

## 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 235 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 four academic scholarships for young women in the 12th grade. Young Woman of Achievement Scholarship applicants must be female students enrolled in the 12th grade at 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 required community service at school
- demonstrates leadership qualities
- serves as a role model (based on reference letters)
- demonstrates commitment to YWCA mission

### Application Process

- Online application option: <http://www.ywcaclarkcounty.org>
- OR 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 selection committee an expanded picture of the applicant's achievements.
  - One of the references 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: 360-906-9123 or [ksacamano@ywcaclarkcounty.org](mailto:ksacamano@ywcaclarkcounty.org)
- Return all application documents to YWCA Clark County by Monday, March 13th at 5:00pm.

## Selection Process

Applicants will be selected on the basis of outstanding community service, achievement in academic and volunteer roles, and demonstrated leadership. A committee will select the finalists who will be notified for a scheduled interview on Saturday, March 25<sup>th</sup>. Scholarship winners will be notified in writing by April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

## Recognition and Celebration

Scholarships funds will be distributed in May, 2017. Each *Young Woman of Achievement* will receive a scholarship in the amount of \$1,500. 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 **online or in-person**. Documents must be *received* by 5:00pm on **Monday, March 13th**.
3. **By email to:** [info@ywcaclarkcounty.com](mailto:info@ywcaclarkcounty.com)

### **By mail to:** YWCA Clark County

Attn: Kate Sacamano  
3609 Main Street  
Vancouver, WA 98663

### **In person:** 8:30am-5:30pm Monday-Friday

Attn: Kate Sacamano  
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 Kate Sacamano at [kscacamano@ywcaclarkcounty.org](mailto:kscacamano@ywcaclarkcounty.org) or 360-906-9123.

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 that you **are not** receiving school credit for. Include dates, leadership positions held, 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 that you **are** receiving school credit for. Include dates, leadership positions held, 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 involvement in social issues, interracial communities, global peace, environmental concerns and/or leadership.

### **3. Write a short biographical sketch.**

- a. Tell us about yourself, what is important to you, your hopes and dreams, and why you would like to be chosen to receive a Young Women of Achievement Scholarship.

**WAIVERS AND SIGNATURE**

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 of him/her 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: _____

### Instructions

- Please fill out 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 **5:00pm, March 13, 2016**.
- **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 Mission?
2. Why do you think this applicant should receive the scholarship?

**Note:** Applicants will be evaluated on their commitment to making a positive difference, their leadership skills, and their perseverance.

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Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### Questions

Please provide at least one specific example with your answers.

3. What are the applicant's contributions to the community as related to YWCA Mission?
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