



DIVERSITY AWARD PROGRAM 2021-2022

In support of law school students navigating the challenges associated with a degree and to ease some of the financial burden, the Houston Young Lawyers Association is awarding three (3) \$1,000 awards to diverse law school students (**can even be a recent graduate, with a graduation date of May 2021 and December 2021**), each from Houston's law schools: University of Houston Law Center, Thurgood Marshall School of Law, and South Texas College of Law Houston.

THE HYLA Diversity and Inclusion Committee

The HYLA Diversity & Inclusion Committee was established in 2016. Its objectives are:

- to engage with lawyers of color, women lawyers, lawyers with disabilities and lawyers with non-traditional sexual orientations and gender identification;
- to promote increased participation by diverse lawyers in the activities, programs, and projects of the Houston Young Lawyers Association;
- to encourage all members of the Houston Young Lawyers Association and the greater Houston legal community to acknowledge the importance of diversity, to promote greater inclusion of diverse members of the profession, and to facilitate greater access to programs, services, and employment opportunities for diverse members of the profession.

The Diversity Award Program is one of the many Diversity & Inclusion Committee sponsored activities/programs designed to meet the objectives each year. The Diversity & Inclusion Committee members review all applications and select the award recipients based on the criteria described below.

HYLA recognizes diversity based upon gender, national origin, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, socio-economic status, and geography.

AWARD CRITERIA, ELIGIBILITY AND ANNOUNCEMENT

The Diversity & Inclusion Committee intends to award monies to one or more recent law school graduates/current law students at each of the ABA-accredited law schools in Houston. The recipient must attend or have graduated from one of the Houston-area law schools. In awarding these monies, the Diversity & Inclusion Committee will consider the applicant's resume, response to the essay questions, demonstrated commitment to diversity through HYLA, and other criteria such as academic performance, service to the community, and post-graduate activities, if applicable.

An application may be downloaded from the HYLA website (<https://www.hyla.org/scholarships>) or requested via email from lucy_cain@hyla.org.

Award winners will be announced, and recipients will be invited to attend the Houston Young Lawyers Foundation/HYLA Law Day Luncheon on Friday, May 6, 2022. More details to follow.

ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 5:00 PM, APRIL 22, 2022.
(HYLA will not accept any late applications.)



TO APPLY, e-mail a completed application to:
hyladiversityinclusion@gmail.com

DIVERSITY AWARD PROGRAM 2021-2022 (APPLICATION)

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. First & Last Name: _____

2. Permanent Mailing Address: _____

3. Cell Phone: _____ | Alternate Phone: _____

4. E-mail Address: _____

5. Gender Identity:

Choose All That Apply (Optional)

Agender Genderqueer or gender fluid Non-binary

Man Transgender Woman

Other: _____

Prefer not to disclose

6. Sexual Orientation:

We have expanded eligibility for this award to celebrate law students who identify as members of the LGBTQ+ community. Please choose all that apply (Optional)

Gay Lesbian Bisexual Pansexual Asexual Queer

Other: _____

Prefer not to disclose

7. Ethnic Background:

Choose All That Apply (Optional)

Black/African-American Asian-American Latino/a/x

White/Caucasian American Indian/Alaska Native Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander

Other

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II. LAW SCHOOL INFORMATION

8. Law School Name: _____

9. Graduation Date (If applicable): _____ GPA: _____

10. Anticipated Graduation Date (If applicable): _____

Applicants are welcome to attach a separate sheet of paper for Questions 10-12 if needed.

11. Law School Activities: _____

12. Community Activities: _____

13. Post-Graduate Activities: _____

III. RESUME AND ESSAY

Please submit the following materials along with this application:

- I. A copy of your current resume; and
- II. A type-written 500-word essay answering the following question:
 - In the past few years, we have seen a push to increase diversity not just in the legal educational system, but also in the legal market. How has your unique and diverse background shaped you and how will you contribute to this growing diverse market?

AFFIRMATION OF APPLICATION: I have reviewed the information listed in this application for omission and errors. To the best of my knowledge the information is complete and accurate as reported. I understand that HYLA and its Diversity & Inclusion Committee reserves the right to investigate all information stated in this application.

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____