

**Handy Simmons Scholarship  
Essay Theme and Evaluation Criteria**

**2013-14 Theme for Handy Simmons Scholarship Essay**

One of the most serious issues facing our country is the issue of gun control laws. There were reported 16 deadly mass shootings in 2012. In addition to that many young African American youth have lost their lives to gun violence. As a young Christian today you have an opportunity to speak your voice on this issue that is dividing our country. What is your position on gun control laws and as a future leader? How can you convince others to share your view on this issue?

.

Essays will be evaluated on the following criteria:

**Content:**

1. The typed essay is to be a minimum of 500 words but not to exceed 1000 words.
2. The topic is clearly addressed.
3. Ideas are developed and support the topic.
4. The writing demonstrates a sense of completeness.

**Grammatical Structure:**

1. Free of run-on sentences and sentence fragments.
2. Correct subject/verb agreement and verb tense.
3. Correct use of singular and plural noun forms.
4. Correct/appropriate use of punctuation
5. Appropriate/ correct word choice.
6. Free of spelling errors.

**Organization:**

1. The ideas flow and fit together.

2. The details are sequential in logical order
3. The writing has a clear beginning, middle, and end.
4. The ideas are presented in varied and innovative use of words, phrases, and sentences.

**The Women's Missionary Society  
Of The African Methodist Episcopal Church**

Official 2013-14 Connectional *Handy-Simmons Scholarship Application*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ M \_\_\_ F \_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home telephone number ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_\_ Martial Status \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Dependents \_\_\_\_\_

-

**Parent's Name and Occupation:**

Mother \_\_\_\_\_

Father or Other Guardian \_\_\_\_\_

**Church Membership:** \_\_\_\_\_

Name and Address of Church:

\_\_\_\_\_

Pastor: \_\_\_\_\_

Conference: \_\_\_\_\_ Episcopal District: \_\_\_\_\_

Please list church activities you are involved in on the local, conference, district or connectional level. Please provide a brief description of each including the length of your involvement.

**Academic Background:**

Please provide the name and address of the College or University in which you are currently enrolled or the one to which you have been accepted. \_\_\_\_\_ Full Time \_\_\_\_\_ Part Time

Major \_\_\_\_\_ Minor \_\_\_\_\_ Undeclared \_\_\_\_\_

Current Year in Studies: \_\_\_\_\_ Projected Graduation Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Academic Honors:** \_\_\_\_\_ -  
\_\_\_\_\_

Dean's List: \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ Year

Statement of Financial Need:

Please describe any financial hardships experienced by you or your family that would support your application based financial need:

What other sources of financial aid (loans, scholarships, and grants) are you currently receiving or have applied for?

Please be certain that you have completed the entire application, attached all requested materials. Submit materials to your Conference Branch Handy Simmons Commissioner.

**Required Signatures:**

Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Conference Handy-Simmons Scholarship Commissioner or Conference WMS President

---

Episcopal District Handy-Simmons Commissioner:

---

Episcopal Supervisor:

---

Check with your Episcopal District to ensure that you have current and updated information. If you do not know what district you are in or you Episcopal Leaders, please use the form to contact us for the current