

Ava Rose Strickland Lightsey Scholarship Packet

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Announcement of the Ava Rose Strickland Lightsey Scholarship Fund

Each year the Brantley County School System will award the Ava Rose Strickland Lightsey Scholarship to at least one eligible graduate of Brantley County High School who is enrolled in and will attend an accredited college, university, or vocational school.

At least one scholarship will be awarded to a Brantley County graduate who meets eligibility and agrees to the terms of the scholarship.

The recipient will receive \$1,000 per semester, for two semesters per year, for a maximum of 4 years or 8 semesters.

The scholarship is to be renewed each semester upon application and agreement to the terms of endowment.

Scholarship funds may be used for tuition, books, supplies, fees, room and board, and/or other college related expenses as determined by the recipient. Funds are payable to the college, university, or technical school.

The decisions of the Scholarship Interview Committee are final.

Applications are due: April 1 of the current year

Ava Rose Strickland Lightsey
January 6, 1965 - February 26, 2011

Ava Rose was the second of four children and the oldest daughter of Dr. Wade and Rosemary (Smith) Strickland and the granddaughter of the late Avery and Lena Strickland and Charlie and Myrtis Smith. She was the loving wife of Joseph Edmund Lightsey for 23 years having married on June 4, 1988. Ava was a 1983 graduate from Glynn Academy High School and continued her education by attending Brunswick Junior College where she obtained a degree in Nursing.

Helping others was part of daily life for Ava. She loved being Santa for many underprivileged, yet deserving children. She began by purchasing necessities such as coats and shoes which soon led to her purchasing and giving away 28 bicycles one Christmas. For high school students, she provided the funding for them to seek tutoring to help improve SAT scores. When Ava heard of a student struggling to get through college to earn a Nursing Degree, she provided the funding. Ava's desire to help others continued beyond the norm. Neighbors Helping Neighbors became her favorite organization to support. If she was made aware of a need, she did her best to fulfill it, whether it was for an organization such as church or choir, a family, or an individual child.

Although Ava didn't struggle financially, she had much in common with those she chose to help. Coming from an underprivileged family brings obstacles to overcome. For 46 years, Ava conquered obstacles every day with health issues. She was born with hydrocephalus and at the age of 6 weeks had her first of many brain surgeries. She then began having seizures and was diagnosed with epilepsy. She overcame these obstacles to achieve goals doctors predicted would never be possible. She continued proving to be a fighter when diagnosed with Stage 4 Pancreatic Cancer and beat all odds by living for over a year after a diagnosis that generally allows you 6-9 months.

Ava was a loving soul that believed everyone deserved a chance at a normal and successful life. Education was always important to her on the road she felt led to success. Ava is no longer with us, but her dream for helping others help themselves lives on through this scholarship established in her memory.

**Ava Rose Strickland Lightsey Scholarship
Application Form (PAGE 1)**

Date_____

Student Last Name_____ First_____

Social Security Number_____ Birth Date_____

Address_____

City_____ State_____ Zip_____

Home Phone (____) _____ Cell Phone (____) _____

List all schools attended. Include Elementary, Middle, and High School. Attach a copy of the Brantley County High School Academic transcript to this form.

School(s)	City/State	Dates Attended

Do you have a high school diploma? Yes___ No___ Date_____

Are you currently in high school? Yes___ No___

If so, when will you graduate? Date_____

Do you live with your parent(s)/guardian(s)? Yes___ No___

Have you enrolled in an institution of higher learning? Yes___ No___

If so, where? Name of Institution_____

Do you have evidence of acceptance? Yes___ No___

Are you receiving financial aid from other sources? Yes___ No___

What other benefits are you receiving? List: _____

When will your studies begin? Date_____

**Ava Rose Strickland Lightsey Scholarship
Application Form (PAGE 2)**

ESSAY: Write a one page essay explaining why you need and desire the Ava Rose Strickland Lightsey Scholarship. Also include information about yourself that will help the interview committee to know you better (for example: hobbies/interests, people who have influenced your life, travels, school activities, and events in which you have participated). Type the paper, single spaced, and include it with this application.

I certify that to the best of my knowledge the information provided on this form is true and correct.

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Attestation of GPA and Financial Need by School Counselor

_____ I attest that the scholarship candidate exhibits financial need. (If the counselor does not attest the student must submit 1-2 letters from Brantley County High School faculty attesting financial need.)

_____ I attest that the scholarship candidate has at least a 3.0 high school GPA.

School Counselor Signature _____ Date _____

Comments (Not required):

Ava Rose Strickland Lightsey Scholarship Fund Eligibility and Terms

Each year the Brantley County School System will award the Ava Rose Strickland Lightsey Scholarship to at least one graduate of Brantley County High School who meets the requirements as listed and agrees to the following terms of the scholarship.

Eligibility:

1. The candidate is a current graduate of Brantley County High School.
2. The student is a resident of Brantley County and exhibits positive character traits, participates in civic affairs, **(3 recommendations from Brantley County High School personnel and/or community organizations attesting to these attributes)** and graduates with a 3.0 or higher grade point average.
3. The student demonstrates a financial need based on recommendations from school personnel **(1-2 letters from Brantley County High School faculty attesting that the student has financial need and/or attestation of financial need by school counselor)** and from personal interview.
4. The student is interviewed by the Scholarship committee.

Terms of the Scholarship:

1. The scholarship will be rewarded to at least one new recipient per year.
2. \$2,000 per year, issued \$1,000 per semester for 2 semesters per year for a maximum of 8 semesters for each recipient.
3. The scholarship can not be used for graduate coursework.
4. Each recipient must enroll as a regular student, attend, and pursue a full academic course load of (12+ credit hours) per semester from an accredited, in-state college, university, or technical school. Documentation of class schedule will be required prior to each semester.
5. Scholarship funds may be used for tuition, books, supplies, fees, room and board and/or other college related expenses as determined by the recipient. A check will be sent directly to the Financial Aid Office at your chosen college, university, or technical school.
6. Transcripts will be submitted at the end of each semester.
7. The scholarship will be renewed each semester upon application for a maximum of two semesters per year (8 semesters in a 4-year period).
8. The student must maintain a GPA of 2.0 or remain in good standing as determined by the institution to be eligible for the scholarship.
9. The scholarship is non-repayable.
10. To apply for the scholarship, contact the guidance office at Brantley County High School.
11. All decisions made by the interview committee are final.
12. The scholarship will be awarded as long as funds are available. Donations may be received at the Brantley County Board of Education.

Ava Rose Strickland Lightsey Scholarship Recipient Agreement

As a recipient of the _____ (year) Ava Rose Strickland Lightsey Scholarship, I,
_____, agree to the following terms of the scholarship.

1. For each of the two semesters in the coming academic year for which I receive the scholarship, I will enroll as a regular student, attending and pursuing a full academic course load (12+ credit hours) per semester from an accredited college, university, or technical school in the State of Georgia.
2. I will maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.0, as assessed at the end of the second semester in the coming academic year for which I receive this scholarship (or remain in good academic standing as assessed by the institution).
3. I understand that the scholarship is an award of \$2,000 per year, issued in sums of \$1,000 per semester for 2 semesters per year for a maximum of 8 semesters in a 4-year period.
4. I understand that this scholarship can not be used for graduate coursework.
5. I will use scholarship funds for college related expenses.
6. I will provide required information via Google form upon notification that I am a recipient of the scholarship and at the culmination/start of each semester to include transcript documentation, renewal request, changes to academic program, current institution, student number, upcoming schedule, tuition due date, and address of the Financial Aid Office/Bursar to which payments should be sent. **Funds will not be distributed without this completed Google form prior to each semester.**
7. I understand that failure to abide by all of the terms of this agreement will result in termination of the scholarship.

Signature of Recipient _____

Date _____

Rubric for Rating Applications and Interviews for the Ava Rose Strickland Lightsey Scholarship

Criteria	1	2	3	4
Enrollment at BCHS	Enrolled 1 year and graduates	Enrolled 2 years and graduates	Enrolled 3 years and graduates	Enrolled 4 years and graduates
GPA & Documentation	GPA below 3.0; transcript (and SAT/ACT if applicable) included	GPA 3.0–3.4; required documents included	GPA 3.5–3.9; required documents included	GPA 4.0; required documents included
School & Community Involvement	Limited participation in school or community activities; little evidence of positive character traits or civic involvement	Participates in school or community activities; some evidence of positive character traits and civic involvement	Consistent participation in school or community activities; clear evidence of positive character traits and civic involvement	Strong, sustained participation in school and community activities; strong evidence of positive character traits, civic involvement, and positive contributions
Application Packet Completeness	Application form only	Application + 1 recommendation	Application + 2 recommendations	Application + 3 recommendations
Submission Timeline	Submitted late without explanation	Submitted up to 2 days late with valid explanation	Submitted 1 day late with valid explanation	Submitted on or before April 1
Written Essay Quality	Frequent grammatical errors; no clear statement of need or purpose	Some grammatical errors; limited or unclear need/purpose	Minimal grammatical errors; clear need and purpose stated	No grammatical errors; specific, well-developed need and purpose
Interview Performance	Completed interview; responses unclear or incomplete	Completed interview; responds adequately to some questions	Completed interview; responds clearly to most questions	Completed interview; responds clearly and thoroughly to all questions
Financial Need	No evidence or attestation of financial need	Limited or unclear indication of financial need	Documented financial need (either counselor or faculty attestation)	Strong, clearly documented financial need (counselor and/or faculty attestation with supporting context)

Total: _____

Application Packet Checklist:

- Completed Application Form (2 Pages)
- Essay (1 Page; Single spaced)
- 3 letters of recommendation from BCHS personnel and/or community organizations attesting to attributes of positive character and participation in civic affairs
- 1-2 letters from BCHS personnel attesting to the student's financial need **and/or** attestation of financial need by school counselor (Found on Application Form PAGE 2)
- High School Transcript

*Application packet to be submitted to BCHS school counselor/guidance office.

Transition of the Ava Rose Strickland Lightsey Scholarship to BC School System

Scholarship Board Members:

Lori McNease - BCHS Head Counselor

Lori Anne Lee - Community Member

Other Community members Approved

Assistant Principal at the High School

Blake Johns - Finance Director of BC Schools

Claudia Waldron - High School CTAE Teacher

Scholarship Procedures:

- BC School System will make applications available through the guidance office at BCHS and on the BCHS Guidance Scholarship Website no later than January and receive applications through April 1 of the current application year.
- When the deadline is reached, the scholarship board will schedule/coordinate interviews. The interview committee will be composed of one member of the BCHS faculty, two community members, and one member of the scholarship board.
- The interview committee will present at least one recipient to the scholarship board by May 1 of the current application year.
- The recipient(s) will be notified of the decision and procedural requirements from the BCHS guidance department.
- Procedural requirements include the student completing the ARSL Scholarship Information Form (Google form) upon receiving the scholarship and completing a similar Application/Update Form at the culmination of each semester. This will be the primary means of communication.

Google Form - "Biannual Application/Update" Field Items

- Name
- Renewal Request/College Attending
- Student ID#
- Intended Major/Degree (Any changes?)
- Tuition Due Date
- College Financial Aid/Bursar Office Address (Where check will be mailed)
- Attach Transcript Documentation
- Attach Upcoming Semester Schedule