

## ESTHER SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

The Biblical heroine, Esther, faced many hardships and great difficulties in her adolescent life. Young and brave, Esther overcame much adversity yet was focused on using her life for the benefit of others.

Orphaned as a child and adopted by her uncle, she was forced away from family and friends to live an incredibly different life in the King's Palace of a distant land. Living there was difficult. New traditions, customs and religious practices were greatly confusing and contrary to her heritage and religious beliefs. Many of the obstacles and nuances she faced would have been considered disturbing to a person raised in her culture and ethnic background. Making matters worse, she was one of an entire group of people that faced certain death. Extermination. Esther was a Jewish woman living under the roof of the Persian King. If she did not speak up and act for her people, the eradication of the Jews in Persia was eminent. But, speaking up and disclosing her race and religion, as well as approaching the King without invitation, could have cost Esther everything, including her very life! Yet, she bravely acted upon what her uncle had taught her, "For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, but you and your father's family will perish. And who knows but that you have come to royal position for such a time as this?" (Esther 4:14) Her selfless choice saved the entire Jewish race! Her willingness to use her life in service to her people, changed the trajectory of history.

- What part of your life do you find resonates with Esther? Maybe you haven't experienced adversity to the extent of possibly losing your life, but maybe something extremely difficult and challenging to overcome.
- How have you used that experience?
- How have you chosen to use that part of your life to assist others through their struggles?
- How are you leading out of where you have come?
- How have you used hardship and difficulty to effect change, like Esther?

The Esther Scholarship Award is available for a young woman competing on the Miss Kansas stage, who knows what it is like to walk through the fire of adversity and use the residual flame to bring hope, help, and honor to those who are struggling.

The Miss Kansas Organization focuses on assisting in the development of young women who don't just possess beauty and brains, but hearts focused on others and spirits dedicated to use their lives for the benefit of others. This is character that surpasses anything revealed on a stage.

- Applicants will be judged on how they "tell their story" in response to the questions referenced above in an essay of 600 words or less. Essays must be typed, or computer generated, using 8 ½ x 11 paper, 12-point type and double-spaced. The candidate's name and title should be included at the top of each page.
- Applicants will also be judged on their use of grammar and the ability to communicate actual experiences, including how their character and leadership have been developed and are demonstrated through their daily life experiences.
- Applications will not be returned to the applicant.
- Applications will be judged by a separate panel of judges, with the award recipient being announced during competition week.

*The Miss Kansas Scholarship Foundation is a 501c3 organization*

*Board Members: Marietta Wetzel, Chair; Lisa Perez-Miller, President; Doug Brehm, Secretary/Treasurer  
Sue Givens and Jerry Polston*

# Miss Kansas Scholarship Foundation

PO Box 8611  
Pratt, Kansas 67124

## APPLICATION FORM & CERTIFICATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

In submitting the application, I certify that the information is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. If requested, I agree to provide proof of information given on this form by the date determined by the Miss Kansas Organization. Falsification of information may result in termination of any scholarship granted. This application becomes the property of the Miss Kansas Organization.

Applicant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
(Required if applicant is under 18 years of age)

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## SCHOOL DATA

High School: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_

Year Graduated: \_\_\_\_\_

Cumulative Grade Point Average (4.0 scale): \_\_\_\_\_

College: \_\_\_\_\_

College Graduation Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Major: \_\_\_\_\_

Career Ambition: \_\_\_\_\_

**RETURN APPLICATION AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS POSTMARKED BY MAY 1, 2022**

Mail Application to:  
Miss Kansas Organization  
Attention: Scholarships  
PO Box 8611  
Pratt, Kansas 67124

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