James A. Davis Jr. Memorial Scholarship

Application Form

Background
In June of this year 20 multiethnic alumni from Roosevelt High School created an organization called the Roosevelt Alumni for Racial Equity (RARE). The group was formed spontaneously in response to the upheaval following the killing of George Floyd and renewed concern over issues of systemic racism. It began as a discussion forum on Zoom, where members reflected on their own personal experiences and addressed the causes of racism in the US and how to overcome them. Subsequently the group decided to take on two projects: make a documentary film about the voluntary busing program that brought students of color to Roosevelt in the late 1960s and early 1970s, with personal stories of participants and of the remarkable convening of RARE 50 years later; and establish the James A Davis Jr Memorial Scholarship for student of color at RHS. More information about RARE is available on its website: https://www.rhs4racialequity.org/

Mission Statement
The mission of the James A. Davis Jr. Memorial Scholarship is to recognize and financially support the educational goals of economically disadvantaged students of color at Roosevelt High School who demonstrate a commitment to learning and who foster an attitude and atmosphere of racial equity.

Criteria Statement
The James A. Davis Jr. Memorial Scholarship is available to graduating students of color at Roosevelt High School who are planning to attend a college, trade, or professional school. The scholarship will be open to students of color who are from an economically disadvantaged background. Candidates will be evaluated on their contribution to racial equity and their demonstration of a commitment to further education.

James A. Davis Jr. RHS Alumnus, Class of 1971
James A. Davis Jr. was a voluntary racial transfer student at Roosevelt High School from 1968 to 1971, where he became a leader among his peers. He served as senior class vice president, was a leader in Junior Achievement, played varsity football, and played clarinet in the marching band. Throughout his life James always showed his love of family and friends, respect for others as his equal, and dedication to his faith. At Roosevelt he was known for reaching across racial lines and participating in meaningful relationships with all students, no matter what their backgrounds. He passed away in 2013.

Selection Process (first academic year will be 2021-2022)
- Two scholarships of $5,000 each will be awarded in the spring of 2021 and each year thereafter
- Applications, including 3-4 letters of support (see application form) are due by February 22nd, 2021.
- By March 5th RHS staff will forward their nominations and applications of their top recommended candidates to the Scholarship Selection Board of Roosevelt Alumni for Racial Equity Class (RARE). During March 5-15 interviews of candidates via Zoom will be conducted by the Scholarship Selection Board and a RHS staff member.
- Final selection will be made and announced at RHS during the week of March 15-19, 2021.
- The funding will be available for use by scholarship winners for tuition payments and other direct educational expenses for up to two years after graduating from RHS.
JAMES A. DAVIS Jr. MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Application

Note: please be sure to submit with this application, or have sent separately to the Roosevelt High School Counseling Department, 3-4 letters of support. These letters may be from anyone at RHS who knows you well and can evaluate your qualifications for this Scholarship. At least two letters must be from RHS staff members.

Name:

Address:

Email:

Phone Number:

Please describe your educational goals, including what subjects you hope to study and what career path you are considering.

What college, university, trade school, or professional training program do you hope to attend, and what degree/certification do you hope to earn?

What is your current grade point average at RHS?
Please describe your involvement in RHS activities. Include your leadership roles (if any) and what you learned from your experiences that you will carry with you.

Please describe your involvement in community activities outside of RHS: volunteer work, political activism, participation/leadership in community groups and organizations advancing racial equity.

What does racial equity mean to you and why is it important?

In what ways have you advanced racial equity at RHS? Please give specific examples.
Please describe how your interactions with RHS students, faculty and staff of other ethnicities have made a difference in your life.

What jobs have you held while attending RHS, if any, and how much time have spent working at them?

What other information about yourself would you like to share with us?

Signature:

Date:

Submit completed applications to Ms. Richard, RHS Scholarship Coordinator, at clrichard@seattleschools.org or mail to RHS c/o Carrie Richard, 1410 NE 66th Street, Seattle, WA 98115. Applications must be received by February 22, 2021.

Received by:

Date: