



**FOUNDATION OF THE
NATIONAL BAR ASSOCIATION
WOMEN LAWYERS DIVISION
PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER**
Making a Difference - Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow

February 14, 2020

Dear Applicant:

The National Bar Association Women Lawyers Division, Philadelphia Chapter (NBA/WLD) was formed to address the challenges to advancement in the legal profession faced by women of color in the Greater Philadelphia area. While significant strides have been made since 1927 when Dr. Sadie T. M. Alexander became the first black woman admitted to the Pennsylvania Bar, women of color continue to face unique obstacles to career advancement in the legal profession. The NBA/WLD remains dedicated to the promotion of diversity in area law schools, law firms and corporations and to providing continuing legal education seminars, mentoring programs, networking opportunities and community service projects.

The Foundation, the charitable arm of the NBA/WLD, administers the Justice Juanita Kidd Stout Tuition Scholarship and Dr. Sadie T. M. Alexander Book Scholarships. Each year, the Foundation awards scholarships to qualified African American female law students who demonstrate a commitment to the principles of Justice Juanita Kidd Stout and Dr. Sadie T. M. Alexander.

Enclosed please find the 2020 Foundation scholarship application protocol (three pages). Up to six (6) Sadie T. M. Alexander Book Fund Scholarships (books and supplies) may be awarded in an amount between \$500 and \$2,500 each. In addition, one Justice Juanita Kidd Stout Tuition Scholarship may be awarded in the amount of \$5,000. *Applicants may apply for the tuition scholarship and/or the book fund scholarship; however only one scholarship may be awarded per applicant.* Applicants with a 3.0 GPA or higher will automatically be considered for the Stout Tuition Scholarship. Scholarship awardees will be selected based upon criteria as outlined in the attached protocol. That protocol includes a review of the applicant's personal statement, academic performance as well as work and/or community service. Additionally, each applicant may be interviewed by the Scholarship Committee.

All applications **MUST** be emailed **on or before July 6, 2020** to ensure consideration. No late or incomplete applications will be accepted or considered. Scholarships will be awarded by September 1, 2020. Applicants will be notified only if they are awarded a scholarship.

Please visit www.nbawldphila.org for additional information about the scholarships and the work of the NBA/WLD. If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact the Honorable Jacqueline Allen, Chair of the Scholarship Committee at scholarshipsfdnwld@gmail.com.

Respectfully,

Stephanie Vaughn-King
Stephanie Vaughn-King, Chair
The Foundation of the NBA/WLD
Philadelphia Chapter



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Justice Juanita Kidd Stout Tuition Scholarship

Justice Juanita Kidd Stout was the first African American woman to sit on the bench in Philadelphia, where she was appointed to the Municipal Court and the first to be elected to the Court of Common Pleas. In 1988, Justice Stout became the first African American woman in the United States to serve on a state Supreme Court.

While known to be tough in the courtroom, Justice Stout was also known as a strong advocate for education with a genuine love of the law. She was a mentor, friend and guiding light for lawyers and judges, both new and seasoned, in the City of Philadelphia and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. When asked how she would like to be remembered, Justice Stout, paraphrasing Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall, stated that she would like to be remembered as someone who "tried to do the best with what I have".

It is for these attributes that the Foundation decided to honor her memory by establishing a scholarship in her name. Since 2008, the Justice Juanita Kidd Stout Tuition Scholarship has been given annually to a deserving African American female law student who best exemplifies this champion of justice. The scholarship award amount is \$5,000.

The tuition scholarship is awarded to a law student who best meets the following criteria as determined by the Foundation of the NBA/WLD:

- Rising 2L or 3L African American female law student who currently attends the Thomas R. Kline School of Law of Drexel University, Beasley School of Law of Temple University, Rutgers (Camden) School of Law, University of Pennsylvania School of Law, Villanova School of Law or Widener University Delaware Law School;
- Demonstrates financial need;
- Demonstrates commitment to community service; and
- Demonstrates academic excellence with a 3.0 G.P.A. or better.



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Dr. Sadie T. M. Alexander Book Scholarships

Dr. Sadie T.M. Alexander was a woman of many "firsts". She was the first African American woman in the United States to earn a Ph.D. in Economics in 1921. She was not only the first African American woman to graduate from the University of Pennsylvania, School of Law (where she was a member of Law Review) but she was also the first to be admitted to the Pennsylvania Bar in 1927.

Dr. Alexander dedicated much of her life to advancing civil liberties and equal rights. She served on President Harry S. Truman's Commission on Civil Rights and also served as a member of the Philadelphia Commission on Human Relations. In 1962, she was the only African American in the United States to chair such a commission. She helped found the Greater Philadelphia Branch of the American Civil Liberties Union, and for many years, was an active member of its Board of Directors. In 1980, she was appointed Chair of the White House Conference on Aging by then President Jimmy Carter.

The Foundation established book scholarships in Dr. Alexander's honor in 1984 as a tribute to her career and accomplishments. Book funds scholarships were deemed appropriate because of Dr. Alexander's deep belief in obtaining the highest education and training possible and because the pursuit of knowledge through reading was one of her greatest pleasures. The Foundation distributes book scholarships to assist deserving young women with the rising cost of books and supplies in law school. The awards range in amounts from \$500 to \$2,500 each.

The book scholarships are awarded to up to six (6) law students who best meet the following criteria as determined by the Foundation of the NBA/WLD:

- Rising 2L or 3L African American female law student who currently attends the Thomas R. Kline School of Law of Drexel University, Beasley School of Law of Temple University, Rutgers (Camden) School of Law, University of Pennsylvania School of Law, Villanova School of Law or Widener University Delaware Law School;
- Demonstrate financial need;
- Demonstrate commitment to community service; and
- Demonstrate academic excellence.



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1. PERSONAL STATEMENT

Please keep responses to three or four double-spaced paragraphs or less (500-750 words) and attach to this application.

- (1) Please discuss one or more of the following topics: background and interests, career aspirations, how or why you chose a career in the law.
- (2) Please describe an experience you have had or a personal/professional aspiration which would reflect the professional legacy of Justice Stout and/or Dr. Alexander.
- (3) Please describe how you would benefit from a scholarship or provide a statement of need.

2. RESUME

3. LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

4. LAW SCHOOL TRANSCRIPT (official or unofficial)

Please make sure that the following materials are attached to the application:

- Resume
- Personal Statement
- One (1) Letter of Recommendation (*preferably from a law professor*)
- Official or Unofficial Law School Transcript

All applications and materials must be received by the NBA/WLD Scholarship Committee on or before July 6, 2020. The Scholarship Committee will acknowledge receipt of your application via e-mail, so please be sure to provide a valid e-mail address.

Send Applications via email to:

scholarships@nbawldphila.org