



*"Media Professionals, Mentors and Advocates for Diversity"*

# **2017-2018 AABJ XERNONA CLAYTON SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION**

Thank you for your interest in the 2017 - 2018 Atlanta Association of Black Journalists Academic Scholarship Program. Each year, AABJ awards exceptional future journalists with scholarships.

Applicants must be pursuing degrees in journalism or communications (broadcast, radio, print, digital media). The Xernona Clayton Scholarship recipient must also be a member of AABJ.



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**APPLICANT REQUIREMENTS:**

- Must be a member of AABJ (or join by the receipt of this application)
- Must attend an accredited College or University in Metro Atlanta
- Must be pursuing a journalism/mass communications degree or other related fields (i.e. English, Telecommunications or Digital Media, etc.)
- Must have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale)
- Must be involved in a form of community/student media

**SUBMISSIONS:**

- Completed application (typed)
- Two (2) sealed letter of recommendation (professors, mentors, professional journalists)
- An OFFICIAL sealed transcript
- Must be a 2<sup>nd</sup> semester freshman, 2nd, or 3rd-year student (graduating seniors are not eligible)
- Must submit 3 work samples:
  - Broadcast/Radio – published article/story or video/audio
  - New media – published article/story from Internet (Web sites, blogs, etc...)
  - Print – published article

**SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS WILL BE EXPECTED TO COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:**

- ✓ Scholarship winner will be required to work a minimum of 15 hours within AABJ (By Line, In Contact or committee), during the Spring 2018 semester; starting January 2, 2018 and will be completed by May 31, 2018.
- ✓ Scholarship winners will be expected to continue to volunteer and be a part of the organization.

*Applications must be postmarked by **Nov. 10, 2017** via **US POST MAIL** to:*

AABJ Scholarship Committee  
P.O. Box 54128  
Atlanta, Georgia 30308

**Atlanta Association of Black Journalists** | P.O. Box 54128 Atlanta, GA 30308  
[www.aabj.org](http://www.aabj.org) | Twitter/Instagram: [@aabjorg](https://twitter.com/aabjorg) | [aabj.org@gmail.com](mailto:aabj.org@gmail.com)



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## APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Before sealing & mailing your scholarship package, please make sure all items listed below are included:

- Completed and signed scholarship application
- Two letters of recommendation on official letterhead (one letter must be from one of your current teachers)  
**Letters CANNOT be from family members.**  
*(NOTE: Letters must be signed, typed on letterhead and enclosed in a sealed envelope.)*
- Official Sealed College Transcript
- Disclaimer for Scholarship Funds Disbursement

*\*Incomplete packages will **not** be considered for an award.*

**Confidentiality Notice: All information and responses submitted in this application packet is strictly confidential and is intended solely for the use by the members of AABJ.**



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## **Student Profile:**

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

## **Academic Profile:**

College/University Name \_\_\_\_\_

College/University Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Cumulative Grade Point Average (on a 4.0 scale) \_\_\_\_\_



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## **Leadership/Community Service Profile:**

List any activities (i.e. clubs, church, organizations or sports) in which you have been involved and any leadership roles held. **You may attach a separate sheet if more space is needed.**

ORGANIZATION/ACTIVITY    LEADERSHIP ROLE/OFFICE HELD    DATES INVOLVED

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_

## **Special Honors or Recognition**

(e.g., academic, church, community, sports)

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**PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS ON SEPARATE SHEET OF PAPER, DOUBLE SPACED, 12 POINT ROMAN FONT.**

1. Are you a member of the Atlanta Association of Black Journalists and/or the National Association of Black Journalists? If yes, why did you join? *(If not, you must join AABJ to qualify for this scholarship)*
2. What, if anything, have you accomplished as an AABJ/NABJ member? (For example: assisted in planning a meeting or workshop, wrote stories for the *Byline* or produced an *In Contact TV* show)
3. Why should AABJ select you as a scholarship recipient? If AABJ invests in you, what in turn, are you willing to invest in AABJ?
4. What are your career goals? What are you doing now, or have done in the past, to ensure you meet these goals? (For example: internships or working at school media outlet)
5. What are the top three reasons you would like to pursue a career in journalism?
6. Why do you need this scholarship award? (For example: Is there an urgent financial need)
7. How have the achievements of broadcast pioneer Xernona Clayton helped to shape you as a future journalist?
8. What other information would you like the Scholarship selection committee to know about you?



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## References - List two below

A. Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

B. Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

## INSTRUCTIONS TO BE GIVEN TO REFERENCES

Please have your references submit a typed letter of recommendation for you. These letters should be on official letterhead, addressed to Atlanta Association of Black Journalist and include:

- ✓ Name and address of reference
- ✓ Relationship to applicant
- ✓ How long reference has known applicant
- ✓ Information regarding why applicant should receive the scholarship award
- ✓ The letter should be placed in a sealed envelope before returning to the applicant

Failure to supply all information listed will result in applicant receiving a lower **score**.



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## CERTIFICATIONS

Please indicate by your signature below that you certify that the statements below are correct.

1. I certify that all information provided is correct and complete to the best of my knowledge. I give the Atlanta Association of Black Journalists permission to verify any information contained in my information package, as necessary. I understand that misrepresentation of any information or the submission of inaccurate or incomplete information will result in disqualification to be considered for a scholarship or forfeiture of any award that I may receive and there is no appeal process.
2. I certify that the applicant is: (please check all that apply)
  - attends an accredited College or University in Metro
  - not a graduating senior
3. I understand that if the applicant is awarded a scholarship the funds will be sent directly to the college/university once the proper verification forms have been completed and returned to AABJ.
4. I hereby grant AABJ the unrestricted right and permission to use and re-use my likeness in any and all publications, including photograph, television broadcast, video recording, internet sites, audio-recording or any other form of electronic or print communication (the Promotional Materials), for its own purposes without payment or any other consideration to me, in perpetuity.

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Applicant Signature

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Date





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## **XERNONA CLAYTON SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION DISCLAIMER**

### **AGREEMENT FOR DISBURSEMENT OF SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, acknowledge and understand that the scholarship awards received by the winner will only be disbursed in a lump sum payment directly to the university/college identified by the scholarship recipient.

The Atlanta Association of Black Journalists will forward the funds to the identified institution in one of two ways:

1. Placed in student’s account with the Financial Aid Office and/or Student Affairs Office.
2. Placed in a recognized university/college bookstore account in the student’s name.

I recognize and accept these conditions for the disbursement of any scholarship award that I may receive.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date