



RCPL FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES THE 2012

# Ethel Bolden MINORITY SCHOLARSHIP

The Richland County Public Library Foundation established the Ethel Bolden Minority Scholarship in 2010 in honor and recognition of Mrs. Ethel Bolden's years of service to the Richland County community and its libraries. The \$2,500 scholarship will be awarded annually through 2013, and possibly thereafter. The scholarship seeks to encourage and provide financial support to students from underrepresented ethnic and racial groups who are working toward the completion of a Master of Library and Information Science degree at the University of South Carolina.

Ethel Bolden, consummate advocate and pioneer for library services to African-American children, worked diligently for 40 years in the community to promote reading and establish excellence in library services. She established the first elementary school library at (formerly all-black) Waverly Elementary, served as school librarian at Perry Junior High, worked as the first African-American faculty member and librarian at Dreher High School, and served twice on the Board of Trustees at the Richland County Public Library.

## □ ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

**Individuals are eligible to submit an application for the Ethel Bolden Minority Scholarship if they**

- Are a legal resident of South Carolina.
- Have been fully admitted into the Master of Library and Information Science (MLIS) program at the University of South Carolina (full or part time status).
- Have demonstrated leadership abilities through participation in community service or other activities that reflect leadership abilities.
- Have shown outstanding academic performance.
- Are a member of an underrepresented racial or ethnic group.

## □ FORMS TO SUBMIT

**The following information must be submitted and postmarked by March 15, 2012**

- Proof of admission into the MLIS degree program at the University of South Carolina.
- Completed application for the Ethel Bolden Minority Scholarship.
- Current resume.
- Letters of reference—Two letters of reference from individuals who are able to describe the applicant's academic, work and/or community service achievements are required. References should be placed in sealed envelopes and postmarked no later than March 15. Letters should be sent to Tina Gills, Development Manager, Richland County Public Library, 1431 Assembly Street, Columbia, SC 29201.
- A 300-word essay that describes the applicant's interest and any work in the field of librarianship, including volunteer work. Also indicate what specific competencies or characteristics the applicant believes he/she can bring to the librarian profession and level of community involvement and leadership potential.

## □ FREQUENCY AND AMOUNT OF AWARDS

The Ethel Bolden Minority Scholarship will be awarded annually from 2010 through 2013 in the amount of \$2,500.

## □ DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION

Application, proof of admission into the MLIS degree program at the University of South Carolina, current resume, letters of reference and essay must be postmarked by March 15, 2012.

## □ NOTIFICATION OF AWARDS

Applicants will be notified regarding their status by June 1, 2012.

## □ TO APPLY, PLEASE CONTACT:

Tina Gills, Development Manager  
Richland County Public Library ... 1431 Assembly Street ... Columbia, SC 29201 ... 803-929-3424 ... [tgills@myrcpl.com](mailto:tgills@myrcpl.com)

- Applications can also be downloaded electronically at [myrcpl.com/foundation](http://myrcpl.com/foundation).

## APPLICATION FOR THE ETHEL BOLDEN MINORITY SCHOLARSHIP

### PERSONAL INFORMATION

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Middle \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

### ARE YOU A SOUTH CAROLINA RESIDENT?

☐ YES

☐ NO

please check one

### INDICATE IF YOU ARE A MEMBER OF A MINORITY RACIAL OR ETHNIC GROUP

please check one

- ☐ African American
- ☐ Asian American
- ☐ American Indian
- ☐ Hispanic American
- ☐ Other (please indicate) \_\_\_\_\_

Please attach a copy of proof of acceptance in the Master of Library and Information Science program at the University of South Carolina and a 300-word essay that describes your interest and any work in the field of librarianship, including volunteer work. Also indicate what specific competencies or characteristics you believe you can bring to the librarian profession and your level of community involvement and leadership potential.

APPLICATION DEADLINE IS MARCH 15, 2012

