record from the guidance counselor. The document must come directly from the guidance counselor and be e-mailed as a pdf along with the scholarship application to scholarship@odlchapter.com.

The documents should show the applicant’s GPA and if possible the applicant’s percentile rank and S.A.T. scores. Applications are considered incomplete until transcripts and/or academic verifications are received by the scholarship board.

**PART 9: APPLICANT’S CHECKLIST**

The following checklist is provided for the applicant’s benefit. To be eligible for this scholarship, the applicant must make sure all the following are done and the completed application package must be returned and postmarked by the given deadline.

* Personal Information completed (Part 1)
* School Information completed (Part 2)
* University/College Information completed (Part 3)
* Extracurricular Activities section completed (Part 4)
* Community Involvement & Civic Activities section completed (Part 5)
* Academic Achievement section completed (Part 6)
* Essay completed and included in application package (Part 7)
* Recommendation included in application package or e-mailed to scholarship board (Part 8)
* College acceptance letter with assigned college student ID number (if available) included.

| apa_shld | Good Luck and Thank You for Your Interest in the ***Dr. Charles H. Wesley Scholarship***From the ODL Foundation and Omicron Delta Lambda Chapter of**Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated** |
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**RECOMMENDATION**

| **Applicant Info** |
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| **Name of Applicant:** |       |
| **High School:** |       |

| **Recommending Individual (RI)** |
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| Please answer the following questions. If you need more space to thoroughly answer the questions, please continue your assessment in another document. Once you have completed the recommendation, e-mail all documents to scholarship@odlchapter.com. |
| **RI Name:** |       |       |       |
|  | Last | First | Middle |
| **RI Address:** |       |       |
|  | Street | City, State, Zip code |
| **Home Telephone:** | (     ) |       -       | **Cell Phone/Pager** | (     ) |       -       xtn:       |
| **E-mail:** |       | **How long have you known the applicant?** |  |
| **Relationship to the applicant:** |       |
|  |
| Explain how you feel this candidate exhibits leadership in his school, community and/or extracurricular activities. |
|       |

| Explain how you feel the candidate shows citizenship and helps to improve his community?  |
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| Describe the candidate’s commitment to scholarship and academics. |
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| Make any further comments about why you feel this candidate should receive this scholarship award. |
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|  I, the undersigned, hereby affirm that the information I have provided is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. |
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|  |       |
|  | Recommending Individual |