

Virginia Beach Alumnae Chapter Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

YVONNE LEONARD AND YVONNE LEWIS SOCIAL ACTION MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Return transcripts to:
Virginia Beach Alumnae Chapter
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
P.O. Box 61006
Virginia Beach, VA 23466
Return application and
recommendations by email:
scholarships@vabeachdst.org
DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 28, 2026

In 2026, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, Virginia Beach Alumnae Chapter will issue a
\$1,000 Scholarship Award
for Excellence in Education, Commitment, and Community Service

Yvonne Leonard

Yvonne Leonard had a heart for Social Action; she co-chaired the chapters' only "Meet The Candidates" program. She was a devoted Democrat and member of the Virginia Beach Democratic Committee where she served two terms as past secretary and chair of Precincts and Operations. She was a member of Virginia's 2nd Congressional District. As a devoted member of First Baptist Church, she made sure that the congregation was registered, aware of the issues, and who the best candidates were. In 2021, the Virginia House of Delegates honored Yvonne Leonard with House Resolution No. 283 to celebrate her life and work.

Yvonne Lewis

Yvonne Lewis was the most active non-partisan political action leader. She did workshops for the chapter and other chapters and organizations especially on Restoration of Voting Rights, her heartbeat. She was a fierce advocate for political changes from the doors of Virginia Beach City Committees all the way to the steps of The United Nations. She served our community for over 40 years with tenacity. She was a gracious leader in multiple roles supporting social action within the region.

All applicants **MUST meet the following criteria** to be considered for this scholarship:

- Be an African-American
- Be a resident of the City of Virginia Beach
- Be classified as a graduating senior in the class of 2026
- Have a 2.8 or better GPA (Grade Point Average)
- Must be listed as a full-time student pursuing a bachelor's degree and enrolled in a minimum of 12 credit hours at a four-year college or university
- Submit one (1) letter of recommendation from a professional (teacher or community leader) – must be on official letterhead
- Must submit an official transcript of grades in a sealed envelope by mail or email directly from Parchment.com
- Submit a 500 – 600 word essay on the topic provided
- The completed application packet, (including the application, recommendations, and transcripts) must be received and/or postmarked no later than **February 28, 2026**, incomplete applications or applications received after this date will not be considered.

GUIDELINES FOR SELECTION

Selections will be based on the following:

- Completed Application
- Essay (500 to 600 words)
- Grade Point Average
- Letter of Recommendation
- Extra-Curricular Activities

Scholarship Deadline: Completed applications (including the application, recommendations, and transcripts) must be received and/or **postmarked no later than February 28, 2026**.

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Please Print

Full Legal Name	Last Name	First Name	Middle Name
Permanent Address	Number/Street	City	State Zip Code
Email address:			
Home Phone Number:		Cell Phone Number:	Date of Birth (MM/DD/19YY): ____ / ____ / ____
Name/Address of High School			
Name of Parent(s) or Guardian		Mother	Father
Name/Address of the College or University you plan to attend:			
Desired Major/Course of Study:			Have you been accepted by this institution? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Extracurricular Activities

Include school (**S**), community (**C**), and church (**CH**) activities and honors. Please indicate the school year(s) in which you participated in each activity.

Type S / C / CH	MM/YY to MM/YY	Description of Activity/Leadership Responsibilities/Honors and Awards

Verifications:
 Signature of School Official (Principal/Counselor/Teacher) _____
 Signature of Community OR Church Official _____

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Work Experience

Include present and previous employment.

MM/YY to MM/YY	Employer and Description of Activity

Essay Statement

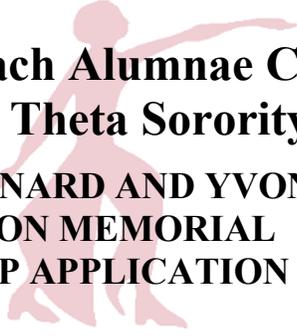
Attach a 500 to 600-word essay, typed, double-spaced, Times New Roman, 12-point font, with 1” margins. Please provide a plausible approach to address the issue. Use specific details and examples in your response.

Write an essay discussing how your chosen field of study can advocate for a social action issue affecting the African American Community (AAC). Social action involves people coming together to improve lives and address issues that are important to their communities. As part of your response, please also provide examples of social action activities or events in which you have actively participated. Describe the overall outcome, effects, and results of these efforts on the African American community. What was your role in these activities/events, and how did your involvement contribute to making a positive impact?

Essays are used by the scholarship committee as a part of the selection process. **Be sure to put your name and the word count on the Essay.**

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Certification – To Be Signed by All Applicants

I have read and understand the enclosed information. I affirm that the information that I have provided on this application form and any material that I submit related to this scholarship process is complete, accurate, and true to the best of my knowledge. According to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, as amended (FERPA), I hereby authorize Virginia Beach Alumnae Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., to release the scholarship application information provided by me to scholarship committee members to determine eligibility for this award.

Applicant's Signature

Date

Include as attachments:

- 1 Letter of Recommendation
- 500 – 600 word essay in Microsoft WORD format 12-point font
- A completed application (PDF fillable format) and scanned signature page (page 3) for certification.
- Official transcript of grades

Please email to scholarships@vabeachdst.org or mail by February 28, 2026 to:

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For all questions or inquiries, please contact Sonya Bennett by phone at (904) 562-0308 or email at scholarships@vabeachdst.org

For DST use only: GPA _____