

*Raising the Standard*  
Foundation



# WE AIM FOR GREATNESS

SENIORS EXCELLING  
BEYOND THE STARS

2018  
HIGH SCHOOL  
SENIORS' RECOGNITION  
PROGRAM HANDBOOK

# WHAT IS RAISING THE STANDARD FOUNDATION & ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY, INCORPORATED?



Raising the Standard Foundation is a 501(c) 3 established August 12, 2014. Its purpose is to enhance the educational development for underprivileged and at-risk students; provide financial assistance to college-bound students; and sponsor programs that will prepare high school seniors to become productive citizens and further their education. The Raising the Standard Foundation collaborates with Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Beta Mu Omega Chapter recognizing local high school seniors.

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Founded on the campus of Howard University in Washington, DC in 1908, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority is the oldest Greek-letter organization established by African American college-trained women. Since 1908, the sisterhood of Alpha Kappa Alpha has responded to the worlds' increasing complexity. It continues to empower communities through exemplary service initiatives and progressive programs.



Since May 2, 1936, the Beta Mu Omega chapter has been a staunch pillar of service to all mankind in the Tarrant County area and nationwide. Notable members of Beta Mu Omega include Hazel Harvey Peace, Deralyn Riles Davis, Reva Bell and Allene Jones.



## WHAT IS SENIOR RECOGNITION?

The High School Seniors' Recognition Program is designed to recognize and honor high school seniors for their academic accomplishments, extracurricular activities, community and civic service, leadership skills and talents. Honorees will participate in activities that will help them enhance their college and career readiness.



  
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Seniors are given the opportunity to earn money for graduation and college expenses. Over the past 40 years, the program has awarded over \$40,000 in scholarships. To earn money, seniors must seek sponsorships and sell tickets to the Senior Recognition Program. Each senior must raise a minimum of \$300 and sell 7 tickets. Students raising the most will receive the most. Monies raised will be accepted at each seminar.

## WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

- Students graduating in 2019
- Students in good standing at school as evident by transcript
  - Students satisfactorily passing all classes
- Students who are not parents (male or female)

## SAVE THE DATE!

Participants are strongly encouraged to attend the seminars and activities. All seminars will be held at 6:30 pm at TCC Trinity River. The High School Seniors' Recognition Program Ceremony will be Saturday, November 24 , 3 p.m. at the Amon Carter Center at the Lena Pope, Home.

## EARN MONEY WITH SPONSORSHIPS!

Earn money for senior fees and college expenses by soliciting funds and selling tickets to the Senior Ceremony. Each participant must raise a minimum of \$300 and sell 7 tickets.

The \$300 fee is due by October 30 and is non-refundable.

Donations can be made by cash, money orders or checks. Checks and money orders should be made payable to Raising the Standard Foundation. All ticket sale monies are due by November 6. All named donors will be listed as part of the participant's Village.

## PARTICIPATION INCENTIVES

- Turning in the most money
- Reaching the \$300 minimum first
- Selling the most tickets
- Students who are first to arrive at seminars
- Attending the most seminars

## EARN SCHOLARSHIPS WITH ESSAY WRITING

Participants will have an opportunity to earn \$2000 scholarships by writing one of two essays. The first essay for \$2000 will address the importance of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) - "America's Black Colleges: Why is it important to attend a historically black college or university?"

The second essay for \$2000 will address higher education and future ambitions. Essays must be at least 500 words in length and will be submitted by the October 30th seminar. The essay winners will be announced the night of the Senior Ceremony. The scholarships will be awarded after the student provides proof of enrollment. If no essays meet the criteria, a winner will not be awarded.



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## ARE YOU MR OR MISS SENIOR RECOGNITION?

Mr. and Miss Senior Recognition are the highest honor one can receive at the culmination of the High School Seniors' Recognition program. This award is given to the young man or lady that earns the most points during the program. Do you have what it takes? Points are awarded as follows:

- Student seminar attendance (5 pts. each)
  - Community Service (10 pts.)
  - Parent participation (2 pts. each)
    - Village Sponsorships
      - \$300-\$500: 3 pts.
      - \$501-\$750: 5 pts.
      - \$751-\$1,000: 7 pts.
      - \$1001-\$1099: 10 pts.
      - \$2000 and up: 20 pts.
- Participation in essay contest (10 pts.)
  - Ticket Sales
    - 5 - 10 tickets: 5pts.
    - 11 - 15 tickets: 10pts.
    - 16 tickets and up: 20pts.
- Participation scrapbook contest (10 pts. each)

  
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## THE SENIOR PRESENTATION: YOUR MOMENT TO SHINE!

The Senior Ceremony is the big day! It is Raising the Standard Foundation's and Beta Mu Omega's opportunity to recognize honorees and present them to the community as well as crown Mr. and Miss Senior Recognition 2018. The program will be held on Saturday, November 24 at the Amon Carter Center of Lena Pope. The program is open to the community. Tickets are \$25 per person (children under 10 are free). All ticket money is due November 6. Make checks payable to Raising the Standard Foundation.

### PROGRAM ATTIRE

Young ladies will need a pink dress selected by the committee with black pumps (no higher than 3"), flesh tone hosiery, pearl earrings and pearl necklace.

Young men will need a black suit with a designated tie selected by the committee and coordinated dress shoes and dress socks.



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