**The Ponchatoula Jaycees’ Scholarship**

**In Memoriam of Philip Bougere**

**Organizational Overview:**

The **Ponchatoula Jaycees** is a dynamic non-profit organization dedicated to empowering young individuals to create positive change within our community. With a mission to provide development opportunities that foster leadership skills, the Ponchatoula Jaycees engage and host a variety of community activities. By focusing on civic engagement and personal growth, the Ponchatoula Jaycees play a crucial role in shaping the future leaders of Ponchatoula and beyond.

**History of Philip Bougere:**

Philip David Bougere (1953-1983) was a notable member of the Ponchatoula community. He is remembered fondly and honored at Ponchatoula Cemetery. His contributions and legacy continue to inspire members of the Ponchatoula Jaycees and the broader community.

**Eligibility Criteria:**

* **Academic Achievement**: (Applicant must provide a copy of high school transcript, ACT score, and SLU acceptance letter.)
  + Applicant must have a minimum GPA of 3.0 or higher at Ponchatoula High School.
  + ACT score of at least 21.
  + SLU acceptance letter
* **Financial Need:**
  + Applicant must describe financial situation and any relevant circumstances.
    - Please provide details about your financial need, including any specific challenges or circumstances that impact your ability to pay for your education. This may include family income, number of dependents, medical expenses, or other financial hardships.
* **Community Service**: (Active involvement in community service projects or volunteer work.)
  + Applicant must provide a list of extracurricular activities.
  + Applicant must answer the below question regarding extracurricular activities:
    - How has your involvement in school clubs, sports, community service, or other organizations shaped your personal development? Provide specific examples of how your participation has benefited both you and your community.
* **Character and Personality:**
  + Applicant must answer the below question regarding character and personality:
    - What are your core values and positive qualities? Describe how these traits influence your actions and interactions within your school or community.
* **Essay: (Required)**
* Please attach essay in Times New Romans, 12pt font, typed, double spaced.
* Please keep essay at a minimum of 500 words and maximum of 1000 words.
* **Topic:**
  + How would you strategize a marketing campaign to recruit an individual from your generation into joining a community service organization? Please provide relevant details explaining how to effectively reach the proposed audience.

**Application Process:**

* **Application Form**:
  + Complete the scholarship application form available on The Ponchatoula Jaycees website. ([www.ponchatoulajaycees.com/scholarship](http://www.ponchatoulajaycees.com/scholarship)) \*Note: Ensure you have all necessary documents ready for submission before completing the application. Applicant will not be able to save and revisit the application at a later time.
  + Provide required documentation. (High School Transcript, ACT Score, SLU Acceptance Letter, etc.)
  + Provide essay, answer to extracurricular activities, answer to financial need, answer to character and personality.
  + **Application due by March 10, 2025.**
* **Interview**:
  + Selected applicants must participate in an in-person panel-style interview, which includes behavioral questions to prepare them for college and career styled interview questions within a corporate environment.
  + Selected applicants must dress in business attire for interview.

**Scholarship Benefits:**

* **Financial Support**:
  + The scholarship provides financial assistance to cover tuition fees, books, and other educational expenses.
  + Two applicants will be chosen for a $500.00 disbursement each after the first semester of college is completed with a minimum 3.0 GPA.
* **Recognition**: Recipients receive a certificate of recognition and are honored at Ponchatoula High School awards ceremony.
* **Networking Opportunities**: Scholarship recipients are connected with alumni and professionals for mentorship and career guidance.

**Expectations of Scholarship Recipients: (Required to receive financial disbursement.)**

* **Membership**:
  + Recipients are required to become active members of the Ponchatoula Jaycees. Membership dues are covered by the chapter for the first year.
  + Recipients are required to attend and actively participate in events hosted by the organization throughout the year.
  + \*Failure to adhere to the above two requirements will disqualify selected recipients from receiving financial disbursement.
* **Academic Performance**:
  + Chosen recipients must submit their first semester college grades in a timely manner to receive financial disbursement. Minimum GPA of 3.0 is required. Please submit a copy of final semester transcript to [ponchatoulajayceesinfo@gmail.com](mailto:ponchatoulajayceesinfo@gmail.com)
  + \*Failure to complete first semester with minimum 3.0 GPA will disqualify selected recipients from receiving financial disbursement.

**Questions:**

* If any applicant has any questions regarding what is expected to be completed within this application, please reach out to the Ponchatoula Jaycees at: [ponchatoulajayceesinfo@gmail.com](mailto:ponchatoulajayceesinfo@gmail.com)