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September 1, 2023

Dear Law Student:

The Haitian American Lawyers Association of New York, Inc. (HALANY) 2023 Law Student Scholarship Application

The Haitian American Lawyers Association of New York, Inc. (HALANY) invites you to apply for its 2023 law student scholarship. The scholarship will be presented on Thursday, November 9, 2023, during HALANY's 10th-anniversary gala at Leonard's Palazzo in Great Neck, NY.

HALANY remains committed to ensuring greater representation of attorneys of Haitian descent in various sectors of the legal profession and within the state's judiciary. Our association champions the following objectives:

- Elevate and support the positive image of Haitian Americans.
- Educate our members and the broader community about issues pertinent to Haitians.
- Advocate for the entry and advancement of Haitians within the legal profession.
- Facilitate networking opportunities for members with other professionals of Haitian descent in the legal community.

Encourage members to engage with the Haitian-American community in New York. Scholarship recipients must attend the gala in person to accept the scholarship award, which amounts to \$1,000. Each awardee will receive a complimentary gala ticket. Additionally, recipients will be requested to volunteer their time on the day of the gala and will be highlighted in HALANY's 10th-anniversary gala booklet. Two applicants will be chosen as scholarship recipients.

Furthermore, HALANY will extend bar preparation assistance funding to two individuals, each receiving \$250.

#### **2023 HALA-NY Scholarship Eligibility Criteria**

- To qualify for the 2023 HALA-NY Scholarships, applicants must satisfy all the following requirements:
- **Membership:** Must be a member of HALA-NY. For details on how to join, visit https://www.halany.org/Join.
- **\$1,000 Award:** Must be enrolled as a law student 2L, 3L, or 4L (full-time or part-time) for the academic year 2023-2024. LLM students are also welcome to apply.

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- **\$250** Award: Must be registered for a Bar Exam Prep Course set for 2023.
- Academic Standing: At the time of application submission, they must be in good academic standing with a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher at their respective law school.
- **Geographical Restrictions:** Attending a law school in NY, NJ, CT, PA, MA, VT, or Washington D.C.
- **Proof of Enrollment/Registration: B**efore disbursing scholarship or Bar Prep assistance funds, must provide proof of admission to an ABA-accredited law school for 2023 or registration in a Bar Review Course for the same year.
- Descent: Must be of Haitian descent.

### Additional Evaluation Criteria:

Community service involvement. Academic achievement. Demonstrated financial need. Notable achievements in serving the Haitian community during or before law school.

### How to Apply:

- Include a copy of your resume.
- Provide a personal statement (a brief biography).
- Attach the Certification of Enrollment Form.
- Answer the short essay questions provided.
- All completed applications should be emailed to halanyscholarship@gmail.com.

You will receive a confirmation upon the receipt of your scholarship application.

**Note:** All scholarship recipients must provide HALANY with a professional headshot. If the biography for the scholarship differs from the one intended for the Gala booklet, recipients should provide an updated version. This will be used for the Gala booklet, other program materials, and social media posts.

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## **Essay Questions:**

Please attach a one-page, double-spaced essay addressing at least two of the following questions:

- What are the most pressing issues affecting the Haitian and Haitian-American community? How can lawyers play a role in addressing or responding to these challenges and in furthering related causes?
- Describe your commitment to serving the Haitian Diaspora and/or other underrepresented minorities within the judicial and legal system.
- Elaborate on how this scholarship will advance your academic and/or career aspirations. Explain the significance of receiving this scholarship to you.

# **Application Deadline:**

Submit all required documents combined into one PDF file via email to halanyscholarship@gmail.com. The email's subject line should read: "2023 HALA-NY Scholarship Submission." Ensure your submission is made by <u>5:00 p.m. on Friday,</u> <u>October 1, 2023.</u>

Good Luck! Sincerely,

Eunchy Desir VP of Scholarship and Fundraising