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EARL GAGE JR. & DENISE A. ELARMS

2021 SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

In 1955, Earl Gage Jr. was the first Black Firefighter in the San Francisco Fire Department in the United States. He was the only Black Firefighter for 12 years. While working for the San Francisco Fire Department during his 28 years, he was always trying to increase racial diversity within the San Francisco Fire Department. He dealt with a lot of racial discrimination while working for SFFD. He was our first Black Hero in the SFFD.

Denise A. Elarms battled fires for San Francisco Fire for 12 years before she had started battling for her life. In 2014, was the first time Firefighter Elarms was diagnosed with Breast Cancer. She received treatment and went into remission. About 4 years later, cancer returned but this time not only in the breast area but other parts of her body. Firefighter Elarms was an instrumental member of the San Francisco Black Firefighter Association. She helped a lot of members in this department to become firefighters in San Francisco Fire Department. She played a major part by helping to pass a law in the City of San Francisco to allow Firefighters that get diagnosed with cancer in our department is presumptive. In return, we now have separate worker's comp adjusters that are allocated just for Firefighters diagnosed with cancer.

Mission Statement

"We are convinced that the African American and other minority communities have an abundance of untapped talent to offer the fire service. Conversely, we expect to improve the economic development and employment opportunities for minorities."

About SFBFA

The San Francisco Black Firefighters Association (SFBFA) was founded 1972 and is a chapter of the International Association of Black Professional Fire Fighters (IABPFF) which has 121 chapters and over 8000 members. The SFBFA was formed to address issues concerned African Americans and other minority members of the San Francisco Fire Department.

Our concern and issues include: hiring, promotions, discrimination, racism, affirmative action, training, and education. Since our inception, the SFBFA has been able to bring about a tremendous change within the San Francisco Fire Department. One aspect of our struggle was to challenge the city and county of San Francisco, specifically the San Francisco Fire department to create a non-hostile and non-threatening work environment. In 1988 as a result of our struggle the 9th circuit federal Courts decreed a Consent Decree on the San Francisco Fire Department which mandated the Department "clean up its act." In retrospect the ranks of the department have been integrated and the racial makeup of the fire department more adequately reflects the diversity of San Francisco.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARD: UP TO \$2000.00

ELIGIBILITY:

1. The applicant must be a Son or Daughter graduating high school senior (**Class 2021**) of a member of the San Francisco Black Firefighter Association in good standing.
2. The applicant must have a minimum 2.5 GPA on a 4.0 scale.
3. The applicant must enroll in a four-year college/university, beginning Fall 2021.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

1. The members of San Francisco Black Firefighters Association will process and determine the eligibility of all scholarship applications.
2. All materials that are submitted will become the property of San Francisco Black Firefighter Association.
3. The awarded will be expected to attend our scholarship reception.
4. The scholarship award will be processed and issued upon receipt of proof of enrollment at a four-year college/university after October 1, 2021. Proof of enrollment is specified as the following:
 - a. **Enrollment verification letter from the selected college/university (University Letterhead to include student name, student ID number, class year, and the approving official name, title, signature, school seal, and submitted in an unopened envelope.**
5. If selected, timely submission of all required documents will result in the scholarship check being issued within 10 days after October 1, 2021. Scholarship checks are only issued once a month.
6. If the recipient does not attend a four-year college/university during the Fall 2021, the scholarship will be forfeited.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must submit a completed application form, official transcript, essay, and valid photo ID to be considered for the scholarship. Eligible applicants will be evaluated based on scholastic performance and personal essay.

Applications postmarked or emailed after April 30, 2021 will not be considered.

MUST SUBMIT ALL OF THE FOLLOWING to be considered:

1. Completed, **typed** application form
2. Essay of 400-500 words
3. Official high school transcript: by mail must be in a sealed envelope OR by email. Must have registrar send directly to: **sbfascholarship@gmail.com**
4. Copy of a current student high school ID (preferred) or any current valid form of picture ID

MAIL ALL APPLICATION MATERIALS TO:

San Francisco Black Firefighter Association

4936 3rd St.

San Francisco, CA 94124

Attn: Scholarship Committee

OR EMAIL COMPLETED PACKET TO: sbfascholarship@gmail.com

(Transcript must be emailed by school registrar)

APPLICATION DEADLINE APRIL 30, 2021
SFBFA SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM
(TYPE WRITTEN ANSWERS ONLY)

PERSONAL INFORMATION:

Name:	First	Middle	Last
Gender:	Female <input type="checkbox"/>	Male <input type="checkbox"/>	
Address:			
City, State, and Zip Code:			
Home Phone:		Cell Phone:	
Email:			
Birthdate:			
Parent/SFBFA Member:			

ACADEMIC PROFILE:

Name of High School:	
School Address:	
City, State, and Zip Code:	
Telephone:	
Expected Graduation Date:	Current Cumulative GPA (underweighted):

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITIES YOU HAVE APPLIED TO/BEEN ACCEPTED:

1.

2.

3.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:

(Please attach separate page to application, if more space is needed)

Name of Organization: _____

Length of Participation (provide dates): _____

Role/Position in Organization: _____

Name of Organization: _____

Length of Participation (provide dates): _____

Role/Position in Organization: _____

Name of Organization: _____

Length of Participation (provide dates): _____

Role/Position in Organization: _____

ESSAY:

Please submit a 400-500-word essay on **“How will this scholarship impact your life?”**

All essays must be typed, double-spaced and use 12-point Times New Roman font with one-inch margins.

My signature guarantees that this essay is MY original work.

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____