



Pearls of Wisdom Foundation, Incorporated 2023 Scholarship Application

**Pearls of Wisdom Foundation, Incorporated
P.O. Box 2372
Morristown, NJ 07962-2372**

PEARLS OF WISDOM FOUNDATION, INCORPORATED

The Pearls of Wisdom Foundation, Inc. (“Pearls of Wisdom” or “Foundation”) (previously known as the Pi Theta Omega Foundation, Inc.), is a 501(c)(3) organization established for educational and charitable purposes. The Foundation provides scholarships to graduating high school seniors and currently enrolled undergraduate HBCU students seeking to attain higher education, provide service to the community, and who promote educational activities.

The Foundation was established in 2004, and since its inception, the Foundation has awarded a significant number of scholarships to students in the Morris County area.

Eligibility Criteria:

- ❖ African-American high school senior OR undergraduate currently enrolled in a historically black college or university (HBCU)
- ❖ Reside or attend school in Morris County or be a current or past participant in the #CAPSM (College Admissions Process) or AKA GEMS & GENTS high school programs
- ❖ Cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher
- ❖ Accepted to a four-year college or university with plans to enroll in Fall of 2023
- ❖ Ability to attend the Pearls of Wisdom Foundation, Inc. Scholarship Awards Presentation tentatively scheduled for Saturday, June 17, 2023

Additional Criteria:

- ❖ Active participant in the community
- ❖ Pursue a degree in Education, Social Work, Math or Science
- ❖ Participate in one or more extra-curricular activities

Applications can also be downloaded and printed from the website – www.powfoundation.com

If you have questions concerning the application, please contact:

Laquana Best at poweducation1@gmail.com

ONLY completed applications will be considered. Completed applications must include all recommendations with an official transcript postmarked or e-mailed by **Monday, March 13, 2023**. A checklist has been included within the application. **Incomplete applications will not be considered.**

Scholarships Available

There are five (5) scholarship **types** available. Pearls of Wisdom Scholarships may have multiple awardees. **Applicants only need to complete one application to be eligible for any of the five (5) listed below:**

The **Pearls of Wisdom Scholarships** are awarded to graduating high school seniors who are seeking to attain higher education, who provide service to the community and who promote educational activities. There are multiple Pearls of Wisdom Scholarships which are available to students across all disciplines.

The **Marjorie Herbert Scholarship** is awarded to a student who plans to attend OR who is currently enrolled as an undergraduate at a historically black college or university (HBCU). The scholarship is named after Mrs. Marjorie M. Herbert who attended and graduated from Morgan State University in Baltimore, Maryland, a historically Black University. During her years at Morgan State, Mrs. Herbert was actively involved with her college community and with the Civil Rights Movement both on campus and in the City of Baltimore. In 2015, Mrs. Herbert received an honorary Doctorate of Laws degree from her alma mater and was recognized as a Morgan State University student "Civil Rights Pioneer". Dr. Marjorie Herbert is a member of The Pearls of Wisdom Foundation, Inc., Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated@-Pi Theta Omega Chapter, and she is a dedicated Morris County Community leader. **Both Graduating High School Seniors and Continuing HBCU students (rising college Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors) are eligible for this award.**

The **Princess Anne Millard Scholarship** is awarded to eligible graduating high school seniors who have excelled academically, participated actively in extra-curricular and community activities, and who intend to pursue undergraduate studies in education or a related social science area. The scholarship is named after Mrs. Princess Anne Millard, a member of the Foundation, who attended what was then known as Virginia State College (now University) in Petersburg, VA. As a Foundation Member, since its inception, Mrs. Millard served on the Education Committee and held several leadership positions in Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated@-Pi Theta Omega Chapter. She is a founding member of the Education Committee, which administers scholarship programs annually. In December of 2008, Mrs. Millard funded the "Princess Anne Millard Scholarship" of the Pearls of Wisdom Foundation, Inc.

The **Mitzi Abney Wisdom Scholarship** is awarded to a deserving student with a GPA of 3.0 or higher who plans to further his or her education in the areas of math or science, and the student must be actively engaged in one or more extra-curricular activities through school or the community. Examples of activities include sports teams, academic clubs (debate team, student government, language clubs, etc.), visual and performing arts (drama performance, dance, art shows/exhibits), or mentorship and personal development organizations (Boys and Girls Club, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Girl Scouts, etc.). This scholarship is named for Ms. Abney-Wisdom, who graduated from Dickinson College with a degree in Spanish/Education. She has previously served as President of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated@-Pi Theta Omega Chapter, a community service organization in Morris County, and is very involved in service to the Morris County community.

The **Vera Blossom Scholarship** is awarded to a student pursuing a degree in social work or one who has a passion for helping to connect our society across the generations. Ms. Vera Blossom graduated from Benedict College in South Carolina with a degree in biology. She became very involved in community service after graduating, and went on to lead many committees and partnering organizations. As a volunteer and a community leader, Ms. Blossom focused on serving the needs of the community. After a number of years of teaching, and working in corporate America, Ms. Blossom grew more passionate about the connection between younger generations and older adults and decided to pursue a degree in social work. Ms. Blossom received a Master's Degree in Social Work at Rutgers University while also working full-time. Ms. Blossom also served as President of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated@-Pi Theta Omega Chapter, a community service organization in Morris County, New Jersey.

Pearls of Wisdom Foundation, Incorporated

2023 Scholarship Application

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE

Name _____ Age _____ Date of Birth _____

Home Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Name of Father/Guardian _____

Name of Mother/Guardian _____

Home Phone No: _____ Cell No: _____

E-mail address: _____

High School _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

GPA _____ / _____ *Class Size _____ *Rank in Class _____
Average Scale

Are you currently or have you been a participant in #CAPSM or AKA GEMS & GENTS Programs for high school students? YES _____ NO _____

2023 Pearls of Wisdom Scholarship Application – page 2

List any honors or awards received while in high school, with corresponding dates:

AWARD(s)

DATE RECEIVED

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

List academic and community **organizations** of which you are/were a member and indicate any offices held:

Organizations	Offices Held	Years/Duration

In what extra-curricular activities have you participated while in high school? Please list with years.

2023 Pearls of Wisdom Scholarship Application – page 3

In pursuing a college education, what are your intended career plans and how will this award support your collegiate financial needs?

List accredited colleges or universities to which you have applied. Please indicate if you have received an acceptance notice from any of these schools.

Schools to which Applied

Accepted (yes/no/pending)

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Have you made a decision as to which school you plan to attend? Yes____ No____

If so, please indicate which school you plan to attend in the fall:

Is this school an HBCU? Yes_____ No_____

Please attach a copy of the acceptance letter from the college you plan to attend***

GUIDANCE COUNSELOR RECOMMENDATION FORM

This section is to be completed by your high school guidance counselor or college academic advisor.

Guidance Counselor's name _____
Please print

School _____ Phone _____

Email Address _____

Student's GPA _____ Student's Class Rank _____

1. Please evaluate the student based on the following criteria using the scale below: 5 being the highest, 1 being the lowest. Please circle the number that is the most applicable.

	Highest			Lowest	
Academic Performance	5	4	3	2	1
Intellectual Promise	5	4	3	2	1
Leadership	5	4	3	2	1
Motivation	5	4	3	2	1
Communication/Interpersonal Skills	5	4	3	2	1
Presentation	5	4	3	2	1

2. Please list three (3) words to describe the student:

_____, _____, _____

Guidance Counselor's Signature

Date

If you have questions concerning the application, please contact: Laquana Best at

poweducation1@gmail.com

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

The following items must accompany this application:

1. Two (2) letters of recommendation--one from an academic teacher/professor **and** one from a minister, coach, or employer. Please do not send recommendations from family members.
2. 300-500 word essay. Choose **One** Topic choice-from A, B, or C listed below:
 - A. Please tell us about a role model in your life. Explain how this person has influenced your life and your ability to mentor others.
 - B. As an African-American student, what positive impact will attending an HBCU institution have on your future endeavors?
 - C. Social media has become an integral part of our lives and can have both positive and negative impacts on our daily experiences. Discuss ways in which social media has helped or impeded your adjustment (stress, anxiety, connectedness, unpredictability) to life during the Covid-19 pandemic. What aspects of social media were most or least helpful?
3. High school transcripts can be emailed directly to poweducation1@gmail.com.

Instructions for Submitting Application

The entire application can be scanned/emailed or mailed. The following documents must be received by email to poweducation1@gmail.com or postmarked on or before **Monday, March 13, 2023** to Pearls of Wisdom Foundation, Incorporated, P.O. Box 2372, Morristown, NJ 07962-2372:

- Completed Application Form
- Acceptance letter from College or University/Enrollment letter from HBCU ***
- Reflection on one of the essay topics
- Acknowledgement that your attendance is required at the Pearls of Wisdom Scholarship Awards Ceremony on June 17, 2023. A completed application package that is typed or emailed which also includes a recommendation form from your High School Guidance Counselor. For returning HBCU applicants, a recommendation from your HBCU Academic Advisor
- Letter of Recommendation from an Academic Teacher/Professor
- Letter of Recommendation from Minister, Coach or Employer (non-family member)
- High School Transcript /College Transcript

**ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED ON OR BEFORE
March 13, 2023**

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***Acceptance letter to be sent in once received.