



We Are Columbia



2017
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
Dream Keeper Scholarship Award



Recognizing Community Involvement, Social Responsibility and Human Service

“We must remember that intelligence is not enough. Intelligence plus character—that is the goal of true education.”

—*Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. “The Purpose of Education”*

Winners will be announced at the City of Columbia’s annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration on Monday, January 16, 2017, at 4 p.m. at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Park and Community Center, 2300 Greene Street. Applications must be returned to the City of Columbia Parks and Recreation Department, 1111 Parkside Drive, Columbia, SC 29203. For more information, please contact Shireese M. Bell, public and media relations manager, at 803-545-3100 or smbell@columbiasc.net.

Entries should be postmarked by Wednesday, January 4, 2017

2017 MLK Dream Keeper Award

The Dream Keeper Award was established in 1990 by former Councilman E.W. Cromartie, II. The award recognizes exemplary displays of committed service to the tenets of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The ideals of social responsibility, political empowerment, diversity, racial harmony, nonviolence, and unselfish service must be demonstrated voluntarily by the nominee in support of his or her community and fellow citizens.

Nomination Criteria

1. Demonstrated public service

The nominee must have provided extraordinary assistance to a resident or agency within their community. Through documented work with volunteer work programs, charitable service, and/or leadership roles in the community, the nomination letter should include details of the nominee's service.

2. Nominee's effectiveness

An evaluation of the nominee's effectiveness shall be judged by his or her impact on individuals, groups, or organizations served. The nominee must have demonstrated a constant drive and aspiration to provide support to others in the community for at least 12 months.

3. Documentation

Nominations must include comprehensive documentation of the candidate's public service contribution. The **nomination should include a statement of 150 words or less** explaining the nominee's community service activities.

4. Requirements

The nominee **must** be age 18 or younger and enrolled in school with a minimum 2.0 grade point average. Nominees **must** attend the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Celebration on Monday, January 16, 2017 at 4 p.m. at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Park and Community Center, 2300 Greene Street. Winners will be announced at the ceremony.

Nominations must be postmarked by Wednesday, January 4, 2017, in order to be eligible. Nominations can be mailed to:

City of Columbia Parks and Recreation Department
Attn: Shireese M. Bell
1111 Parkside Drive
Columbia, South Carolina 29203

The award recipients will be selected by an impartial host of judges. Scholarship winners will not be selected by City of Columbia staff nor the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Foundation Planning Committee.

Cash awards will be presented to the winners.

High School Scholarships

1st place - \$1,000

2nd place - \$500

3rd place - \$250

Josiah Caden Jenkins Memorial Scholarship - \$350 (2 students)

City Manager's Scholarship - \$200 (2 students)

Middle School and Elementary School - \$100

Dream Keeper Scholarship Nomination Form

Nominee Information

PLEASE PRINT

Name: _____

Address: _____

Home phone: _____

Grade Level: _____ Name of School: _____

Parent Name: _____

Home phone: _____ Work _____ Cell _____

Email: _____

There is no fee to enter. A candidate may nominate him or herself or be nominated by someone else. Nominations **must** include a statement of 150 words or less explaining the candidate's volunteer service, most outstanding achievement, and contributions made to his or her community. Please list all memberships in community organizations, honors and awards. **The candidate's transcripts and documentation of public service must be attached.** The person nominating the candidate must also explain why this candidate should receive the Dream Keeper Scholarship Award.

Name of person nominating candidate:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City _____ State _____

Home phone: _____ Work: _____

Email: _____

2017 MLK Dream Keeper Scholarship Checklist

Please review the following checklist to make sure that your application is complete.

The following items must be included in the application packet:

- The nomination form from page 3 of this application. Please print required information.
- A **statement of 150 words or less** explaining the candidate's volunteer service, most outstanding achievement, and contributions made to his or her community.
- Documentation of public service to include certificates, volunteer log, letter from organization documenting service, etc. Please list all memberships in community organizations, honors and awards.
- A transcript from your school or report card.
- Letter of recommendation. The person nominating the candidate must explain why this candidate should receive the Dream Keeper Scholarship Award.

For more information, please contact Shireese M. Bell, public and media relations manager, at 803-545-3100 or smbell@columbiasc.net.