2019 James C. Wright Scholarship Application

Rev. James C. Wright was a native of Camden, South Carolina where he graduated from Mather Academy. His teachers at Mather were role models who "dared to make a difference." They fought against and resisted every vestige of segregation and discrimination. Rev. Wright took that philosophy with him to Virginia Union University and became involved in the Virginia civil and human rights movement. After completing his pre-theological training at Union, he studied philosophy and theology at Payne A.M.E. Theological Seminary and Wilberforce University. Rev. Wright was the pastor of churches in Ohio and South Carolina before coming to Wisconsin in 1960. He continued his education at the UW-Madison earning a degree in psychology. He became a "Ford Fellow" and did graduate work in community relations at the Urban Training Center of Chicago.

In the early 1960's Rev. Wright and his wife Jacqueline constructed Jackie and Jimmy's Beauty and Barbershop, becoming minority business owners shortly after moving to Madison. Rev. Wright was a civil rights pioneer in Madison. He worked during the 1960's to bring about the adoption of the City of Madison's Equal Opportunities Ordinance. Rev. Wright served as a member of the Equal Opportunities Commission prior to his appointment as Executive Director for the Equal Opportunities Commission. He retired in 1992 after 24 years of dedicated service to the City of Madison. During his years with the City he spearheaded the drafting of the City's first affirmative action ordinance and developed a complaint resolution process for the Equal Opportunities Commission that provided a make whole remedy for victims of discrimination. Under his leadership the Equal Opportunities Ordinance was recognized as one of the most comprehensive pieces of civil rights legislation in the country.

Rev. Wright served as an associate minister at Mt. Zion Baptist Church under the late Rev. Joe E. Dawson from 1960 until 1984. He also served as guest minister and interim minister throughout the Midwest including Immanuel Baptist Church, Beloit Wisconsin.

Rev. Wright was a member of many professional, civil and human rights organizations: Founder and past president of the National Institute for Employment Equity; President of the Madison Association of American Baptist Churches of Wisconsin; the National Association of Human Rights Workers; the International Personnel Managers Association; the NAACP; founding member of the Gamma Gamma Gamma Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.; and founding member of the Madison Urban League.

Rev. Wright was the recipient of many awards, including: Citizen of the Year by the Madison Newspaper Guild, 1966; U. S. Civil Service Commission Executive, 1970; the City of Madison's Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Humanitarian Award, 1978; the Madison Branch of the NAACP's Unsung Hero Award in the early 1980's; and Ebony Expressions Distinguished Man Award, 1995.

From 1990 until his death, Rev. Wright served as full time pastor of the Mt. Zion Baptist Church, the largest African American church in Dane County.

Eligibility Requirements
Rev. James C. Wright was a “drum major for justice” and a change agent who believed that his presence in the world was intended to help shape and change the world. Thus, the Rev. James C. Wright Scholarship is awarded to young men who desire to make a difference in the world and whose desire for further education is intended to enhance their ability impact the communities and world that they live in.

To be eligible for the Rev. James C. Wright Scholarship, the Applicant must:

1. Enroll in and attend a 2-year or 4-year college or university, vocational, or technical school in the Fall of 2018.

2. Be identified as a student who desires to impact and change the world.

3. Complete and submit the application and supporting materials no later than April 12, 2019.

Application
This Application must be legible. It is preferred that the Application be typed, but we will accept a handwritten Application if the handwriting is legible.

Applicant’s Full Name: __________________________________________________________________________

First Middle Last

Street Address: ________________________________________________________________________________

City: __________________________________________ State: ___________ Zip Code: _______________________

Telephone: ___________________________ Date of Birth: ________________________________

Email Address: ________________________________________________________________

Name of High School: ________________________________________________________________

Cumulative Grade Point Average: ______________________ Gender: Male _______ Female_______

Race/Ethnicity ________________________________________________________________

Please check the box that applies to your family income situation:

Family Income: ___Below $25,000 ___ $25,000-$50,000 ___ $50,000-$75,000

___$75,000-$100,000 ___ Over $100,000

Please describe the highest educational degree received in your household?

___High school graduate ___Some college ___Bachelor degree

___ Graduate and or professional degree (i.e. medical, law, or education doctorate)

Please submit the following documents with your Scholarship Application:

1. A copy of your official high school transcripts.

2. A description of any service learning, community service, and/or volunteer work.
3. A list of your employment history. If currently employed, include the average number of hours worked.

4. A list of any academic honors, awards or special recognitions you have received in high school.

5. An essay (minimum of 500 words) that shares your dreams for the future, educational plans, and how your dreams and education will impact the world.

6. Optional: Letters of recommendation supporting your academic ability, volunteer or community service record, and/or perseverance through adversity.

7. Optional: Supporting documentation such as news articles, awards, and college acceptance letters.

For further information, please contact Richard L. Jones, Sr., Scholarship Committee Chair, via phone at (608) 212-5504, or email at rljones511@gmail.com.

Completed Scholarship Applications may be submitted by U.S. Mail or electronically by email.

Please Submit Scholarship Applications by U.S. Mail to:
Gamma Gamma Gamma Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.
c/o James C. Wright Scholarship Committee Chair
P.O. Box 1494
Madison, WI 53701

Please Submit Scholarship Applications Electronically to:
rljones511@gmail.com

Any electronic submissions must list “Wright Scholarship Application” on the Subject Line.

Completed Scholarship Applications must be received by U.S. Mail or Email no later than April 12, 2019.

The Wright Scholarship Committee will announce scholarship recipients no later than May 3, 2019 and scholarship awards will be disbursed upon verification that recipients are enrolled in an accredited post-secondary institution.

Scholarship recipients should plan to attend an awards ceremony to be held either Sunday, May 5, 2019 or Sunday, June 2, 2019.