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**Thomas E. Laing Sr. Scholarship - $500USD**

APPLICATION & INFORMATION

**HISTORY OF THE GRACE SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

The Grace Scholarship Fund was founded in 2013 by Charissa Lawrence to provide academic scholarships, service opportunities and leadership experiences for young Jamaican students of outstanding promise.  The fund provides scholarship winners with the financial assistance to help them attend colleges, universities and trade schools both domestically and abroad.  Our hope is that recipients will go on to achieve exemplary success in the classrooms and in their chosen fields of expertise – all the while, making Jamaica proud!

**Thomas E. Laing Sr. Scholarship**

Thomas E. Laing, Sr. was born January 14, 1948 in St. Andrew, Jamaica. He attended both Bull Bay Primary and Auto Body Trade school in Jamaica. In November of 1974, he migrated with his wife Eileen Laing to the United States. Thomas worked as an Auto Body Technician for various dealerships for over 40 years. His last place of employment was Liberty Auto City (Libertyville, IL), where he worked for 19 years. Thomas hosted the Jamaican Independence celebrations for over 30 years and founded the Jamaican Soccer Team, XAYMACA, in Lake County, IL. He received the Leadership Award for Sports for Dedicated Service and Commitment by the Jamaican Consul in 2002. Thomas cherished his family, which consisted of 7 children, 16 grandchildren, and 4 great-grandchildren. Thomas passed away on October 24, 2014 from pancreatic cancer. The Thomas E. Laing Sr. Scholarship is contributed by the Laing Family in his honor.

**ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR THE THOMAS E. LAING SR. SCHOLARSHIP**

All applicants must meet all of the following criteria:

1. Must be a Jamaican national
2. Must be currently enrolled as a full-time student at the Jamaican-German Automotive School in Jamaica or planning to be enrolled in the next 6 months
3. Must be in financial need / must have experienced financial hardship in your life
4. Must attend in person scholarship reception

**SCHOLARSHIP CONDITIONS**

Scholarships may be used for funding related to current enrollment by the student at the Jamaican-German Automotive School. Students may use the scholarship funds to help cover the costs of tuition, fees, books, computers, and other trade school related expenses.

**APPLICATION TIMELINE & SUBMISSION**

* Application Deadline – May 31st, 2018. No exceptions. All eligible applications are due by 11:59pm EST.
* Completed applications must be sent to: [info@gracefund.org](mailto:info@gracefund.org) The subject of the email must read “Name of Scholarship – Full Name of Applicant”. For example if your name is John Doe and you are applying for the Thomas E. Laing Sr. Scholarship the subject of your email with your application should be “Thomas E. Laing Sr. Scholarship – John Doe”.
* Attachments – (1) completed application (2) proof of admittance/enrollment to your trade school

**DATA PRIVACY**

The Grace Scholarship Fund is committed to maintaining the confidentiality of the application information data that you provide to us. The Grace Scholarship Fund understands and acknowledges that you have reposed trust in us to protect the confidentiality and security of all the information and data. The Grace Scholarship Fund will not use your information and data for purposes other than this specific application review. The Grace Scholarship Fund will not sell, or otherwise disseminate or make available to third parties the information and data that you provide, in whole or in part. The Grace Scholarship Fund will restrict access to the information and data that you provide to those persons who will evaluate your information and data for purposes of determining your eligibility for, and making awards of, the financial assistance that The Grace Scholarship Fund provides. If you win a scholarship, you may be asked to feature language from your application for the use of GraceFund newsletters.

| The Grace Scholarship FundTHOMAS E. LAING SR. SCHOLARSHIP Application Form | | | | | |
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| **Applicant background Information** | | | | | |
| Name: | | | | | |
| Age: | Home Number: | | | Cell Number: | |
| Hometown: | | | Male/Female (M/F): | | |
| Current address: | | | | | |
| email address: | | | | | |
| Are you currently enrolled in an automotive trade school (Y/N)? | | | | | |
| **General School Information** | | | | | |
| Primary School Name & Address: | | | | | |
| High School Name & Address(if applicable): | | High School Graduation Date(if applicable): | | | |
| **SOCIAL MEDIA INFORMATION** | | | | | |
| We believe that technology is at the forefront of education and business outlets around the world. We love to see when youth are embracing technology and utilizing social media. As such, we’d like to know if/how you are engaging with social media. | | | | | |
| Have you liked our Facebook Page? | | | | | |
| Are you on Instagram (Y/N)?  If yes, are you following @gracefund (Y/N)?  If yes, what is your IG handle? | | | | | |
| Are you on Twitter (Y/N)?  If yes, are you following @gracefund (Y/N)?  What is your Twitter handle? | | | | | |
| **TRADE SCHOOL INFORMATION** | | | | | |
| Current OR Intended Trade School name: | | | | | |
| Start Date (or intended start date): | | | | | |
| Your current college personal email address (if applicable): | | | | | |
| Number of credits/units/courses completed (if applicable): | | | | | |
| Number of years completed (if applicable): | | Expected Completion Date: | | | |
| Major: | | | | | |
| \*\*\*Please be sure to provide a copy of your transcript and proof of enrollment as an attachment\*\*\* | | | | | |
| **ADDITIONAL TRADE SCHOOL INformtaion** | | | | | |
| (For current trade school students) Provide a brief description of academic honors, awards or leadership positions during your trade school years:  (For current trade school students) Please provide a brief description of any volunteer service you have participated in during your trade school years: | | | | | |
| **Essay RespoNSes** | | | | | |
| How did you become interested in the automotive industry? *(500 words or less):* | | | | | |
| How do you define success? *(500 words or less)*: | | | | | |
| Describe the state of your financial need? Have you experienced financial hardship in your life? (500 words or less): | | | | | |
| Who has inspired you and why? *(500 words or less)*: | | | | | |
| What are your career goals and where do you see yourself in 5 years? | | | | | |
| **Signature (please sign below):** | | | | | |
| Signing below is required for review of your application. Signature indicates that you hereby verify that the above information is true and correct to the best of your knowledge and belief. (Typing your name is sufficient) | | | | | |
| e-Signature of applicant: | | | | | Date: |