

Lift You Up

We're going to point you to the stars
We're going to lift you up so high
We're going to lift you
We're going to lift you up

Excerpt from "Gonna Lift You Up"
Composed by Ernesto Phillips and Kayode Adeyemo
Recorded 1980 by Starpoint

Background

Ernesto McKenzie Phillips, accomplished music producer, bandleader, songwriter and musician, lived an extraordinary life of realized ambition and talent. Most of his interests focused on music, as he both performed in and led gold album, award-winning, recording group, Starpoint and produced many performing artists, including renowned vocalist Toni Braxton. He also was an award-winning tennis and soccer player, and he served his community through his profession as a counselor for troubled teens at the Sheppard Pratt Hospital. Ernesto was a loyal and dedicated son, brother, and friend. He touched the lives of many by his exemplary living and by encouraging others, especially children, to pursue their own unique, God-given talents and interests. This \$500 scholarship is established by family and friends to continue Ernesto's legacy of "lifting up" aspiring youth to help them pursue their dreams.

Guidelines

Candidates for the *Ernesto Phillips Scholarship for Talented Youth* **must:**

1. Plan to attend a two- or four-year college/university or trade school.
2. Submit an essay of no more than 500 words that covers the following topics:
 - a. Educational Plans
 - b. Career Goals
 - c. Why this scholarship
 - d. Describe the financial impact this scholarship will have for you.
 - e. What aspect of Ernesto Phillips' life inspires you?
3. Provide one personal letter of recommendation.
4. Include the check list from one academic teacher.

5. Have a 3.0 cumulative average through Grade 11. In addition, a grade of 3.0 must be maintained through the first semester of Grade 12.
6. Be accepted at an accredited institution.
7. The guidance administration from each school should select **one** finalist in consideration for the Scholarship. Only **one** application will be accepted per school.

Evaluation Criteria

All applications will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. Student Essay.
2. Strength of student's transcript.
3. Teacher check-list / confidential teacher evaluation
4. Financial need
5. Interest in music will be used in case of tie.

DEADLINE: **Applications must be submitted to the school guidance counselor by _____.**