



Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®

Rho Upsilon Omega Chapter

Serving Southern Alameda and Contra Costa Counties since 1989

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®, Rho Upsilon Omega Chapter, is pleased to announce that applications are now being accepted for scholarships for the 2024-2025 school year.

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®, is the oldest Greek-lettered organization established in America by African American college women. Our mission is to provide service to all mankind by volunteering our time and resources to a multifaceted program that addresses education, health, wellness, and numerous local, national, and international concerns. The awarding of scholarships is just one vehicle that our organization utilizes to accomplish this goal.

Scholarship will be awarded to graduating high school students in recognition of their academic achievement, community engagement and volunteer activities during their high school matriculation. An applicant for the 2024-2025 Scholarship Award must be a high school senior applying for Fall 2024 admission into an accredited four-year college/university. All scholarships will be awarded based on Merit and all intended majors including undecided will be considered. One scholarship will be set-aside for a qualifying student who will be attending a Historically Black College or University (HBCU).

Enclosed please find the scholarship information sheet and application, which may be reproduced for distribution. Please make our scholarship application packet available to interested seniors in your community. The Online scholarship application package must be completed by 5pm on Sunday, April 21, 2024.

Thank you for completing the Online scholarship package and we wish you the best on your future endeavors. Should you have any questions or concerns you can contact me at the email below.

Sincerely,

*Judy Bishop
Scholarship Committee Chairman
scholarship@aka-ruo.com*

*“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”
--Nelson Mandela*

“Education is our passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to the people who prepare for it today.”

~ Malcolm X

SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

Tommy Benford Jr. "Faith" Scholarship

Tommy Benford Jr., husband of Rho Upsilon Omega Chapter Member Marilyn Crawford-Brooks, was an East Bay singer, musician, and artist. Tommy had a sincere commitment to support underprivileged African American/Black students in their journey to a collegiate experience in the Arts. This scholarship is to support and to grow the number of underrepresented students pursuing a degree in the Arts. The Arts include music, dance, painting, sculpture, theater, and literature. This scholarship and a little "faith" will allow a deserving student the opportunity to pursue their artistic dreams.

Eligibility Requirements

- Graduating Senior • GPA of at least 2.50 on a 4.00 scale
- Be an African American male or female student
- Have a "Declared Intention" to enroll in an accredited 2 or 4-year college or university majoring the Arts in the 2024-2025 academic year.
- Applicant must be a resident of Contra Costa /Alameda County, have financial need, and demonstrate artistic talent.

How To Apply

Submit a COMPLETE online application package by 5pm on Sunday, April 21, 2024. Email all documents to scholarship@aka-ruo.com

Required Application Documents

- 1) An **OFFICIAL** school transcript with cumulative grade point average to be emailed to scholarship@aka-ruo.com by a school administrator.
- 2) **Two (2) Letters of Recommendation (One from your school and one from the community)**
 - o **CANNOT** be friends or family members
 - o Letters **MUST** be dated and contain the writer's contact information
- 3) An Essay: (Must be a minimum of 2 full pages, but not more than 3 pages, typed and double spaced, 12pt. font and 1in. margins on all sides). This scholarship was created to honor Tommy 's legacy of having faith, creativity and love of the arts and music. Please tell us in 150 words or more - why you have chosen to study the arts. Please tell us what you plan to do with your degree once you graduate.

Please select and respond to **ONE (1)** of the following topics:

- o Why does education matter? How will obtaining a degree change your life? Please be specific.
- o Do you consider yourself to be a leader? Why or why not? If yes, please describe a time when your leadership ability was used to change a situation.
- o What is the single most important issue the world needs to address? Why? How would work to implement change(s) in this area?
- o When thinking about the ever-evolving world of technology, how do you see technology being used to be of service to all mankind currently? What would you do differently?

Application Deadline

The online application and ALL required documentation must be submitted no later than 5pm on Sunday, April 21, 2024.

Rho Upsilon Omega Academic Scholarship

Rho Upsilon Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®. was chartered May 6th, 1989. Alpha Kappa Alpha, Sorority, Inc. is the world's oldest college-based sorority founded by African American women. Its purpose is to "cultivate and encourage high scholastic and ethical standards" and to "serve all mankind". Rho Upsilon Omega is an active chapter working together to serve the Southern Alameda and Contra Costa Counties of California.

Eligibility Requirements

- *Demonstrate leadership abilities through participation in community service, extracurricular or other activities.*
- *Be a High School Senior. (Must have full-time status in an accredited high school)*
- *Be in good academic standing. (Minimum 2.6 GPA based on a 4.0 scale)*
- *Have a "Declared Intention" to enroll in an accredited four-year college or university in the Fall of 2024 [NOTE: Proof of enrollment will be required prior to the disbursement of funds.]*
- *Any relative of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®, Rho Upsilon Omega Chapter member is not eligible to receive the scholarship.*

How To Apply

Submit a COMPLETE online application package by 5pm Sunday, April 21, 2024. Email all documents to scholarship@aka-ruo.com

Required Application Documents

- 1) ***An OFFICIAL school transcript with cumulative grade point average to be emailed to scholarship@aka-ruo.com by a school administrator.***
- 2) ***Two (2) Letters of Recommendation (One from your school and one from the community)***
 - ***CANNOT be friends or family members***
 - ***Letters MUST be dated and contain the writer's contact information***
- 3) ***An Essay: (Must be a minimum of 2 full pages, but not more than 3 pages, typed and double spaced, 12pt. font and 1in. margins on all sides)***

Please select and respond to ONE (1) of the following topics:

- *Why does education matter? How will obtaining a degree change your life? Please be specific.*
- *Do you consider yourself to be a leader? Why or why not? If yes, please describe a time when your leadership ability was used to change a situation.*
- *What is the single most important issue the world needs to address? Why? How would work to implement change(s) in this area?*
- *When thinking about the ever-evolving world of technology, how do you see technology being used to be of service to all mankind currently? What would you do differently?*

Selection of the Scholarships

*Applicants will be selected as finalists based on academic accomplishments, and other requirements as outlined. Finalists will be required to participate in a 30-minute virtual interview. If needed, the scholarship committee may contact eligible applicants for additional information. Successful applicant(s) will be notified on or before May 1, 2024. **If you are selected as an award recipient, your presence will be required at a recognition event to be held in July 2024.***

Application Deadline

The online application and ALL required documentation must be submitted no later than 5pm on Sunday, April 21, 2024.

INCOMPLETE PACKAGES OR THOSE RECEIVED AFTER 5PM ON SUNDAY, APRIL 21, 2024, WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

Contact Information

Judy Bishop, Scholarship Committee Chairman- scholarship@aka-ruo.com

Please select the Scholarship you are applying for: Tommy's Benford Jr. Rho Upsilon Omega or Both

STUDENT DATA

Please type information.

Name _____ AGE _____
 Address _____
 City _____ Zip _____
 Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____
 Email Address _____
 High School _____
 Address _____ Phone Number _____
 Cumulative GPA _____ Graduation Date _____

Parent Information :

FATHER/GUARDIAN _____
 Address _____ City _____ Zip Code _____
 Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____
 Email Address _____

MOTHER/GUARDIAN _____
 Address _____ City _____ Zip Code _____
 Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____
 Email Address _____

Activities, Awards and Honors:

Please answer the following questions: (If needed, please use additional sheet(s) to respond.)

What are you interests, hobbies, and talents? _____

Please list any extracurricular activities (Include clubs, committees, sports participation etc.)

Activity	Length of Time	Leadership Role(s) and/or Office(s) Held	Award(s) Received	Other Recognition(s)

Please list all community, public, volunteer and/or church service activities (If needed, please use additional sheet(s) to respond.)

Name of Organization	Activity	Length of Time	Awards/Recognitions	Other Comments

Please list academic honors you have received:

What is your intended major? _____

What are your career aspirations? _____

What college(s) do you desire to attend? _____

College(s) into which acceptance has been granted? _____

Employment Information:

Employer _____ Work Phone _____

Job Title _____ Dates of Employment _____

Work Address _____ City _____

Responsibilities:

Employer _____ Work Phone _____

Job Title _____ Dates of Employment _____

Work Address _____ City _____

Responsibilities:

APPLICANT SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

PARENT SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____