



## **The Ali, Isabella and Giselle Legacy Scholarship**

**An initiative of the Abbas Family Red Wagon Fund housed at the Center for Arab American Philanthropy (CAAP)**

Scholarship Deadline: 11:59pm on Thursday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021

### **About the Scholarship**

The Ali, Isabella and Giselle Legacy Scholarship is awarded to exceptionally driven and talented senior high school students at Northville High School. The intent of this scholarship is to support motivated Northville Public School (NHS) students who demonstrate a commitment to community service, equity, inclusiveness and kindness. It is anticipated that scholarships will be \$1,000-\$2,500 per graduating high school senior who meet the Northville Educational Fund standards. The fund will make all grant distributions directly to the student's affiliated college or university once they are enrolled. All colleges and universities must be accredited.

### **The story behind Issam and Rima Abbas**

The Abbas Family Red Wagon Fund, housed at the Center for Arab American Philanthropy (CAAP), was established to honor the memory of Issam and Dr. Rima Abbas and their three children Ali, Isabella and Giselle, who were tragically killed on January 6, 2019 after they were struck by a wrong-way drunk driver. The fund aims to forever carry out the Abbas family's remarkable legacy of generosity and community support by supporting small and large projects, focused on breaking down barriers through advocacy, access to healthcare, education, and other initiatives that aim to center marginalized voices and promote empowerment, equity and healing. You can read more about the Abbas Family at <http://www.centeraap.org/abouttheabbasfamily/>

To honor their legacy, Tom and Rana Taylor established **The Ali, Isabella, and Giselle Legacy Scholarship** within the Abbas Family Red Wagon Fund. Rana is the sister of Dr. Rima Abbas and aunt to Ali, Isabella and Giselle. Both she and her husband, who are residents of the city of Northville, hope to continue the tradition of giving back to the Northville community, particularly the Northville Public Schools, which Ali, Isabella and Giselle attended as eighth, seventh and second graders, respectively. Their aim is to carry on Ali, Isabella and Giselle's generous legacy by supporting senior students who demonstrate a commitment to education, community service, and the values of helping to create a just, equitable and inclusive society.

# The Scholarship Application for The Issam and Rima Abbas Endowed Scholarship

## Eligibility and Requirements:

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- Must be a **current Northville High School senior**
- Financial hardship considered, but not required
- Must have a minimum GPA of 3.5 or higher
- Must pursue post high school education such as, but not limited to, programs resulting in a bachelor degree, associate degree, vocational training, certifications or registration programs reflective of area of interest/career
- Complete a 300-400-word essay addressing what a just, equitable and inclusive world looks like to you
- Must demonstrate involvement in some form of community service, along with a commitment to continued community service through their chosen field of study:
  - You must provide a letter of recommendation from an organization that you have volunteered/worked with **or**,
  - A letter from an educator speaking to your commitment to education and community

## Application:

1. Fill out the application form online: <http://www.centeraap.org/grants/scholarships/the-ali-isabella-and-giselle-legacy-scholarship/>
2. Submit your statement of financial hardship, a copy of your (official or unofficial) high school transcript, upload your short essay, and upload your letter of recommendation

### **Statement of Financial Hardship**

Financial hardship occurs when a person or family struggles to make payments toward debt or bills or have expendable funds for things like college tuition. The statement of financial hardship will be entered in the online application form; your response is kept confidential. Your statement must be 1-2 sentences demonstrating your financial hardship, such as, "My parents are often making ends meet due to providing for myself, my siblings, as well as my grandmother who lives in the basement."

### **Copy of High School Transcript**

Please upload a copy of your high school transcript (official or unofficial). If you wish to submit your transcripts directly, please mail to:

**CAAP**

**Ali, Isabella and Giselle Legacy Scholarship**

**2651 Saulino Court**

**Dearborn MI 48120**

### **Short Essay**

Submit an essay of 300-400 words, double-spaced pages, size 12 font, with 1-inch margins, answering the following questions:

**Ali, Isabella and Giselle Abbas cared deeply about generosity, community support and its ability to make the world a better place for all. Please describe the following:**

- What it means to you to become an Ali, Isabella and Giselle Legacy Scholar
- What does a just, equitable and inclusive world look like to you?
- How do you see yourself continuing your commitment to ongoing community service in your future career?

### **Demonstrate Involvement in Community Service**

Must demonstrate involvement in some form of community service by submitting one letter of recommendation. Your letter writer must explain their relationship to you and provide their contact information within the letter. You must submit either:

- A letter from an organization that you have volunteered/worked with **or**,
- A letter from an educator speaking to your commitment to education and community

If your recommender prefers to deliver their letters directly to the review committee without you reading them, please instruct them to upload the letter at this link:

<https://www.centeraap.org/scholarship-letter-of-recommendation-form/>

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Please direct any questions to Mikala Cox at [mcox@accesscommunity.org](mailto:mcox@accesscommunity.org) or (810) 623-6894.