




Sister Thea Bowman, FSPA  
1937-1990

*Artist: Marshall Bouldin 1988*

**The Sister Thea Bowman **  
**Black Catholic Educational Foundation**  
**Application for Scholarship**  
**2019**



**The Sister Thea Bowman  
Black Catholic Educational Foundation**

**Dear Applicant:**

The Sister Thea Bowman Black Catholic Educational Foundation Scholarship is designed to awaken a hope in black students who have been conditioned by poverty. This awakening comes as an opportunity to receive a quality education at one of the many Catholic institutions of higher education. In addition to the financial resources provided through the foundation, qualifying students will benefit from mentoring, spiritual growth opportunities, and community service. It is through donations to the foundation and matching scholarships offered through individual institutions, that funds for the scholarships are made available. Scholarship awards range from \$5,000 to 7,500. These funds are available on a year by year basis as donations are received by the governing board of the Foundation. The Foundation works collaboratively with Catholic colleges and universities to establish additional funding. Scholarship awards vary depending on the institution selected. The Thea Bowman Black Catholic Educational Foundation is responsible for selecting students to receive the scholarship award. The decision of the board is final.

The Sister Thea Bowman Black Catholic Educational Foundation Scholarships are available to high school students who are transitioning to college. A Thea Bowman Scholar must maintain full time enrollment at an accredited Catholic college or university beginning in the fall of the year. Applicants must meet all eligibility requirements to qualify. Scholarship awards will be applied toward tuition, on campus room and board, and books. Scholarship awards will be made payable to the attending institution. Individuals applying for the scholarship must forward a complete application packet to the address listed below only after January 1, 2019. Application packets must be postmarked no later than April 4, 2019. Award letters will be forwarded to the recipients only by June 1, 2019. Acceptance letters and signed agreements must be returned to the Foundation by July 1, 2019. Only completed applications will be considered for the award. Mail completed applications to:


The Sister Thea Bowman Black Catholic Educational Foundation  
ATTN: Mary Lou Jennings  
P.O. Box A3541  
Chicago, IL 60690

**Eligibility Criteria: Scholar Selection Criteria and Process:**

The selection of Thea Bowman Scholars will be done through an ad hoc committee of the Thea Bowman Foundation. Generally it is expected that a Thea Bowman Scholar:

- Is a high school student transitioning to college
- Is accepted to attend an accredited Catholic College or University. The applicant must gain acceptance to the College or University based on his or her own merit. The Foundation will not be responsible for assisting or influencing the admission process.
- Plans to attend school for the entire academic year beginning in the fall (exceptions are made for final semester)
- Demonstrate significant financial need.
- Possess a minimum High School GPA of at least a 2.5
- Is active in high school activities
- Be a student of good character
- Be highly recommended by either a high school faculty member or high school principal.

(Please note that this scholarship is for students of African-American descent only.)



**The Sister Thea Bowman  
Black Catholic Educational Foundation**

**Application Packet Content:**

**Scholarship Application**

The Sister Thea Bowman Black Catholic Educational Foundation application is available after January 1 of each year by contacting the Foundation. Your application should be typed.

**Essay**

Applicants are required to submit a 600-word minimum essay using the following topic. Essays should be typed.

- Sister Thea Bowman's gravestone bears the simple epitaph, "**She tried.**" What did Sister Thea Bowman try to do? Please expound upon the impact of the life of Sister Thea.

**Official Academic Transcript**

Applicants should request an official academic transcript from their high school. Transcripts should be included in the student's application packet to be forwarded to the foundation.

**Official Letter of Acceptance**

Student must include a copy of the University's official acceptance letter.

**Financial Need**

Student must submit a copy of FASFA to the Foundation as evidence of financial need.

Student must submit a statement of financial need. This statement is not to exceed 300 words. (Statement must be typed and double spaced.)

Once a student is accepted as a foundation scholar each student must:

- Give permission to the admitting University to grant the Thea Bowman Foundation access to grades and financial aid information, for purposes of granting or maintaining financial assistance.
- Have approval on of housing choices by the mentor or the director of the foundation.

General expectations of Thea Bowman Scholarship recipients:

- Meet regularly with their University mentor and participate in all University activities that are related to their educational, personal, social and spiritual growth.
- Complete 30 hours per year of spiritual growth and development service
- Complete 30 hours per year of community service
- Leadership involvement
- Attend and participate in spiritual retreats sponsored by the Foundation
- Behavior will be in keeping with the moral and ethical standards of the Catholic Church
- Understand it is the goal of the Thea Bowman Foundation that students maintain a minimum 2.5 GPA. All educational efforts must be consistent with that goal
- Funds may not be available for students who do not complete minimum standards
- Students are expected to participate in selected fundraising activities (selling raffle tickets, attending the annual fundraising dinner, attending meetings with potential donors, etc.)



**The Sister Thea Bowman  
Black Catholic Educational Foundation  
Scholarship Application  
(Print or Type Information)**

**Student Profile**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

**If Applying for Scholarship as African-American Single Mother, Please List**

Names of Children \_\_\_\_\_

Ages \_\_\_\_\_

**Academic Profile**

High School Name \_\_\_\_\_

High School Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Grade Point Average \_\_\_\_\_ Principal's Name \_\_\_\_\_

**High School Activities:** Describe your involvement in High School activities?

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**References:** Please provide the following reference letters:

- One reference letter from either your high school principal or high school faculty member
- One non-related character letter of reference

**Career Goals:** Briefly state your career goals (in 25 words or less)

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**The Sister Thea Bowman  
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**Community Service:** Please list and describe your Community Service involvement.

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**Completed Application Check List**

Application	High School Principal or Faculty Member recommendation	Essay Min 600 words	FAPSA
Official Transcript	Character Reference	Official College or University Acceptance Letter (copy)	Statement of financial need (not to exceed 300 words)

Please send all documents under a cover letter. The Foundation will only consider a completed application. A completed application requires all 8 documents and cover letter. All documents must be sent at one time.

- Final Deadline for all Application materials: April 4, 2019
- Award Letters forwarded to scholarship recipients only: June 1, 2019
- Acceptance letters and signed agreements due to the foundation: July 1, 2019

Please note that if you are a single African-American mother who is already attending one of our participating Catholic universities, we will need your transcript.

  
**The Sister Thea Bowman**  
**Black Catholic Educational Foundation**

Colleges and Universities with Collaborative Agreements with  
The Sister Thea Bowman Black Catholic Educational Foundation

Institution	Contact Information	Web Site
University of Saint Mary Leavenworth, Kansas	University of Saint Mary 4100 South 4th Street, Leavenworth, KS 66048 Tel. 913-682-5151	<a href="http://www.stmary.edu">www.stmary.edu</a>
Duquesne University Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania	Duquesne University 600 Forbes Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15282 Tel. 412-396-6000	<a href="http://www.duq.edu">www.duq.edu</a>
La Roche College Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania	La Roche College 9000 Babcock Boulevard, Pittsburgh PA, 15237 Tel. 412-367-9300	<a href="http://www.laroche.edu">www.laroche.edu</a>
Assumption College Worcester, MA	Assumption College 500 Salisbury Street, Worcester, MA 01609 Tel. 508-767-7000	<a href="http://www.assumption.edu">www.assumption.edu</a>
Saint Francis University Loretto, Pennsylvania	Saint Francis University 117 Evergreen Drive, P.O. Box 600, Loretto, PA 15940 Tel. 814-472-3000	<a href="http://www.francis.edu">www.francis.edu</a>
Loyola University Chicago Chicago, Illinois	Loyola University Chicago 1032 W. Sheridan Road, Chicago, IL 60660 Tel. 773-274-3000	<a href="http://www.luc.edu">www.luc.edu</a>
DePaul University Chicago, Illinois	DePaul University 1 East Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, IL 60604 Tel. 312-362-8000	<a href="http://www.depaul.edu">www.depaul.edu</a>
Dominican University River Forest, Illinois	Dominican University 7900 West Division Street, River Forest, IL 60305 Tel. 708-366-2490	<a href="http://www.dom.edu">www.dom.edu</a>
The Catholic University of America Washington, DC	The Catholic University of America 620 Michigan Avenue, N.E. Washington, DC 20064 Tel. 202-319-5000	<a href="http://www.catholic.edu">www.catholic.edu</a>