

Alicia Robinson “Use Your Voice” Memorial Scholarship

Purpose

The Alicia Robinson “Use Your Voice” Scholarship aims to support a senior at New Albany High School by providing a scholarship for the college or university of his or her choice.

General Information about Alicia Robinson

Alicia Robinson was born on April 7, 1956, to Artree Lee and Nancy Lee McGaha in New Albany, MS. At age 14, she experienced the integration of Union County schools in 1970 under Superintendent J. Bryant Smith. Before attending the integrated schools, Alicia was a proud student of B.F. Ford School. With the completion of integration, she attended W.P. Daniel High School, where she excelled as an honor student, track athlete, and basketball player.

After high school, Alicia earned her Bachelor of Arts in 1979 and her Master of Education in 2012 from the University of Mississippi. She became a beloved educator, mentor, and motivator, known for her colorful and humorous personality. Alicia was deeply committed to her community, using her skills as a speech and debate teacher to inspire and shape future leaders. She encouraged her students to use their voices for good, empowering them to speak out for justice and positive change. Her influence helped many students find their confidence and purpose.

Alicia served as Parliamentarian for MHSAA state-wide speech and debate tournaments and was honored as Coach of the Year in 2008. She was also a talented speaker and writer, contributing to church programs, school functions, and community organizations. Her leadership extended to the NAACP, where she served on the Educational Committee and as Youth Director. Additionally, she was the secretary of the Pontotoc District Women’s Association.

Alicia Robinson’s deep faith and dedication to excellence left a lasting impact on everyone she encountered. Loved by family, students, church members, and colleagues, she embodied grace, love, and faithfulness. Alicia remains an inspiration to all who knew her—a truly phenomenal woman.

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Scholarship Criteria and Evaluation Procedures

Recipients of the scholarship are selected on the following criteria:

1. The applicant must be a 12th-grade student at New Albany High School who meets all graduation requirements.
2. The applicant must complete the entire application.
3. The applicant must have at least a cumulative 2.5 GPA at the end of the fall semester of their senior year in order to apply for the scholarship.
4. The applicant must submit a transcript from New Albany High School.
5. The applicant must submit one letter of recommendation from a high school teacher attesting to the applicant's character and work ethic.
6. Applications will be reviewed and ranked on the basis of:
 - a. Applicant's character as described in the recommendation letter.
 - b. GPA (overall GPA of 2.5 or higher)
 - c. Extracurricular involvement
 - d. Applicant's essay
7. The Alicia Robinson Scholarship Committee will select the scholarship recipient
8. The monetary portion of the award will be paid directly to the college or university of the recipient's choice before the beginning of his or her freshman year.
9. Completed application must be received by **no later than Friday, March 6, 2026.**
10. Return application packets to your high school counselor.

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****You may also attach your typed Academic Resume with this information.**

Name _____ Date _____

Mailing Address _____

Telephone: Home () _____ Cell () _____

Age _____ Date of Birth _____ Gender: _____ Male _____ Female

High School GPA _____ ACT Score _____

Legal Guardian _____ Relationship _____

Name of accredited institution you plan to attend _____

Briefly describe your education and/or career goals _____

List Clubs (including offices held) school, community, church, extracurricular activities, and honors and awards received (grades 9-12 only).

Applicant's Signature

Date

APPLICATIONS DUE TO YOUR COUNSELOR BY MARCH 6, 2026

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Please type your response and attach it, ensuring it is no more than one double-spaced page, or write directly on the lines provided. In 500 words or less, describe a personal experience that has significantly shaped or inspired you. Reflect on its impact and share a message or lesson that could guide or inspire others.

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