



"Media Professionals, Mentors and Advocates for Diversity"

**2018 AABJ
XERNONA CLAYTON SCHOLARSHIP
APPLICATION**

Thank you for your interest in the 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, communications broadcast, radio, print or digital media. The Xernona Clayton Scholarship recipient must also be a paid member of AABJ.



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APPLICANT REQUIREMENTS:

- Must be a member of AABJ (or join by the receipt of this application)
- Attend an accredited college or university in metro Atlanta
- Must be pursuing a journalism/mass communications degree or other related fields (i.e. English, Communications, Digital Media, etc.)
- Must have a cumulative GPA of 2.5 (on a 4.0 scale)
- Must be involved in a form of community/student media (ex: Your college newspaper)

SUBMISSIONS:

- Completed application (typed)
- Two (2) sealed letters of recommendation from professionals who are familiar with your work and your character (ex: professors, mentors, professional journalists)
- An OFFICIAL sealed transcript
- Must be a 2nd semester freshman, sophomore, or a junior (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 (Websites, blogs, etc...)
 - Print – published article

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS WILL BE EXPECTED TO COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:

- ✓ Work a minimum of 15 hours with AABJ (By Line, In Contact or serve on an AABJ committee), during the Spring 2019 semester; from January 2, 2019 and your work must be completed by May 31, 2019.
- ✓ Scholarship winners will be expected to continue to volunteer and be a part of the organization.

*Applications must be postmarked by **Nov. 16, 2018** via **US POST MAIL** send your **packet** to:*

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



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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 professors/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 are confidential and will be used only by the members of the AABJ Board of Directors



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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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PROVIDE A 500 – 800 WORD STATEMENT EXPLAINING THE FOLLOWING:

- Why did you become a member of the Atlanta Association of Black Journalists?
- What accomplishments have you made as an AABJ/NABJ member?
- Why should you be selected as a 2018 scholarship recipient?
- How will this scholarship assist in meeting your career/academic goals?
- What are your top three reasons for pursuing a career in journalism?
- How have the achievements of Xernona Clayton, as well as any other media trailblazer inspired your desire to become a journalist?
- How do you plan on changing the narrative of the media industry? What can you offer to the media world? Why are your skills and ideas needed?



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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 each of your references submit a typed letter of recommendation for you. The letters should be on official letterhead, addressed to the Atlanta Association of Black Journalists and include:

- ✓ Name, address, email and phone number of reference
- ✓ Relationship to applicant (*family member prohibited*)
- ✓ 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 with your signature below that you certify that you agree with the statements below:

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 disqualifying me 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: (please check all that apply)
 - attends an accredited college or university in metro Atlanta
 - is 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 has 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, social media channels, 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.

Applicant Signature

Date



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**XERNONA CLAYTON SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION
DISCLAIMER**

AGREEMENT FOR DISBURSEMENT OF SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

I, _____, acknowledge and understand that the scholarship award 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