Belle Vivian Scholarship

Description
This scholarship is awarded annually to students who have demonstrated work and commitment in the area of gender equity. It facilitates their continued work in this area at the University of Southern California and in the community. This scholarship, funded by donations in honor of Belle Vivian, will be awarded annually to an undergraduate student at the University of Southern California. Two recipients will receive $5,000 in the form of tuition reimbursement for one academic year.

History
Myra “Belle” Vivian, wife of Dr. Robert Vivian, dean of the School of Engineering from 1940 to 1958, was treasurer of Town and Gown, USC’s oldest women’s philanthropic organization. Ms. Vivian collected 75 cents from each person attending the luncheon and turned the money in to the USC Cashier’s Office. Ultimately this led to Town and Gown’s first checking account. Her legacy could be seen elsewhere on campus, too. In 1951, construction began on the Belle D. Vivian YWCA, which later served as home to USC Student Counseling Services. It was demolished in 2012 to create space for Wallis Annenberg Hall. The scholarship that still bears Ms. Vivian’s name is intended to help sophomore female students at USC.

Eligibility
Applicants must meet all of the following requirements:

- Identify as woman
- Be a freshman at the time of application, and sophomore during the year in which she receives scholarship funds
- Have a minimum 3.0 GPA after completion of 32 units at the University of Southern California
- Be a full-time student and carry at least 12 units, maintaining a minimum 3.0 GPA
- Be enrolled in classes at the University Park Campus or Health Science Campus
- Not already be receiving a scholarship that pays for 100% of tuition
- Be able to design and implement a 30-hour community service project over the course of the fall and spring semesters (e.g. organizing topical events in conjunction with the Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention and Services)
- The Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention and Services will verify an applicant’s eligibility

Application dates
Application available: January 8, 2018
Application due: April 2, 2018
Applications reviewed and interviews conducted: April 2 – April 27, 2018
Applicants notified: May 4, 2018
Application
Applicants must submit the following information and materials to be considered.

- **Resume:** This should be no more than two (2) pages and submitted in PDF form.
- **Letters of recommendation:** A minimum of two (2), but no more than three (3), letters of recommendation are required. Letters should address the selection criteria listed below and additional qualifications the writer would like to highlight. Applicants are required to submit the recommenders’ contact information (name, title, organization, email address and phone number). Letters of recommendation may be submitted by hard copy or email directly from the writer. If submitted by email, recommenders may send the letter to Elizabeth Reyes, Interim Director c/o Mynor Rios <mynor.rios@med.usc.edu>.

- **Application questions:** Submit a typed statement that addresses the following four (4) items.
  1. Describe your extracurricular involvement at USC and/or in the community.
  2. Explain your professional and/or career aspirations.
  3. Discuss how this scholarship would enhance your experience at USC and would help you achieve your professional goals.
  4. Write a proposal (500 words or less) describing a 30-hour community service project you would implement. Refer to the RSVP’s mission statement when proposing your project, to make sure it fits with the focus of the center. Please incorporate a timeline for the project, including monthly status reports through in-person meetings with RSVP staff.

**Submission:** If submitting a hard copy of the application, submit all material simultaneously in a large sealed envelope/folder. The application should be brought to the Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention and Services in ESHC 356. If submitting by email, attach all material in PDF form to one email message. Send to Elizabeth Reyes, Interim Director, c/o Mynor Rios <mynor.rios@med.usc.edu>. In the subject line, place SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION. A confirmation notice will be sent upon receipt. If a confirmation notice is not received within five (5) business days, call the Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention and Services at 213-740-4900 to verify receipt.

**Selection Criteria**
Applicants are evaluated based on academic standing, personal merit, financial need, and community and/or campus involvement related to gender equity. Applicants who best meet the criteria will be interviewed by the selection committee.

**Terms of Disbursement**
Awards will be disbursed by the beginning of the fall and spring semesters of each recipient’s sophomore year. The award will be distributed in equal installments of $2,500 credited directly toward tuition. If the above requirements are not met throughout the year the scholarship is awarded (GPA, volunteer hours, full-time enrollment), recipients must refund the scholarship. Scholarship recipients must keep the Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention and Services informed of any changes in their academic status, mailing address, telephone number and email address. Please call the Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention and Services at 213-740-4900 with any questions.