



THE BARBARA DeCOSTA WALDON AWARD  
FOR GRADUATE STUDIES IN GERONTOLOGY

The late Barbara DeCosta Waldon devoted a lifetime to public service. Most notable was her work with the Jamaica Service Program for Older Adults (JSPOA). Barbara's work with JSPOA ranged from working with her husband, Alton R. Waldon, Jr., during the organization's founding in 1972 to serving on the board of directors as vice president for development from 1991 until her death in 2004. Perhaps the most valuable service Barbara gave to the JSPOA seniors was her work as a volunteer at the Friendship Center. Friendship is dedicated solely to benefit the elderly frail and their caregivers. In total, Barbara devoted approximately 30 years of service to JSPOA and the seniors of Southeastern Queens.

Because of her dedication to JSPOA and the senior citizens it serves, Barbara's family and friends decided that a memorial befitting her service should be established. With that in mind, they established a fund to be used as an incentive for graduate students in programs with a concentration in gerontology. The fund is administered by the Jamaica Service Program for Older Adults.

JSPOA has the honor of announcing the first annual competition for the Barbara DeCosta Waldon Award for studies in Gerontology. The winner of the competition will be awarded \$3,000 to be used in furtherance of his/her education. The award will be granted in two installments. The first installment of \$1,500 will be granted in the first year of study. The second installment of \$1,500 will be granted in the second year of study, if grades and all other requirements of the school attended are met.

CRITERIA FOR APPLICANTS

Applicants for the grant must live in New York City, be either recent college graduates accepted in an accredited graduate program with a concentration in gerontology or have completed one or more years in such an accredited program. In addition, the applicant must have maintained a cumulative grade point average of B or the equivalent and be attending graduate classes at the time the scholarship is awarded.

## COMPETITION PROCEDURES

Applicants must submit written essays covering the following:

- a. Discuss recent trends in the world of aging citizens.
- b. Tell why you are interested in working in the area of senior services.
- c. Describe your future role in serving seniors as you see it.
- d. Discuss how your education to date has prepared you for a career in senior services.
- e. How do you anticipate your graduate work will prepare you for a career in senior services?
- f. Describe any volunteer service you may have given in senior services.

## THE RULES OF COMPETITION

- a. The essays must be between 500 and 1000 words long and typed in proper English.
- b. The essays must be in Calibri 12 point font (as in this document) and single spaced with margins at 1" on at the sides and 1.25" on the top and bottom.
- c. The font must be consistent throughout the essay. Any essay that exhibits variations of fonts and margins to make it look longer or shorter will be disqualified.
- d. All quoted sources must be cited.

All essays must be submitted along with a copy of the applicant's transcript, no later than September 13, 2013 to:

Jamaica Service Program for Older Adults  
Attn: Barbara DeCosta Waldon Gerontology Grant  
92-47 165<sup>th</sup> Street  
Jamaica, New York 11433

At the end of the first year of study, the winner must forward copy of his or her transcript, no later than September 15<sup>th</sup>, of the second year of study.

All essays will become the property of the Jamaica Service Program for Older Adults, may be published and will not be returned. The attached application must accompany the essay. This document, describing the competition and its rules need not be returned.

The winner must be present at the JSPOA annual galas to receive the award. This year's gala will be held on the evening of November 7<sup>th</sup>.

APPLICATION FOR THE  
BARBARA DeCOSTA WALDON  
AWARD FOR GRADUATE STUDIES IN GERONTOLOGY

APPLICANT'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Graduate School \_\_\_\_\_

Graduate School Address \_\_\_\_\_

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Department and Major Course of Study (must include a concentration in gerontology).

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College graduates who have not completed a full year of graduate study must include a copy of their undergraduate transcript. Students with a year or more of graduate studies must include a copy of their most recent transcript.

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SIGNATURE

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DATE