



# Island

## **Christian Church**

Ordinary People • Extraordinary God

October 5, 2017

Dear Sir or Madam:

It is our desire, as a church, not only to promote the development of genuine character, but also to reach into our wider community to recognize and honor young people of sterling character with a scholarship. We have called this *The American Heritage Scholarship*, and the details are in the enclosures. Our congregation has awarded the scholarship for several years, and we wish to continue for the Class of 2018.

I believe the enclosures will be sufficient to explain the details. The application is also available online at [www.islandchristian.com/scholarship](http://www.islandchristian.com/scholarship). If you have any questions, please contact the church office at 631-822-3000.

Sincerely,

Rev. Michael O'Connor  
Senior Pastor

Enc.

**Northport Campus**  
400 Elwood Rd.  
E. Northport, NY 11731

**Holbrook Campus**  
10 Peachtree Ct.  
Holbrook, NY 11741

**Port Jefferson Campus**  
315 E. Main St.  
Port Jefferson, NY 11777

# **THE AMERICAN HERITAGE SCHOLARSHIP**

*Sponsored by  
Island Christian Church*

## **Summary**

Two \$2,000 scholarships, to be awarded to graduating seniors, one male, one female, for Long Island students whose lives exemplify genuine character and promote the Scriptural values upon which our country was founded. Up to four \$750 High Honorable Mention scholarships may also be awarded regardless of gender. A committee appointed by the church will make the selection. Selection of the winners will be based upon an essay by the applicant as well as three recommendations--one by a school official [teacher, guidance counselor, coach, or school administrator], one by the applicant's spiritual leader [minister, priest or rabbi], and one by another adult. Finalists will be interviewed. The scholarship will be presented at a special Baccalaureate Service, held at the church, on **Sunday, June 10<sup>th</sup> 2018**. *Selected recipients will be **required** to attend this service.*

## **Background**

Island Christian Church wishes to promote genuine character development in the youth of our community. While the church has a very active youth ministry and outreach, it is our desire, with this scholarship, to reach beyond the confines of our church community to the community-at-large in order to recognize and reward young people of proven and genuine character.

In the very first inaugural address of our nation, given by George Washington in New York City on April 30, 1789, he insists: "there is no truth more thoroughly established, than there exists...an indissoluble union between virtue and happiness." He further contends "the propitious smiles of Heaven can never be expected on a nation that disregards the eternal rules of order and right, which Heaven itself has ordained." As the Psalmist confidently asserts, "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord." [Psalm 33:12] This we believe.

## **Criteria for Award**

The American Heritage Scholarship Committee will judge applicants using each of these values, as revealed in the Scriptures, both the Old and New Testaments: *genuine, personal faith in God; patriotism; personal honesty and integrity; compassion and concern for others; and the traditional moral beliefs described in the Ten Commandments including honor for parents, the sanctity of life, chastity, and honesty and truthfulness in all dealings with others.*

Two scholarships will be awarded to graduating high school seniors, one male and one female, residing on Long Island. Graduating seniors of families of Island Christian Church who are engaged in full-time ministry, in a location other than Long Island, are also eligible. The scholarship award will recognize genuine character in two dimensions:

**Example**--how is the applicant's life an example of each of the personal values listed above?

**Influence**--in what activities is the applicant engaged that promote the personal values listed above?

## **Application Process**

- A. The applicant must complete the enclosed self-nomination form and essay.
- B. The applicant must procure three recommendations on the enclosed forms:
  1. Recommendation from a school official who knows the student well [teacher, guidance counselor, coach, or school administrator].
  2. Recommendation from spiritual leader [minister, priest, rabbi].
  3. Recommendation from an adult other than family, school representative or member of the clergy.
- C. Finalists will be invited for interview before the winners are selected.

All applications, required nominations and recommendations must be postmarked **March 2, 2018, or earlier**. Applications postmarked after this date will not be considered. Applications and recommendations may also be e-mailed to [scholarship@islandchristian.com](mailto:scholarship@islandchristian.com) no later than **noon of Friday, March 2, 2018**.

Further copies of this application can be downloaded from our website: [www.islandchristian.com/scholarship](http://www.islandchristian.com/scholarship)



In the space below, please provide a list of all school, religious, and civic activities or organizations in which you have participated as a high school student. List years involved and any offices or positions held in the activity. Use additional paper, or the back of this sheet, if required:

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Please list the names and contact details of those writing your recommendations:

School Official _____	Phone _____
	E-mail _____
Spiritual Leader _____	Phone _____
	E-mail _____
Personal _____	Phone _____
	E-mail _____

**Complete a 2-3 page typewritten essay on the following topic:**

The American Heritage Scholarship seeks to recognize and promote the following values: Genuine, personal faith in God; patriotism; personal honesty and integrity; compassion and concern for others; and the traditional moral beliefs described in the Ten Commandments including honor for parents, the sanctity of life, chastity, and honesty and truthfulness in all dealings with others.

- ◆ **Explain how your commitment to *each one* of these values is displayed in your daily life and actions.**
- ◆ **Also explain ways in which you have promoted these values within your school and/or community. *Please give specific examples of times when you have taken a stand for these values.***

American Heritage Scholarship  
c/o Island Christian Church  
400 Elwood Road  
East Northport, NY 11731

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