**University of Southern California**

**Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences**

**Community Service Awards Application**

**Please check which of the following Awards you are applying for:**

**• Community Service Scholarships (up to four)** sponsored by the generosity of Henry Salvatori and the Faith in Him Foundation – open only to current sophomores and juniors with Dornsife majors or minors. These $10,000 tuition scholarships are given based upon a proven record of community service (which must include unpaid positions), civic leadership, high academic performance (minimum GPA of 3.2), and demonstrated financial need. Please note, this scholarship can only be used to pay for your tuition, and cannot go towards other school-related fees.

**• Desiree Benson Work-Study Grant** – This $2,000 grant is open tosophomores and juniors who have been awarded federal work-study within their financial aid package and have demonstrated service to the community with emphasis on the neighborhoods surrounding our USC campuses.

**• Barbara Seaver Gardner Award** - This $1,000 award is open to a graduating senior was established in 2008 by then Vice President of Civic and Community Relations, Samuel Mark, who wanted to honor JEP’s founder and first director, Barbara Seaver Gardner, who retired in 1990. This award recognizes one graduating senior, who through successful participation in JEP (over several semesters) has demonstrated steadfast commitment to community service, with an emphasis on the community surrounding the University Park Campus.

**• Extraordinary Community Service Award** – This $1,500 award given to a graduating senior or progressive Master student for their service to the community with emphasis on the neighborhoods surrounding both USC campuses.

**NOTE:** Students with Full-Scholarships or students participating in USC’s Tuition Assistance program for USC employees and families are not eligible to apply to the Community Service Scholarships or Desiree Benson Work-Study Grant. Awards cannot be applied to books, school fees, or other educational expenses.

**APPLICATION DEADLINE IS FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28th, 2025 AT 11:59 P.M.**

Applicant’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

USC ID#: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Local Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Local Phone #: (\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Permanent Phone #: (\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Major: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Minor: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Graduation Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**WHEN SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION PLEASE INCLUDE:**

1.APPLICATION COVER SHEET (the first sheet in this document)

2. RESPONSES TO ‘APPLICATION PROMPTS’ (See below)

3. LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Please submit 2 letters of recommendation from people who are familiar with your community work. Make sure to include contact information for each person.

*If possible, please include a photograph that reflects your community service efforts that we could include in an awards ceremony if you are chosen to receive an award.  Be creative!  If you do not have any pictures of yourself engaging in service, you could take a picture of yourself holding an inspiration quote or book or some other token that reflects your approach to service.  (Note that any pictures of children require parental consent prior to distribution.)*

4. OTHER SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

See below for list of additional documentation required for the individual awards.

COMMUNITY SERVICE SCHOLARSHIPS APPLICANTS also include:

Your unofficial transcript (STARS report). Highlight your GPA, class standing, and major/minor.

A paragraph describing your financial need and a copy of your financial aid report. If you receive only merit-based scholarships (no need-based grants, loans, or work-study funds), you will not be able to download a USC Financial Aid Summary from OASIS. If this is the case, please type a list of the scholarships (both USC & outside scholarships) you received for this academic year (including scholarship names and amounts received).

DESIREE BENSON AWARD APPLICANTS please also include:

A copy of your unofficial transcript (STARS report). Highlight your class standing

A copy of your most recent financial aid package, demonstrating the inclusion of federal work-study.

**APPLICATION PROMPTS**

For **ALL** Awards

*Each response should be answered on its own separate page*

**1. Please describe your community service in the past four years, with particular emphasis on the neighborhoods surrounding the USC campuses. Include the following information for each instance listed:**

a) What did you do with the community? Describe the service activities.

b) Who did you assist in the community? Describe the people assisted (agency or community organization) and provide the approximate number of people served.

c) Give the dates when the service activity started and ended.

d) Approximately how many total hours did you devote to these activities?

**2. How has your community service benefited the community?**

**3. What have you personally gained from your community service?**

**4. Describe how community service has affected your studies and leadership abilities.**

**Please note in particular ways in which you have grown as a leader through your service.**

**5. Please provide a brief bio (not more than 200 words) and a picture of yourself that we can use to showcase you, should you be chosen for the award.**

**SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS**

Combine all of the required information listed above into one document (Word Doc or PDF) and email to jephouse@usc.edu with the subject line “ATTN: Community Service Awards Application”

**REMEMBER:**

**COMPLETED APPLICATIONS ARE DUE Friday, February 28th, 2025 AT 11:59 PM**

**If you are one of the selected recipients, you will be invited to attend the award ceremony on Wednesday, April 9th, 2025 at 5:30pm**

If you have any questions, email the jephouse@usc.edu