



Girls Incorporated of the Berkshires Scholarship Program

(A Program of the Gladys Allen Brigham Community Center)

Postmark Due Date: March 21, 2008

gladys allen
BRIGHAM
COMMUNITY CENTER



Goal

The purpose of the *Girls Incorporated of the Berkshires Scholarship Program* is to make post-secondary education more accessible to young women by offsetting some costs.

Awards

- ∞ Six \$1,000 Scholarships will be awarded.
- ∞ Income Eligibility required.
- ∞ Scholarships may be applied to direct educational expenses such as tuition, fees or books associated with a recipient's post-secondary education at any accredited 2- or 4-year college or university.
- ∞ Recipients of the scholarships will be invited to attend the 18th Annual Girls Incorporated of the Berkshires Celebration Dinner to be held May 2nd, 2008 at the Country Club of Pittsfield.
- ∞ Awards are held in escrow until scholars begin post-secondary education and are paid upon receipt of education bills.

Eligibility

Scholarship applicants must meet all of the following guidelines for eligibility:

- ∞ Be a senior in a Berkshire County High School AND plan to graduate and go onto a school of higher education in the fall
- ∞ Have a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.80 on a 4.00 scale at the time of application. A current transcript or grade report must be submitted to verify current, cumulative GPA.
- ∞ Members/participants who are daughters of staff or board members ARE eligible to apply for scholarships.
- ∞ **Applicants must have demonstrated extraordinary initiative, energy, and creativity in community service (with particular emphasis on service to disadvantaged members of the Berkshire community) or the application will not be considered.**

Guidelines for Scholarship Applicants

Full Packet Contents for the Completed Application

The following items are to be postmarked by March 21, 2008 to Girls Incorporated of the Berkshires, a program of the Gladys Allen Brigham Community Center. Please note that all materials must be on standard 8.5x11 white paper, bound together with a staple. *Do not use a binder, notebook or other cover for your application.*

1. Application Form (use as the cover page)
2. Essay Question
3. Letter of Recommendation from a teacher, counselor, principal or Girls Inc. staff person (must be typewritten).
4. You must list your 2007 Annual Household Income on the cover page of this application.
5. Official school transcript or verification of your grades - **if the school uses a different grading scale, please have the school counselor translate the grading system to reflect the applicant's GPA on a 4.00 scale.**

PART I – ESSAY QUESTION

- ∞ **Clearly identify the Essay Question on your paper.**
- ∞ Your statement/essay should be **typed double-spaced** and should be no less than two and no more than four typewritten or printed pages in length. **Please use a 12 point font and one inch margins on all sides.** Include your name and your school's name at the top of every page and number all pages.

Tips for Preparation of the Essay Questions

- ∞ Write in your own voice.
- ∞ Be specific and draw upon examples from your own experience.
- ∞ Be sure to respond to all required questions.
- ∞ If applicable, reflect on your Girls Incorporated experience.
- ∞ Use a font that is easy to read, such as Times New Roman, Arial or Courier.
- ∞ Have a person whose opinion you respect read over a draft of your essay. Revise the essay at least twice and proofread it carefully.

Essay Question:

How have you demonstrated extraordinary initiative, energy, and creativity in community service (with a particular emphasis on service to disadvantaged members of the Berkshire community)? What are your future career goals and how do your experiences relate to them?

PART II – RECOMMENDATION LETTER

Written by School Principal, Counselor, Teacher or Girls Inc. staff

No form is included for this purpose. **Please submit your typewritten Recommendation Letter on letterhead stationery with your title and original signature at the end. The Recommendation Letter should not exceed ONE PAGE in length.**

The following questions are provided as guidelines only. It is not necessary to answer every question:

1. How long have you known the applicant? Please describe breadth of membership.
2. **If applicable:** How has the applicant distinguished herself in her involvement with Girls Incorporated?
3. In what ways have you seen the applicant grow during the time that you have known her?
4. Describe how the applicant is a positive role model for her peers and younger girls.
5. Please add any additional information that you think would be important in evaluating this applicant.
6. Describe school activities in which the applicant has participated and how she has made a positive contribution to the school.
7. In what ways do the applicant's achievements distinguish her from her peers?
8. Describe how the applicant is a positive role model for her peers and younger girls.
9. Describe the applicant's capacity for academic success in post-secondary education.
10. Please add any additional information that you think would be important in Evaluating this applicant.

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PART III – OFFICIAL HIGH SCHOOL TRANSCRIPT/GRADE REPORT

If your school transcript/grading report does not reflect a 4.00 grading scale, please request that a school staff member provide the applicant's GPA "translated" to the 4.00 GPA scale.



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Girls Incorporated of the Berkshires

A Program of the
Gladys Allen Brigham Community Center
165 East Street

Pittsfield, MA 01201-5324

(413) 442-5174

(413) 442-4048 FAX

Email: info@girlsinc-berkshires.org

Visit <http://girlsinc-berkshires.org>

SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION FOR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES 2008

Name _____ Age _____

_____ Last First Middle

Address: _____
Street City Zip

Telephone: _____

Parent/Guardian's Name(s): _____

High School currently attending: _____

2007 Household Annual Income: _____

SCHOLAR PACKET CHECKLIST - PLEASE COMPLETE AFTER FOLLOWING APPLICATION DIRECTIONS:

- _____ Application Form (this page)
- _____ 1 Essay (not to exceed 2-4 pages each in length, double spaced typed)
- _____ Recommendation from high school personnel (typed, one-page, on letterhead)
- _____ Official CURRENT school transcript or verification of your grades
- _____ If transcript is to be sent directly from your school to Girls Incorporated, please check here
- _____ By checking here I certify that this work is entirely my own original work and is accurate

APPLICATION MUST BE POSTMARKED BY MARCH 21, 2008
THIS FORM MAY ALSO BE DOWNLOADED FROM www.girlsinc-berkshires.org

Signature of Applicant Signature of Parent/Guardian Date



ACADEMIC, WORK, PERSONAL ACTIVITIES & ACHIEVEMENTS FORM

Please use this form to detail your extracurricular activities, school, volunteer and work experiences. Please include additional honors or achievements you would like considered. You may use another sheet of paper but it must follow this template.

School Activities

Extra-Curricular Activities

Work Experience

Volunteer Experience

Honors & Achievements

Other

**GIRLS INCORPORATED OF THE BERKSHIRES SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
2008**

APPLICANT NAME: _____

High Schools which applicant has attended: _____

(If more than one school listed, please check the school from which you will graduate.)

School of applicant's choice for which scholarship is requested. Include name, address, city, state:

Date of application to school: _____ Have you been accepted? _____

Please list name and phone number for two references.

This section to be completed by official of applicant's secondary school.

Please attach transcript of applicant's marks for all high school grades.

Applicant entered (date): _____ Will graduate: _____ (date)

Applicant's Test Scores:

College Board SAT: Date(s) Taken _____ Verbal _____
Mathematics _____

OTHER TESTS: Please give test name, date taken, score in space to right of SAT's.

Describe course of study pursued by applicant at your school: _____

The applicant's most recent academic standing/GPA is _____ Her class rank is _____
in a class numbering _____ Rank covers period from _____ to _____

Signature of preparer: _____ Print name and title: _____



Applications should be postmarked **no later** than March 21, 2008 to:
SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE
GIRLS INCORPORATED OF THE BERKSHIRES
c/o Gladys Allen Brigham Community Center
165 East Street, Pittsfield, MA 01201

**STRONG
SMART &
BOLD**