

## **2011 Scholars and Awards Program**

Girls Incorporated of Greater Houston invites you to apply for the “Scholars and Awards Program”. It is specifically for young women who embody the strong, smart, and bold spirit. It is designed to inspire girls to succeed in school, to think of themselves as potential scholars, to support their entry into the career field of their choice, and to inspire girls to be **Strong, Smart, and Bold.**<sup>SM</sup>

### **\$2500.00 SCHOLARSHIPS**

- Winners will receive a \$2500.00 Scholarship, an Award of Achievement, and Recognition at the Girls Inc. Strong, Smart, and Bold Luncheon.
- Scholarships will directly fund educational expenses such as tuition, fees, or books associated with your post secondary education at any accredited 2- or 4- year college or university. (Scholarships may not be used to offset costs at vocational or technical schools.) Recipients forfeit all claims and rights to scholarships if they do not attend an accredited 2- or 4-year college or university and use the money within 16 months after graduation from high school.
- Scholarship funds will be held for 2 years by Girls Incorporated of Greater Houston until scholars begin post-secondary education, at which time they will be paid directly to the college or university. (*Proof of college enrollment is required prior to fund disbursement.*) If the scholarship funds are not used within the 2 year time period, the monies will no longer be available for disbursement.

### **ELIGIBILITY**

- Applicant must be enrolled in the 11th or 12th grade as of September 1, 2010.
- Applicant must attend a high school in Houston or the surrounding area.
- Applicant must have a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.8 on a 4.00 scale at the time of application.
- Applicant must submit application and additional attachments by the deadline.
- Previous local and national Girls Inc. scholarship recipients may apply.
- Scholarship recipients must attend the Girls Incorporated of Greater Houston’s Annual Strong, Smart, and Bold Luncheon in May. Winners who are unable to attend the event will forfeit their scholarship or award.

### **SELECTION CRITERIA**

All applicants will be considered based on the following criteria:

- Ability to adhere to the application guidelines/instructions
- Ability to clearly communicate ideas and opinions both written and verbally (a telephone interview with screening committee may be required)
- Academic achievement, personal achievement, school involvement, and leadership skills
- Ability to attend the Girls Incorporated of Greater Houston’s Strong, Smart, and Bold Luncheon in May 2011; the luncheon is held during school hours.

**APPLICATION DEADLINE/POSTMARK DEADLINE: March 4, 2011  
HAND DELIVERED/EMAILED/FAXED ENTRIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

# **2011 Scholars and Awards Program**

## **APPLICATION GUIDELINES**

### Part I: Application Form

- The application must be on standard 8.5 x 11 white paper.
- Do not staple or use a binder, notebook or cover for your application.
- Respond to **ALL** of the questions listed on the application using the space provided. Indicate "N/A" for questions that do not apply to you.
- The application responses and essay must be typewritten and in size 12-font. Handwritten entries will not be accepted.
- Essay (included in application) must be ONE PAGE in length and SINGLE-SPACED. Essays less than or more than one page will not be considered.
- Application and essay must be entirely your own work.
- If under the age of 18, obtain signature of your parent or guardian.

### Part II: Two Letters of Recommendation

- Submit two (2) letters of recommendation with your application. No form is included for this purpose.
- Recommendation letters may come from one of the following: School Principal, Counselor or Teacher, Employer, Religious or Community Leader.
- Each letter must include the name and title of the letter's author and telephone number.
- Additional letters will not be accepted.

### Part III: School Transcripts

- Submit school transcripts, indicating grade point average (GPA) on a 4.0 scale.

#### **ESSAY WRITING TIPS:**

- Write in your own voice (1<sup>st</sup> person perspective).
- Take time to outline your strengths.
- Be specific and draw upon examples from your own experience.
- Allow an adult to read your essay and make suggestions.
- Re-draft the essay at least twice and proofread it carefully for formatting, spelling, and grammatical errors.

## **NOTICE TO SCHOLARSHIP APPLICANTS**

- Scholarship recipients will be notified of selections by April 2011.
- **Scholarship recipients must attend the Girls Incorporated of Greater Houston's Annual Strong, Smart, and Bold Luncheon in May. Winners who are unable to attend the event will forfeit their scholarship or award.**
- All scholarship recipients may be required to attend at least 2 meetings in order to prepare for the luncheon event and provide a live or videotaped speech at the luncheon event.

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# **2011 Scholarship Application**

**APPLICATION DEADLINE/POSTMARK DEADLINE: March 4, 2011**

**Instructions:**

1. Complete the application using a computer. If you need an electronic copy, request one via email at [gi@girlsinc-houston.org](mailto:gi@girlsinc-houston.org).
2. Use the tab, page up/down, or arrow keys to move from question to question.
3. Save your completed application to a file on a computer or flash drive.
4. Print, sign, and attach additional documents.
5. Mail application to Girls Incorporated of Greater Houston, Scholars and Awards Program, 1235 North Loop West, Suite 118, Houston, TX 77008.

**APPLICANT INFORMATION: (Must be typewritten with size 12-font)**

First Name:

Last Name:

Street Address:

Apt:

City:

State:

Zip:

Phone:

Date of Birth:

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Grade Level:

Age:

How did you hear about the Girls Incorporated of Greater Houston scholarship?

**SCHOOL INFORMATION:**

School:

School District:

Principal:

School Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

School Phone:

School Fax:

Grade Point Average (on a 4.0 scale):

**AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION:** Complete the following questions using the space provided.

1. List academic accomplishments: (Honor Roll, Perfect Attendance, Awards, etc.)

2. List extra-curricular activities – including school clubs, sports, community, church, employment, etc.



**APPLICANT NAME:**

**AGE:**

3. List any program(s) that promote personal development, including Girls Inc. programs, in which you have participated and what you learned from participating in such programs.

4. Describe your Post High School Education Plans. What are your career goals for the future? What interests you about this particular career path? How do you plan to be successful in this career?

5. Describe how you are a role model for the next generation of girls.

**APPLICANT NAME:**

**AGE:**

ONE PAGE ESSAY: The Girls Inc. mission is to inspire all girls to be **Strong, Smart, and Bold<sup>SM</sup>**. (1) What does being strong, smart, and bold mean to you and (2) why is it important for girls to be strong, smart, and bold? Essay must be single-spaced.

**APPLICANT NAME:**            **AGE:**

**APPLICATION CHECKLIST:**

- Application Form
- Essay (included in the application)
- Two Recommendation Letters
- Official school transcript specifying GPA on a 4.0 scale

**SIGNATURES:**

I certify that this work is entirely my own original work and it is accurate. I understand that if I am selected as a scholarship recipient, I must attend the Girls Incorporated of Greater Houston's Strong, Smart, and Bold Luncheon in order to receive the scholarship. Should I be unable to attend the event, I will forfeit the scholarship.

**Applicant's Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

The applicant has my permission to participate in this program. I am aware that she may be asked to speak at the annual Girls Inc. luncheon or other events, with supervision provided by Girls Incorporated of Greater Houston and that parts of her application and videotaped interview may be used at the luncheon and for publicity purposes. I hereby authorize Girls Incorporated of Greater Houston to use the applicant's image and words at its Strong, Smart, and Bold Luncheon and in promotional materials, both printed and electronic.

I authorize Girls Incorporated of Greater Houston to obtain medical care for the child in the case of a medical emergency. I understand that I am financially responsible for the care given. Medical treatment includes emergency transportation to a health care facility and pre-hospital medical care, all hospital and physician services necessary for the benefit/safety/well-being of the child.

**Signature of Parent/Guardian** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

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**MAIL SUBMISSIONS TO:**  
Girls Incorporated of Greater Houston  
Scholars and Awards Program  
1235 North Loop West, Suite 118  
Houston, TX 77008

Do not write below this line

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**Date Application Received:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Documents Included:**

- Completed Scholars and Awards Application
- Essay

Comments/Notes: _____ _____ _____ _____
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