

About The Ryan R.J. Presley Exemplary Leadership Scholarship

The Ryan “R.J.” Presley Exemplary Leadership Scholarship is in memory of twin Ryan Javon Presley, born November 5, 2013 and who died December 18, 2013. Ryan was the son of the late Rodney M. Presley. Ryan was the product of long line of family educators who believed in the power of knowledge. *Ryan will not have an opportunity to graduate from high school or even attend college. However, if he could, he would use every opportunity to learn and develop so that he could impact the world.*

The \$500 book scholarship was created by Dr. Presley in honor of her late son, Rodney and grandson, Ryan, while working at MCHS and is **presented yearly to a graduating male senior, who has been accepted to a historically black college or university (HBCU)**, so that they in the spirit of Ryan can impact the world. *The scholarship was developed and is funded by Dr. Presley and family and not by Madison County High School, Madison County Schools district, or Reaching Beyond Incorporated.*

The first recipient was Coddrick D. Griffin, who attended Florida A&M University. The second recipient was alumnus Dwayne L. Carter, who was accepted to the College of Pharmacy at FAMU. Terray Jones, was the third recipient who was accepted at Tennessee State University in 2019. In 2024, Varian Terry, accepted to Lane College in Jackson, Mississippi, was awarded the scholarship. ***Note: *The first half of the \$500 book scholarship (\$250) will be sent after receipt of proof of enrollment and a copy of class schedule is sent.***

The Ryan “R.J.” Presley Exemplary Leadership Scholarship

Application Form

Due: May 3

General Instructions

1. Please type
2. Answer every question
3. If space is not sufficient, please use an extra sheet of paper.
4. Write a cover letter not to exceed two pages, explaining what the award or scholarship would mean to you.
5. Applicants are required to submit a 250 word minimum, double-spaced typed essay using one of the following topics:
 - A. Explain why you want to obtain a college education. How will you use that education to impact Madison County and the world?
 - B. Why are Historically Black Colleges and Universities still significant today?
6. Provide two letters of recommendation (Counselor, teacher or community organization).
7. You must provide official acceptance letter to a Historically Black College or University
8. Male Applicants must have a minimum grade point average of 3.0 to be eligible for the scholarship.
9. Email your application to presleyg@reachingbeyondinc.org

Ryan “R.J” Presley Ememplary Leadership Award Application

Last Name: _____ **First Name:** _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip Code:** _____

Phone Number: _____ **Email:** _____

Cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) _____ **(On a 4.0 scale)**

****Attach proof of GPA. An official school record or transcript is required***

Are you the first person in your family to got to college? ____ Yes ____ No

A. List any academic honors, awards, or membership activities while in high school

B. List your hobbies, outside interests and extracurricular activities

C. If you have been accepted to an HBCU, please list the school name

D. What do you plan on studying in college?

Name and address of parent(s) or legal guardian(s):

Include address if different than yours

Home phone of parents or legal guardians _____