

Metropolitan Association Scholarship Committee

2026 Annual Report

The mission of the Scholarship Committee is to administer the two Association Scholarship, Louise Maniguault Scholarship for undergraduates and the Rev. Cynthia Jackson Scholarship for students seeking vocational, graduate or seminary degrees.

In the latter part of Summer of 2025 the Scholarship Committee received a grant from the Jeanine Heller Foundation in the amount of \$25,000.00 earmarked for the Rev. Cynthia Jackson Scholarship. Thank you to Rev. Lynn Sullivan for making this happen. During the year we received donations from the Evangel Congregational UCC, St. Albans Congregational Church UCC, John and Lucy Werner, and Darlton and Pat Haskins for the Rev. Cynthia Jackson Scholarship. The funds for these two scholarships are in an endowment fund, and the drawdown is 4-5 % a year. We gladly accept donations for both scholarships to live on in perpetuity. Donations can be sent to the Metropolitan Association 361 East Merrick Road Suite 361 Freeport, New York 11520 or via Zelle Treasurer2@metrouccnyc.org. Indicate in the memo line which Scholarship you are contributing to.

In October Darlton Haskins stepped down as Co-Chairperson of the Scholarship Committee. We are grateful to Dalton's invaluable contributions to the Committee. We wish him well on his new venture.

The Committee completed the Policy and Procedure Manual to guide the work of the Committee. The Scholarship applications were updated. The rubric scoring tool looks at GPA 3.0 or higher, Personal Statement, Work/Ministry/Community Service, Life Enhancement and Personal Interview were updated as well.

The applications were rolled out in January 2026. One scholarship for the Rev. Cynthia Jackson Scholarship was awarded to Dr. Charles Watterson a student at Methodist Theological School in Ohio seeking a MDiv degree. He is a member of Rivers of Living Water UCC. Three Louise Maniguault Scholarships were awarded.

Aksana Viji is a student at CUNY Hunter College seeking a degree in Human Biology. She is a member of Christhava Tamil Koil UCC. Nicholas Andrews is seeking a Health Science degree from SUNY Stony Brook University. He is a member of St. Albans Congregational Church UCC and Candance Leone Charles a Political Science Major at Howard University. She is a member at Corona Congregational Church UCC. All three of these awardees are Sophomores.

The Scholarship Committee will be reviewing a proposal for the scholarship awardees from 2025 and 2026 to gather for an enrichment opportunity.

Deborah Dee Brayton along with Yvette Wynn have been working with the Webmaster to update the Scholarship page on the Association's website.

The Committee Members are:

Stephanie Bennett

Derrick Bryant

Rev. Joya Colon -Berezin

Terry McKnight

Rev. Linda Tarry-Chard

Rev. Dr. Ronald Wells

Respectfully Submitted

Deborah Dee Brayton

Chairperson