



DELTA PHI UPSILON FRATERNITY, INCORPORATED®

BAYARD RUSTIN SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

GENERAL INFORMATION

Established in 1985 on the campus of Florida State University in Tallahassee, Florida, Delta Phi Upsilon Fraternity holds the distinction of being America's first Greek-letter organization for gay men of color.

Through the years its many chapters have become the channel through which selected college-minded gay men work to advance the mission of the fraternity.

Since its inception, Delta Phi Upsilon and its chapters has been dedicated to the encouragement of young Black gay men to return to, or enroll in a degree-seeking program at a college, university, or school.

Born out of the service efforts of the Delta Chapter in Boston, Massachusetts, the Bayard Rustin Scholarship has grown into a national award presented to deserving college-bound students across the regions of the Fraternity.

Available on both the chapter and national level, the monetary amount of the Bayard Rustin Scholarship Award varies. Awards are not renewable.

ABOUT THE BAYARD RUSTIN SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Eligibility

An applicant for the Delta Phi Upsilon Fraternity Incorporated Bayard Rustin Scholarship Award must be either:

- A college-bound male who is enrolled as a graduating high school senior at the time of application. The applicant's **unweighted cumulative** grade point average must not be lower than 2.5 on a 4.0 scale for the most recent grading period/semester.
- A male who is enrolled as a full-time student at an accredited two or four year college/university. The applicant's **unweighted cumulative** grade point average must not be lower than 2.75 on a 4.0 scale for the most recent grading period/semester.

Deadline

If you are applying to the **NATIONAL FRATERNITY**, all application materials **must be received by May 31**. You will be notified of a decision by June 30.

Applicants may e-mail their completed application form to foundation@dphiu.org or mail their form along with all supporting credentials to:

Delta Phi Upsilon Fraternity, Inc.
PO Box 573013
Houston, TX 77257
ATTN: NHMAC

If you are applying **TO A CHAPTER**, all application materials must be received by the deadline date set forth by the chapter. Please see the chapter's website or contact the chapter for the deadline date and submission instructions. You will be notified of a decision by the published date set by the chapter.

Please note that although you may email the application, some supporting documents must be received by mail. See next section for information.

REQUIRED SUPPORTING CREDENTIALS

- **Transcript** - All applicants must submit official sealed copies of their school transcripts. **The transcript must be received by mail from the institution. No transcripts sent by the applicant will be accepted.**
- **Letters of Recommendation** - All applicants must submit one academic OR professional AND one personal letter of recommendation. **The letters of recommendation may be submitted by email.**
- **Photograph** - One professional headshot should be submitted **by email** for use in official press releases and other fraternal publications. By submitting your photograph you agree to allow it to be used. All photographs submitted become the property of Delta Phi Upsilon Fraternity, Inc.
- **College Acceptance Letter** - High school applicants **ONLY** must submit a copy of their college acceptance letter from a four-year college or university.
- Award checks will be forwarded directly to the school upon written verification from the institution that the individual has enrolled. Actual enrollment (not just acceptance) is required.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- **Essay** - On the Bayard Rustin Scholarship Application Form, all applicants are required to submit a 300-500 word essay on the following topic:

In describing himself, Bayard Rustin once wrote: *"The principal factors which influenced my life are 1) nonviolent tactics; 2) constitutional means; 3) democratic procedures; 4) respect for human personality; and, 5) a belief that all people are one."* **Which of these qualities do you think that you share with Bayard Rustin, and how have you put it into action to positively influence others?**

- **Interview** - All final eligible applicants will be interviewed by the Honorary Members & Awards Committee. A representative of the Honorary Members & Awards Committee will contact finalists to schedule the interview.

NOTE: Applications with incomplete or missing documentation not received by the deadline date **WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED**.

BAYARD RUSTIN: *The Life, The Legacy*

The Life

Bayard Rustin was an American leader in social movements for civil rights, socialism, pacifism and non-violence, and gay rights.

Born in West Chester, Pennsylvania on March 17, 1912 and raised by his maternal grandparents, Rustin was exposed to NAACP leaders such as W.E.B. Du Bois and James Weldon Johnson who were frequent guests in the Rustin home. With these early influences in his youth Rustin campaigned against racially discriminatory Jim Crow laws.



In 1932, Rustin entered Wilberforce University, a historically black college in Ohio operated by the AME Church. As a student at Wilberforce, Rustin was active in a number of campus organizations, including the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. He left Wilberforce in 1936 before taking his final exams, and later attended Cheyney State Teachers College.

After completing an activist training program conducted by the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC), Rustin moved to Harlem in 1937 and began studying at City College of New York. There he became involved in efforts to defend and free the Scottsboro Boys, nine young black men in Alabama who were accused of raping two white women. He joined the Young Communist League in 1936 and soon after coming to New York City, he became a member of Fifteenth Street Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers).

In 1947, Rustin helped to organize the Journey of Reconciliation, the first of the Freedom Rides to test the ruling of the Supreme Court of the United States that banned racial discrimination in interstate travel. Participants in the Journey of Reconciliation were arrested several times. Arrested with Jewish activist Igal Roodenko, Rustin served twenty-two days on a chain gang in North Carolina for violating Jim Crow laws regarding segregated seating on public transportation.

In 1951, he formed the Committee to Support South African Resistance, which later became the American Committee on Africa. He later became the executive secretary of the War Resisters League.

In 1956 he was asked to advise Martin Luther King Jr. on organizing the public transportation boycott in Montgomery, Alabama known as the Montgomery Bus Boycott. The following year, Rustin and King began organizing the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC).

A master strategist and tireless activist, he is best remembered as the organizer of the 1963 March on Washington, one of the largest nonviolent protests ever held in the U.S. He brought Gandhi's protest techniques to the American civil rights movement and played a deeply influential role in the life of Martin Luther King, Jr., helping to mold him into an international symbol of nonviolence.

Despite these achievements, Rustin often remained in the background. He was silenced, threatened, arrested, beaten, imprisoned and fired from important leadership positions, largely because he was an openly gay man in a fiercely homophobic era.

During the early 1970s Rustin served on the board of trustees of the University of Notre Dame and throughout the 1970s and 1980s, worked as a human rights and election monitor for Freedom House, testifying on behalf of New York State's Gay Rights Bill.

Bayard Rustin died on August 24, 1987. He was survived by Walter Naegle, his partner of ten years. He was posthumously awarded honorary membership into Delta Phi Upsilon Fraternity, Inc.

The Legacy

Despite the fact that he played such an important role in the civil rights movement, Rustin "faded from the shortlist of well-known civil rights lions," in large part because of public discomfort with his sexual orientation. However, the 2003 documentary film ***Brother Outsider: The Life of Bayard Rustin***, a Sundance Festival Grand Jury Prize nominee, and the March 2012 centennial of Rustin's birth have contributed to some renewed recognition.

- The Bayard Rustin Educational Complex located in the Chelsea neighborhood of Manhattan is named for him.
- Bayard Rustin High School is located in his hometown of West Chester, Pennsylvania.
- Bayard Rustin Library at the Affirmations Gay/Lesbian Community Center in Ferndale, Michigan.
- Bayard Rustin Social Justice Center in Conway, Arkansas.
- Biographical feature of Bayard Rustin in the movie *Out of the Past*.
- In July 2007, with the permission of the Estate of Bayard Rustin, a group of San Francisco Bay Area African American LGBT community leaders formed the Bayard Rustin LGBT Coalition (BRC), to promote greater participation in the electoral process, advance civil and human rights issues, and promote the legacy of Mr. Rustin.
- Bayard Rustin Center for LGBTQA Activism, Awareness and Reconciliation at Guilford College, a Quaker school. Formerly the Queer and Allied Resource Center, the March 2011 rededication was with the permission of the Estate of Bayard Rustin and featured a keynote address by social justice activist Mandy Carter.
- A Pennsylvania State Historical Marker is placed at Lincoln and Montgomery Avenues in West Chester, commemorating his accomplishments, on the grounds of Henderson High School where he attended.
- The Delta Phi Upsilon Fraternity Bayard Rustin Scholarship Award was created in his honor.