



West Virginia Black Heritage / Kelly Miller Scholarship

ABOUT THE FUND

Established in 2025, this scholarship celebrates West Virginia Black Heritage and honors Kelly Miller, a prominent African-American figure who significantly influenced black America for close to half a century.

Prior to desegregation, the Clarksburg, West Virginia ‘colored’ high school was named in Miller’s honor. The building is currently a community center operated by the West Virginia Black Heritage Festival. The Festival traces its origins to a 1990 meeting of the Kelly Miller Alumni Association, which aimed to discuss fundraising ideas and celebrate the Emancipation Proclamation. The first event, held in Clarksburg on September 22, 1990, exceeded expectations and led to the formation of a new organization in 1995 to manage the growing celebration. Over the years, the Festival has expanded significantly, serving as a platform for community engagement, particularly for local youth. The Festival emphasizes education, with annual scholarships and programs providing valuable opportunities for young adults.



Kelly Miller

This endowment provides scholarships for West Virginians of African American descent to receive financial support for their post-secondary education and will continue in perpetuity.

ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

The scholarship provides awards to graduating seniors of African American descent residing in West Virginia. Recipients must be pursuing post-secondary education (four year or vocational/technical/community college) and have a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA. Preference is given to those with demonstrated financial need. This is a one-time award; recipients may not reapply.

HOW CAN I DONATE?

The fund is managed by Your Community Foundation of North Central West Virginia, Inc. (YCF). YCF is a qualified 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization eligible to receive donations.

Any individual, organization, or business can make a tax-deductible contribution to the fund. Donations are accepted in the form of checks, credit cards, stocks and through bequests. To donate online, click on the “Donate” link on the YCF website, www.ycfwv.org. You may select the specific fund during the checkout process. Alternatively, donations by check may be made payable to "YCF" and mailed to the address below. Checks should include the name of the fund in the memo line.

For more information, call 304-296-3433 or email info@ycfwv.org.

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