# Words Make People Literary Excellence & Scholarship Award Guidelines and Instructions

- 1. Applicants must be at least 18 years of age,\* a legal resident of the United States\*\* enrolled in, or accepted by, a full-time undergraduate (12 or more credit hours), graduate (9 or more credit hours), or professional program of an accredited\*\*\* two- or four-year college, university, or vocational-technical school in the U.S. authorized to provide a program that is acceptable for full credit toward a bachelor's or higher degree.
- 2. Applicants in any major must have demonstrated interest in written communication.
- 3. Preference will be given to applicants with past or current employment or volunteer experiences in creative or technical writing, reporting, journalism, and fiction or non-fictional production, and plan to pursue or further a career in communications, print or electronic communications media, including writers, journalists, essayists, published authors, poets, and bloggers.
- 4. Applicant's intended use of the scholarship funds will be considered, with preference for uses that contribute directly to his or her academic and professional development.
- 5. Applicants must have a grade point average of 3.3 or above for undergraduate students or 3.5 or above for graduate students. Applicants, by applying, are authorizing FPLLC scholarship committee to review their academic files. An official transcript must be included with the application.\*\*\*\*
- 6. Significant weight will be given to the applicant's ability to convey in an essay, a superlative writing style and original conceptual analysis on the concept: Words Make People. The applicant should give explanation and interpretation of what the phrase *Words Make People* mean. The essay should offer concrete example(s) at the individual or group level of the impact (negatively or positively) words can have on people at a local, national or global level. Preference is given to an essay written specifically for this application, rather than a previously written document. The essay will be evaluated for effective organization, clear thought, spelling and grammar. Essay must be at least three (3) pages in length on 8 ½" x 11" white paper, typed or computer printed (arial or other sans serif font 12 point double-spaced), double-spaced with 1" margins all around.
- 7. Two (2) letters of recommendation on reference's official letterhead are required with at least one coming from a civic or religious leader. References should include:
  - How long and in what capacity the reference has known the applicant.
  - Comments relating to candidate's knowledge of and/or commitment to writing.
  - Comments comparing candidate's qualifications with award's stated achievement criteria.

Each recommendation letter must contain the reference's name and applicable contact information, including telephone number and be sealed with applicant's name on the outside of envelope and stapled (if using U.S. Mail) to the completed application. If emailing, please clearly scan recommendation letters and send as attachment with remainder of application.

8. <u>Application deadline is June 20, 2014</u> and must be U.S. postmarked or electronically received by the deadline. E-mail: <u>scholarships@famacopublishers.com</u> or mail to FAMACO Publishers, 6001-21 Argyle Forest Blvd. 323, Jacksonville, FL 32244-6127. Late applications are not given consideration.

### **Application Review Procedure**

- 1. The Scholarship committee will review all complete applications received on or before the due date. The scholarship award will be based on the Committee's scores of the overall application and the scholarship essay. The higher the average score, the higher the probability of selection.
- 2. Applications will be rated using the following criteria and weighted scores:
  - References (5 points)
  - Demonstrated interest (volunteer or paid) in written communication (25 points)
  - Current Enrollment or Graduation from a School in association with the leadership of Imam W. Deen Mohammed (5 points)
  - Grade point average (15 points)
  - Essay (50 points)
- 3. A telephone interview with the applicant may be requested.
- 4. Applicants must submit a complete, signed application, together with all supporting documentation, if any, by the deadline date. Applications received that are incomplete or fail to comply with the application instructions will not be considered. Applications will not be returned to the applicant. The Scholarship Committee accepts no responsibility for incomplete applications, applications not in proper form, lost applications, or any other exception submission. The decision of the Scholarship Committee is final and not subject to a review process. Completion of the application form does not create an obligation to award a scholarship to applicant.
- 5. These guidelines and instructions are in addition to any other terms and conditions set forth in any other part of this document and application. Any necessary determination or clarification as to the interpretation or to the application of a particular term shall be made by the Scholarship Administrator in their sole discretion. Furthermore, the Scholarship Administrator reserves the right in its sole discretion to make any changes or modifications to the scholarship, including but not limited to, the criteria, the selection process, the deadline dates, and the guidelines and instructions.

#### **Certification of Information**

Applicant certifies that the information provided in his or her application is accurate and complete and understand that student records may be verified. Applicant further understands that any misrepresentation or omission of fact may lead to disqualification, termination or revocation of award. I have read and agreed to the above terms and conditions of the Scholarship and I understand the nature of the Scholarship and the extent of my obligations.

#### **Presentation of Award**

The Scholarship will be awarded in a single monetary installment along with certificate and any available non-cash gifts reserved for the Scholarship recipient via U.S. Mail typically within ninety (90) days of application deadline. Actual award date may vary based on the number of applications received.

#### Consent & Authorization to Release Information & Photo

Upon award notification, the Scholarship winner will email to <a href="mailto:scholarships@famacopublishers.com">scholarships@famacopublishers.com</a> a brief single page or less biography along with a quality photograph.

By applying, you authorize the Scholarship Administrator including FAMACO Publishers, the National WMP Scholarship Committee, its successors and assigns, officers, employees and agents with full rights to release information for any purpose whatsoever, including but not limited to scholarship promotion, marketing, public relations and recruitment purposes. Information released may include your name, your college, grade point average, photo, image and likeness, essay and other biographical information you provide. The Scholarship Administrator has the right to publish your information in press releases, award announcements, websites, or any other print or media format, and the applicant hereby releases and discharges the Scholarship Administrator from any and all claims and demands arising out of or in connection with use of the Applicant's information.

APPLICANT/RECIPIENT HEREBY AGREES TO RELEASE THE SCHOLARSHIP ADMINISTRATOR AND ITS COMMITTEE, FIDUCIARIES, AFFILIATES, SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS, AS WELL AS EACH OF THEIR OFFICERS, AGENTS, EMPLOYEES, SERVANTS, DIRECTORS ("THE RELEASED PARTIES"), FROM DAMAGES, LOSSES (INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, LOSS OF EARNINGS, LOSS OF PROFITS, LOSS OF BUSINESS, LOSS OF WAGES), COSTS, EXPENSES AND LIABILITIES OF EVERY KIND AND NATURE, WITHOUT LIMITATION, INCLUDING CLAIMS OF DAMAGES OR INJURY TO PERSONAL PROPERTY AND FURTHER AGREE TO RELEASE THE RELEASED PARTIES FROM ANY THIRD PARTY CLAIMS OF ANY KIND WHATSOEVER WHETHER KNOWN OR UNKNOWN, SUSPECTED OR UNSUSPECTED, AND WHETHER OR NOT CONCEALED OR HIDDEN, WHICH I MAY NOW HAVE OR MAY HEREINAFTER HAVE AGAINST THE RELEASED PARTIES RESULTING FROM, OR ARISING OUT OF OR IN CONNECTION WITH, DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, FROM THE SCHOLARSHIP SELECTION PROCESS BY THE WMP LITERARY EXCELLENCE & SCHOLARSHIP AWARD.

\*If Applicant is under age 18, the Applicant's parent or legal guardian must consent and sign the Scholarship Application.

\*\*Or Applicant must have been granted permanent residency; have been granted temporary protected status along with approved Notice of Action issued by Citizen Immigration Services and verified through CIS Form g-845; or have been granted asylum along with the approved Notice of Action issued by the Citizen Immigration Services.

\*\*\* In general, universities and colleges are accredited by one of six regional agencies of accreditation. Eligible institutions hold accreditation by a nationally recognized accrediting agency or association as determined by the U.S. Secretary of Education to be a reliable authority as to the quality of training offered or is, according to such an agency or association, making reasonable progress toward accreditation. Check your school's accreditation at <a href="http://www.chea.org/search/default.asp">http://www.chea.org/search/default.asp</a>

\*\*\*\*If your school does not authorize direct official transcripts to you, please include a statement of the same with your application and ensure your school provides an official transcript to us at WMPS c/o FAMACO Publishers, LLC, 6001-21 Argyle Forest Blvd. 323, Jacksonville, FL 32244-6127.

You can follow the Scholarship on twitter at <a href="https://www.twitter.com/WMPScholarship">www.twitter.com/WMPScholarship</a> and join or support the Scholarship cause at <a href="https://www.causes.com/WMPScholarship">www.causes.com/WMPScholarship</a>.

## Words Make People Literary Excellence & Scholarship Award Application

**Deadline for application:** June **20, 2014.** I have read and agree to the Words Make People Literary Excellence & Scholarship Award Guidelines and Instructions. *Please print clearly. Ensure your package includes:* (1) Letters of Recommendation; (2) Official Transcript; (3) Application and (4) Essay.

Your Information	
Gender	
Full name	
Email	
Street Mailing Address	
City	
State & Zip Code	
Home Phone	
Cell Phone	
Birthday (MM/DD/YYYY) / Email	
Current Diploma/Degrees Held	
How would you use award/funds?	
School currently enrolled at	(Enter school name, address, and telephone number)
Current GPA/ Major & Minor	(Enter GPA/scale, e.g. 3.3/4.0 and major & minor)
School accepted to	(Enter school name, address, and telephone number)
If applicant was graduated from a	(Enter school name, address, and telephone number)
school in association with Imam	
W. D. Mohammed's Leadership	
Reference Information for Your Letters of Recommendation	
1st Reference Title/Name	
Organization Name	
Organization Address	
Office Phone/Alternate Phone	
Email	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reference Title/Name	
Organization Name	
Organization Address	
Office Phone/ Alternate Phone	
Email	
Deadline for submission is June 20, 2014. Postmark/electronic delivery required by deadline. This application form must accompany an essay, recommendation letters and official transcript to be considered. Email: <a href="mailto:scholarships@famacopublishers.com">scholarships@famacopublishers.com</a> or mail to WMP Scholarship, FAMACO Publishers, 6001-21 Argyle Forest Blvd. 323, Jacksonville, FL 32244-6127.	
Applicant Signature & Date	