

**THE AKASH KURUVILLA
MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND, INC.
APPLICATION PACKET
2010**

ABOUT AKASH JACOB KURUVILLA



Having immigrated to the United States with his family at a young age, Akash Jacob Kuruvilla grew up aware of the unique opportunities that were available to him. As he matured into the man that he was destined to become, he continued to challenge himself in pursuit of becoming the best that he could be. Whether he was building an extensive network of leaders, taking action to make lasting changes in the community or simply lending encouragement, compassion or a caring shoulder to a friend in need, Akash always refused to settle for mediocrity. He was a man who set high expectations for himself and for others as he fearlessly and courageously broke down barriers that were mercilessly placed in front of him. Once he reached the top, he raised the bar, inspiring those who followed him down the trail that he so effortlessly and gracefully blazed. His dreams were boundless; his aspirations were limitless; and his influence is timeless.

Akash Kuruvilla appreciated his background and was proud of his Indian-American heritage. Always mindful of the importance of his own history, he learned from his past mistakes and utilized that knowledge to pave and illuminate the path that he successfully traveled upon. And while Akash was working hard to accomplish all of his own goals, he never hesitated to stop and give anyone the attention that they desired from him. Aware of his own fortune and blessings, he felt that it was important to give back to others that needed him most. Akash was blind to others' imperfections and accepted everyone as a friend, regardless of the color of their skin, their beliefs or their setbacks, seeing them simply as human beings who were equally entitled to the pursuit of their own happiness. And he didn't stop there. He extended a helping hand to anyone who asked for it, often sacrificing his own desires for the sake of empowering others. His selfless generosity and bright smile warmed everyone who came into contact with him, and he became a role model for so many who were in awe of his achievements. Akash never missed the opportunity to learn, and he molded that wisdom into his own philosophy that he would humbly pass on to others.

While Akash was exceptional at creating and leading organizations, he never allowed his leadership or the respect that he had earned from others to define the personal relationships that he fostered. He was a leader, an innovator, a trailblazer and a mentor, but more importantly, he was a son, a brother, and a friend. Through all of his accomplishments, he never neglected his personal relationships and constantly kept an eye on the people that mattered to him the most. He continues to live on through the people that he inspired, influenced and loved. Today he is honored as an ordinary human being who through hard work, perseverance, dedication and sacrifice became an extraordinary personal hero for so many people. He is remembered as someone who profoundly left his mark on history and lived his own life as the American Dream.

ABOUT THE AKASH KURUVILLA MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND, INC.

The Akash Kuruvilla Memorial Scholarship Fund, Inc. was formed in the Fall of 2007 to remember the life of Akash Jacob Kuruvilla and to continue his legacy of excellence and generosity posthumously. Having committed to honor, leadership, diversity, integrity, loyalty and wisdom, Akash Kuruvilla influenced a multitude that had the pleasure of being in his presence. The ideal scholarship recipients will embody those same principles and shall be committed to positively affecting the community throughout their collegiate years and beyond.

The Akash Kuruvilla Memorial Scholarship is awarded annually to one male and one female in the amount of \$1000 for each recipient with \$500 given at the beginning of the academic year and \$500 given at the midpoint of the academic year upon maintaining GPA requirements and enrollment as a full time student. Eligible applicants must be enrolled full-time in an accredited university in the United States in the Fall of 2010. This scholarship is open to any field of study. Candidates for this scholarship must meet all of the requirements listed below and submit all requested materials to the AKMSF Selection Committee by the appointed deadline. Late applicants will not be considered.

The ideal candidate must demonstrate excellence in leadership, diversity, integrity and academia. The selection committee will also base its decisions on financial need, content of character and the candidates' potential to make an impact on his/her peers and community.

Completing the Scholarship Process Checklist

- Complete all items on the application form. If a question does not apply to you, please insert N/A in the blank.
- Submit a 750 word essay answering the question "What does the phrase "The American Dream" mean to you and how do you embody the American Dream?"
- Submit a 500-word personal statement. Include any information about yourself, your academic/professional goals, financial need, or any other information that will assist the selection committee in its decision.
- Submit exactly two letters of recommendation; one from an adult who knows you in an academic or professional capacity (ex: educator, coach, employer, supervisor, etc) and one from a friend describing how you have impacted his/her life. Please give the recommender form included in this packet to individuals writing your recommendation letters.
- Submit an official copy of your academic transcript. Transcripts must be enclosed in a sealed envelope from your school's guidance counselor or registrar office with your application materials.
- Submit a copy of your FAFSA Student Aid Report. This document will assist the selection committee in assessing your financial need. You may black out any personal information such as social security numbers.
- Submit your resume. Your resume should include your work experience, extracurricular activities and other accomplishments that you deem relevant to your consideration for this scholarship.
- All applications and supporting materials submitted to the AKMSF Committee must be postmarked by June 1, 2010. Late applications will not be considered.

If you have been selected as a recipient of our scholarship you will be notified via phone. **Only applicants who have been selected as winners will be contacted. Scholarship winners and their winning application essays will also be announced on our website, www.akmsf.com**

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- 1. If I am selected as a winner of the Akash Kuruvilla Memorial Scholarship, when will I receive my award?**
Winners of the Akash Kuruvilla Memorial Scholarship will be notified by phone about 8-10 weeks after the scholarship deadline. Winners' names and application essays will also be posted on the website, www.akmsf.com. The first half of the scholarship award will be applied to your tuition directly through your school's financial aid office at the beginning of the academic year. If you maintain full-time student status and at least a 3.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale, the second half will be applied to your tuition through your school's financial aid office at the midpoint of the academic year.
- 2. Is there a minimum GPA requirement to be eligible for this scholarship?**
In order to be eligible for this scholarship, you must have at least a 3.5 GPA on a 4.0 scale if you are currently a senior in high school and will be entering a college or university for the first time in Fall 2010. If you are already enrolled at a college or university and will be returning as an undergraduate in Fall 2010, you must have at least a 3.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale.
- 3. Is U.S. citizenship a requirement for the Akash Kuruvilla Memorial Scholarship?**
No. You are not required to be a U.S. citizen to apply for or receive this scholarship.
- 4. Are students in study abroad programs allowed to apply for this scholarship?**
Students who are studying abroad may apply for and receive this scholarship as long as the study abroad program they are participating in is sponsored by an accredited 4-year college or university in the United States.
- 5. Why do you request my FAFSA Student Aid Report?**
The Akash Kuruvilla Memorial Scholarship is a need-based scholarship. We will utilize the information in your FAFSA Student Aid Report only to assess your financial need. You are welcome to black out any personal information such as social security numbers. If you are chosen as a finalist of the Akash Kuruvilla Memorial Scholarship, we may contact you and ask that you disclose any other scholarships that you have secured for the Fall 2010 academic year.
- 6. May I submit application materials separately?**
Your application and all supporting materials as outlined in this scholarship packet should be sent together in one packet. Individuals writing your recommendation letters may protect the confidentiality of their recommendation letters by giving them to you in sealed envelopes to be included in your application packet. The only exception to this guideline is the academic transcript since some schools do not allow students to handle these documents.
- 7. Can my personal statement and/or American Dream essay exceed the word limit?**
You will not be penalized for personal statements and/or American Dream essays that are shorter or slightly longer than the suggested word limits. However, please keep in mind that the selection committee receives many applications and will need to budget their time in reviewing applications accordingly.
- 8. May I submit documents outside of the requested materials to support my application?**
Any additional materials (copies of certificates, extra recommendation letters, videos, DVD's, and other promotional material etc) outside of the requested documentation SHOULD NOT be included in your application and will be discarded.

APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY June 1, 2010. LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.

Please send applications to:

Akash Kuruvilla Memorial Scholarship Fund, Inc.
PO Box 140900
Gainesville, FL 32614-0900

Important Contacts

AKMSF Selection Committee	info@akmsf.com
Melissa Montenegro	melissa@akmsf.com
Manuj Agarwal	manuj@akmsf.com
Monica Raya	monica@akmsf.com
John Palmerson	john@akmsf.com
Ahmad Kasem	ahmad@akmsf.com
Scholarship Website	www.akmsf.com

Akash Kuruvilla Memorial Scholarship
Application Form (Page 1)

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT LEGIBLY IN BLACK OR BLUE INK:

PERSONAL INFORMATION:

Full Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Gender: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

CURRENT EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION:

High School/University: _____

School Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Expected Date of Graduation: _____ GPA: _____

Name of Guidance Counselor/Advisor: _____

Guidance Counselor/Advisor Telephone Number: _____

COLLEGIATE EDUCATION:

Recipients of the Akash Kuruvilla Memorial Scholarship must be either enrolled in a four-year accredited college or university in pursuit of a Bachelors Degree or be accepted into a four-year accredited college or university with the intent to pursue a Bachelors Degree.*

List all colleges or universities you are attending, have attended or plan to attend in Fall 2010. Include dates of attendance. Attach a separate sheet if necessary:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

*Applicants pursuing a dual degree will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and may also apply.

AFFILIATIONS:

In order to ensure a fair and unbiased selection process, the AKMSF Committee would like to identify any affiliations that may affect the selection process. Please indicate whether or not you have affiliations with the following organizations or if you have any affiliation (academic, professional, personal, etc) with any individuals listed on the "important contacts" section of this application packet.

Sigma Beta Rho Fraternity, Inc. Lambda Theta Alpha Sorority, Inc.

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. Delta Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc.

I am affiliated with a member of the AKMSF Selection Committee. (On a separate sheet of paper, please identify the member that you are affiliated with and briefly describe the affiliation.)

I am not affiliated with any of the organizations mentioned above or any members of the AKMSF Committee.

AKASH KURUVILLA MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
APPLICATION FORM (PAGE 2)

Full Name: _____

DISCLAIMER AND SIGNATURE

I hereby certify that all the information contained in this application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I hereby authorize the Akash Kuruvilla Memorial Scholarship Fund, Inc. to utilize any information that I have submitted. I further agree to permit the Akash Kuruvilla Memorial Scholarship Fund, Inc. to utilize any information (including photo) that I have submitted herein for the purpose of marketing and promoting the Akash Kuruvilla Memorial Scholarship Fund, Inc. Scholarship program. I further agree that any information (including photo) that I have submitted herein is considered the property of the Akash Kuruvilla Memorial Scholarship Fund, Inc. and shall not be returned.

I further agree that if I am selected to receive a Akash Kuruvilla Memorial Scholarship Fund, Inc. Scholarship, that the proceeds will be solely used for the payment of tuition and other related university expenses at which I am currently enrolled or will be enrolled as a fulltime student as delineated in the eligibility requirements. I understand that if I utilize the proceeds for purposes other than the purpose stated herein, fail to maintain undergraduate status or GPA requirements for this scholarship, or if information I have submitted on this application is found to be untrue or inaccurate, I will be subject to forfeiture of the proceeds awarded to date and agree to return the full amount of the proceeds received to the Akash Kuruvilla Memorial Scholarship Fund, Inc..

In the selection of scholarship recipients, the Akash Kuruvilla Memorial Scholarship Fund, Inc. does not discriminate on any basis other than gender, and expressly will not discriminate on the basis of ethnic heritage, national origin, personal appearance, personal beliefs, race, religion, or sexual orientation. This policy will be consistent with the non-discrimination policy of the Akash Kuruvilla Memorial Scholarship Fund, Inc. as a whole.

Applicant's Signature

Date

Parent's or Guardian's Signature (if under 18)

Date

AKASH KURUVILLA MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
PROFESSIONAL RECOMMENDER FORM

Thank you for agreeing to recommend an applicant for the Akash Kuruvilla Memorial Scholarship. Your honest and complete evaluation of the applicant will assist the selection committee in the selection process. Please complete the following recommender form and attach it to your recommendation letter. Return your recommendation to the student in a sealed envelope for submission with his/her other scholarship application materials.

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT LEGIBLY IN BLACK OR BLUE INK:

APPLICANT BEING RECOMMENDED:

Applicant's Full Name: _____

RECOMMENDER'S CONTACT INFORMATION:

Full Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

RECOMMENDATION:

How long have you known the applicant and in what capacity?

Please attach your recommendation letter to this form. Consider the following as you write your recommendation.

Compared to others in a similar capacity, how would you assess the applicant's talents and strengths? How would you assess his or her weaknesses, and in what ways can he or she improve? Please include specific examples.

Please comment on the applicant's achievements, motivation, and potential for achievement in the collegiate setting.

Describe a specific project that the applicant led or in which the applicant played an important role. What were his or her contributions? Was the project successful? Please comment on the applicant's ability to work as part of a project team.

What do you consider the applicant's strengths? In which areas could the applicant exhibit growth or improvement?

How would you describe the applicant's interpersonal skills?

Feel free to include any other information that you feel may assist the selection committee in assessing the applicant.

AKASH KURUVILLA MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
FRIEND RECOMMENDER FORM

Thank you for agreeing to recommend an applicant for the Akash Kuruvilla Memorial Scholarship. Your honest and complete evaluation of the applicant will assist the selection committee in the selection process. Please complete the following recommender form and attach it to your recommendation letter. Return your recommendation to the student in a sealed envelope for submission with his/her other scholarship application materials.

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT LEGIBLY IN BLACK OR BLUE INK:

APPLICANT BEING RECOMMENDED:

Applicant's Full Name: _____

RECOMMENDER'S CONTACT INFORMATION:

Full Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

RECOMMENDATION:

How long have you known the applicant and in what capacity?

Please attach your recommendation letter to this form. Consider the following as you write your recommendation.

How did you meet the applicant?

How has the applicant impacted your life?

Describe a time when the applicant has helped you to challenge yourself or overcome an obstacle.

What is one of your favorite memories of the applicant?

How does the applicant embody the Akash Kuruvilla Memorial Scholarship Fund virtues of honor, loyalty, integrity, diversity, leadership and wisdom?

Feel free to include any other information that you feel may assist the selection committee in assessing the applicant.