DOROTHY WEST SCHOLARSHIP

Dorothy West was one of the pioneer members of the Harlem Renaissance, the great flowering of African-American arts and literature that took place in the 1920s in New York. The Dorothy West Scholarship, named in her honor, has been made possible through the generous contributions of a graduate of Bard College at Simon's Rock. It is designed to help a student of color (e.g., Black, Hispanic, Latino/Latina, Chicano/Chicana, Asian, Indian, Native American) with demonstrated financial need attend the Young Writers Workshop. The scholarship covers the full cost of tuition and room and board. It does not cover travel expenses to the college or the cost of off-campus cultural events that the student may choose to attend during the workshop.

The application process for the scholarship is generally the same as for regular admission to the workshop, with the following exceptions: 1) Applicants must indicate on the application form itself, as well as in their personal narrative, that they wish to be considered for the Dorothy West Scholarship; 2) Your personal narrative should tell the story of a time when words have had meaning for you as a person of color (this replaces the Reflective Writing required on page 2 of the application); 3) The due date for applications is April 1, 2014 **(this deadline applies only to Dorothy West applicants; all other applications, including financial aid applications, are reviewed – January through May – as soon as they become complete)**; 4) The parents or guardians of Dorothy West applicants must also submit the first two pages of the federal tax return they filed in the previous year (be sure to cross out the social security numbers).

In awarding this scholarship, we will take into account the quality of both the applicant's personal narrative and his or her teacher's letter of recommendation. Although only one student will be awarded the full scholarship, we intend to choose a number of runners-up to whom we will also offer scholarship support. These scholarships will vary in amount, depending upon the applicants' financial needs. Although they will quite likely be relatively modest, we are hopeful that they will help to remove some of the financial obstacles that might preclude students from attending the workshop.

If you have questions about the Dorothy West Scholarship or how to apply, please contact Dr. Jamie Hutchinson. Phone: (413) 528-7231(work); (413) 274-6957 (home). You may also contact him via e-mail: jamieh@simons-rock.edu