

### application process

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#### about the awards

Since its inception in 1916, YWCA Clark County has been dedicated to empowering women, children and families. We have also been dedicated to recognizing the efforts of community members who support our mission through leadership and community involvement.

The mission of YWCA Clark County is to eliminate racism, empower women and promote peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all people.

In 1985, YWCA created an awards program to recognize young women for their volunteerism, commitment to community, and leadership. Since then, we have honored close to 220 students from Clark County high schools for their efforts to build a stronger, healthier, and more vibrant place to live.

This year, we are excited to be able to provide three academic scholarships each for \$1,500. Young Women of Achievement Scholarship applicants must be female students enrolled in the 12th grade of a Clark County high school. Applicants will be evaluated on their demonstration of the following:

- outstanding achievement in volunteer and school leadership roles
- community involvement in addition to school-required community service
- serves as a role model (based on reference letters)
- commitment to YWCA mission

#### application process

- Fill out the attached application cover sheet completely and accurately.
- Answer the 3 questions listed at the end of the application.
- Acquire 2 letters of reference.
  - Two signed reference forms (enclosed) must accompany the nomination package to give the reviewers an expanded picture of the applicant's achievements.
  - One reference must come from a mentor/supervisor who can elaborate on the applicant's **non-school** related accomplishments.
  - Only one teacher may provide a reference. For example, if the mentor/supervisor has been a teacher for the student, then no other teacher reference may be submitted.
- Please verify that your application is complete. Incomplete applications will not be accepted.
- Contact YWCA with any questions regarding the process.
- Return all application documents to YWCA Clark County by Thursday, February 21<sup>st</sup> at 5:30pm

## selection process

Applicants will be selected on the basis of outstanding community service, achievement in academic and volunteer roles, and demonstrated leadership. Finalists will be notified by March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2013 and interviews will be held April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2013. Scholarship recipients will be notified in writing on April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013

## recognition & celebration

A tea reception will be held in honor of the three scholarship recipients on Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2013. At the tea, each Young Woman of Achievement will be recognized for their scholarship. Scholarships are generously granted by Soroptimist International of Vancouver, Donna Roberge and an anonymous donor.

## to submit

1. Use the checklist below to be sure your application is complete.
  - I have completed the application cover sheet completely and accurately.
  - I have completed 3 narratives in response to the topics on the cover sheet.
  - My parent or guardian and I have signed the waiver and signature page.
  - I have acquired 2 letters of reference and 2 signed reference forms.
    - One of the references is from a mentor/supervisor.
    - Only one of the 2 references is from a teacher.
  - The above materials are packaged for delivery to YWCA Clark County.
2. Please submit the application cover form, narratives, and letters of reference in one final package to YWCA Clark County. Documents must be *received* by 5:30pm on Thursday, **February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2013**.

**By email to:** [lbechtold@ywcaclarkcounty.org](mailto:lbechtold@ywcaclarkcounty.org)

**By mail to:** YWCA Clark County  
Attn: Lisa Bechtold  
3609 Main Street  
Vancouver, WA 98663

**In person:** 7:30am-5:30pm Mon-Thurs (closed Fridays)  
Attn: Lisa Bechtold  
3609 Main Street  
Vancouver, WA 98663

All information provided is subject to verification.  
False, inaccurate, illegible, or incomplete applications will be disqualified.

If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Bechtold at [lbechtold@ywcaclarkcounty.org](mailto:lbechtold@ywcaclarkcounty.org) or 360 906 9157.

# YWOA application cover sheet

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name of applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

address: \_\_\_\_\_

phone: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

high school: \_\_\_\_\_

career/guidance counselor: \_\_\_\_\_

name of parent/guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

parent/guardian phone: \_\_\_\_\_

## narratives

Use additional pages to respond to the following prompts. Please note:

- Narratives must not exceed one typed page per question.
- Please use 12 point font.
- Number each narrative and include your name and school at the top of each page.
- Please use complete names, rather than acronyms.

### 1. Describe your volunteer and community activities.

- a. Describe activities for which you **are not** receiving school credit. Include the group/organization name, dates, leadership positions held, and time spent (hours/month). Briefly describe your role in each group/organization, how you became involved, and what you have done or helped accomplish.
- b. Describe activities for which you **are** receiving school credit for. Include the group/organization name, dates, leadership positions held, and time spent (hours/month). Briefly describe your role in each group/organization, how you became involved, and what you have done or helped accomplish.

### 2. Explain how you help create change in our community.

- a. Please specifically address your community involvement related to eliminating racism, empowering women, and promoting peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all.

### 3. Write a short biographical sketch.

- a. Tell us about yourself, your specific contributions to the community, and why you would like to be chosen to receive a Young Women of Achievement Scholarship.

## waivers and signature

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I/We certify that all information contained in this application is true and factual. I/We also agree that if the applicant is selected as a Young Woman of Achievement recipient or finalist, YWCA Clark County may use applicant's name and likeness and any other information or materials provided by the applicant in connection with this program, including photos and/or videos for purposes of news, publicity and advertising in all media including but not limited to print, photographs, video, electronic media, and websites.

Signature of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**This waiver and signature page must be submitted as part of the application packet.**

To be completed by YWCA upon receipt of completed application.

YWCA staff signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_



clark county

**reference form**

**Young Women of Achievement Scholarship**

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In 1985, YWCA created an awards program to recognize young women for their volunteerism, commitment to community, and leadership. Since then, we have honored close to 220 students from Clark County high schools for their efforts to build a stronger, healthier, and more vibrant place to live. This year, we are excited to be able to provide three academic scholarships each for \$1,500 to young women in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade of Clark County schools.

**instructions**

- Please provide all contact information below. Use a computer, typewriter or a black/blue ballpoint pen.
- Please answer the questions below to the best of your ability in a one-page letter of recommendation. Attach your letter to this reference form and return to the applicant or nominator **before** the completed packet submission deadline of **5:30pm, February 21, 2013.**
- **Incomplete applications will not be accepted.**

**personal information**

your name: \_\_\_\_\_

applicant name: \_\_\_\_\_

relationship to the applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

address: \_\_\_\_\_

phone: \_\_\_\_\_

email: \_\_\_\_\_

**questions**

Please provide at least one specific example with your answers.

1. What are the applicant's contributions to the community as related to YWCA's mission?
2. Why do you think this applicant should receive the scholarship?
3. How is this applicant a role model to others?

Note: Applicants will be evaluated on their achievements in volunteer and leadership roles, impact as a role model, community involvement, and commitment to YWCA's mission.

**Young Women of Achievement Scholarship**

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