

**Please pass these along to your students.
You are welcome to make as many copies as you need.**

**Historic Columbus Foundation's
2026 Patricia Jackson Howard Scholarship**

DEADLINE: Friday, April 10, 2026, by 4:00 PM

CALL BACK INTERVIEWS: Monday, May 11, 2026, beginning at 3:45 PM

SCHOLARSHIP: Up to \$5,000

SCHOLARSHIP SUBJECT: **“This Place Matters”**

***Please Note: Scholarship Committee kindly requests applicants not select their high school as the subject of this essay.**

Why do places matter? They matter because they are a part of our universal story, one of the ties that bind our history, culture, and values together. They reflect where we have been and where we are going. They may not all be beautiful, but they all embody our culture – past and present. Choose a property in Columbus, GA that is at least 50 years old that matters to you, write an essay about why “This Place Matters” **TO YOU** and take a picture with a “This Place Matters” sign (see below).

APPLICANTS FOR SCHOLARSHIP: The scholarship was created to honor the memory of one of our past directors, Patricia Jackson Howard. Mrs. Howard promoted the mission of Historic Columbus for many years as a volunteer and employee of the organization. It was her wish that the scholarship be awarded based on merit and need. It will also be provided directly to the recipient for the use to purchase items associated with attending a university or college.

The requirements for scholarship consideration are:

- A graduating senior from a public school in Muscogee County;
- A completed application by the deadline;
- A copy of the student's transcript;
- A copy of the Student Aid Report (SAR);
- A completed essay on the topic provided
- A letter of recommendation; and
- A photo of yourself in front of the building holding a “This Place Matters” sign.

CONTENT: For your photo, download a “This Place Matters” sign here -
<http://www.preservationnation.org/take-action/this-place-matters/sign.html>

Each essay must be:

Minimum of 500 words, Maximum- 1,000 words

Times New Roman, 12 pt. font

Double Spaced

One-inch margins

SCORING: Scoring by the Historic Columbus Scholarship Committee will be based on five criteria - Originality; Overall interest; Contents; Merit; and Need.

Historic Columbus reserves exclusive publication rights to all essays. Historic Columbus reserves the right to not award winners in certain categories if the essays submitted do not warrant winning status. Historic Columbus reserves the right to split award money among winners if there is a tie, or other unusual issue. Applicants who do not follow the rules of the contest will not be considered valid entries. Winners will be notified by April 30th.

Please feel free to contact Palmer Colson at Historic Columbus (palmer@historiccolumbus.com 706-322-0756) with any questions you may have regarding the scholarship or the contest process.

SUBMIT APPLICATION: Please email hcfinc@historiccolumbus.com with your full application no later than Friday, April 10th at 4:00 PM.

**HISTORIC COLUMBUS FOUNDATION'S
PATRICIA JACKSON HOWARD MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION**

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CELL PHONE: _____ EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

PARENT'S OR GUARDIAN'S OCCUPATIONS AND EMPLOYERS:

HIGH SCHOOL: _____

HIGH SCHOOL GPA: _____ ON A SCALE OF: _____ CLASSRANK: _____

SAT SCORE: _____ ACT SCORE (IF TAKEN): _____

PROPOSED COLLEGE: _____

PLEASE LIST ALL ACTIVITIES AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT: _____

PLEASE LIST ALL HONORS AND OFFICES HELD (SPECIFY YEAR): _____

PLEASE LIST ALL ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL AID APPLIED FOR: _____

ESSAY: Please attach to this form an essay (typed and not to exceed 1,000 words) addressing the following question: **“This Place Matters”**

Why do places matter? They matter because they are a part of our universal story, one of the ties that bind our history, culture, and values together. They reflect where we have been and where we are going. They may not all be beautiful, but they all embody our culture – past and present. Choose a property in Columbus, GA that is at least 50 years old that matters **TO YOU**, write an essay about why “This Place Matters” **TO YOU** and take a picture with a “This Place Matters” sign*.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT _____ DATE _____

APPLICATION CHECKLIST:

Remember: All material must be received by email to hcfinc@historiccolumbus.com or mail to P.O. Box 5312, Columbus, GA 31906 (not postmarked) by April 10, 2026 at 4:00 PM.

- Application form
- Essay
- School Transcript
- Student Aid Report (SAR)
- Letter of Recommendation
- A photo of yourself in front of the building with a “This Place Matter” sign*

*Please download it from our website.