



**Donna Jamison-Lago
Memorial Scholarship**

2010 Essay Competition

OVERVIEW

Founder:

NextGen Network was established in 1999 as a world-class professional organization that offers career and professional development, community service opportunities, and points of connectivity for African-American business professionals. NextGen Network evolved from The Executive Leadership Council's pipeline objective to develop and mentor African-American corporate executives, from the classroom to the boardroom. Members represent winners of The Executive Leadership Council's national business essay competition, as well as young business professionals who enter under a Professional Membership Class category. NextGen Network works to create a sense of community among its membership, interact with members of The Executive Leadership Council, and support youth by providing mentoring and scholarships to African-American students.

Statement of Objective:

NextGen Network has a strong desire to positively impact the lives of African-American youth by providing academic scholarships and mentoring activities that expand their vision of life and its possibilities. In this spirit, NextGen Network is pleased to announce the eleventh annual essay competition, the 2010 Donna Jamison-Lago Memorial Scholarship.

The essay competition demonstrates NextGen Network's commitment to education by encouraging high school seniors to think critically about important issues that affect their lives. The essay competition also affirms the organization's belief in their ability by rewarding individuals that demonstrate forward-thinking views, creative ideas, and outstanding communication skills.

Donna Jamison-Lago:

In 1996, Donna Jamison-Lago won first place in The Executive Leadership Council's "Award for Excellence in Business Commentary National Essay Competition." Instrumental in NextGen Network's formation, she chaired our first high school essay competition in 2000. She received a Bachelor of Science degree from Wellesley College and a MBA from The Fuqua School of Business at Duke University. Following school, Lago worked at American Express and General Electric. It was on March 5, 2003, that Lago lost her battle to cancer. She will be forever remembered for her independent spirit, winning personality and upbeat attitude. The "Path of Excellence" award has been renamed in her honor.

2010 Essay Competition Theme: "Strategies for Environmental Leadership"

"You have been elected President of the United States. What three initiatives would you want to introduce? Be specific rather than general and give arguments to support your choice."

Scholarship Package:

NextGen Network will issue **ten** Donna Jamison-Lago Memorial Scholarship awards to assist with future educational expenses. NextGen Network is proud to support the pursuit of higher education with these awards:

Category
Ten Winners

Award
\$500 each

APPLICATION

Instructions

Please complete the application form and return it with all required supporting materials on or before **Thursday, July 1, 2010** to:

NextGen Network
Donna Jamison-Lago Memorial Scholarship
c/o Urbanomics Consulting Group
1010 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Suite 430
Washington, DC 20007

Attach photo here

Applications post-marked after the submission deadline will not be considered.

Student Profile

Name: _____

Permanent Address: _____

Telephone: _____ E-Mail Address: _____

Gender: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Ethnicity (*optional*): _____

Academic Profile

Name of Last High School Attended: _____

School Address: _____

School Telephone: _____ Date of High School Graduation: _____

Please list any high school extra-curricular activities, community service projects, volunteer experiences or awards. Attach additional sheet(s) if necessary.

Activity	Dates (From-To)	Your Responsibility
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

The applicant hereby states that the information provided in this application is current and valid as of the date hereof. Applicant's Initials _____

ALL APPLICATIONS AND ESSAYS WILL NOT BE RETURNED. NEXTGEN NETWORK HAS ALL RIGHTS TO DUPLICATE AND REPRODUCE WINNING ESSAYS FOR RECOGNITION PURPOSES.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Phase 1

To be eligible for the essay scholarship award, each application and the following supporting materials must be completed and post-marked by **July 1, 2010**. Please submit the following:

- A completed application form
- Picture (snapshot) of the applicant
- A typewritten, double-spaced essay (minimum of 500 and not to exceed 1,000 words). The essay should demonstrate critical thinking, creativity and strong communication skills. All essays should examine the scenario:

"You have been elected President of the United States. What three initiatives would you want to introduce? Be specific rather than general and give arguments to support your choice."
- Official letter of recommendation form from a high school counselor or teacher, employer, or community leader. The person providing the recommendation must place the letter in a sealed envelope with his/her signature across the back flap. **No personal recommendations from family members or friends will be accepted.**
- A brief, personal statement (1-2 paragraphs) including information on the applicant's background, as well as future educational and career goals.

Phase 2

If selected as a winner, you must submit an Acceptance Letter from an accredited college or university, community college, or vocational school. **Applicants that do not comply with this requirement will forfeit their award. Awards are subject to verification of enrollment in an institution of higher education.**

Eligibility and Compliance

The essay competition is open to any African-American student in good academic standing, who will complete their high school studies in 2010. Applicants must be U.S. citizens who are seeking acceptance to an accredited U.S. college or university. Absolute compliance with the application requirements, as outlined above, is required. Incomplete and late applications will not be considered. All materials must be post-marked by the due dates noted above.

Forward to:

NextGen Network
Donna Jamison-Lago Memorial Scholarship
c/o Urbanomics Consulting Group
1010 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Suite 430
Washington, DC 20007

If you have questions, please contact:

info@nextgennetwork.com

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION FORM

Student Name: _____

NextGen Network has a strong desire to positively impact the lives of African-American youth by attempting to expand their vision of life and its possibilities.

"You have been elected President of the United States. What three initiatives would you want to introduce? Be specific rather than general and give arguments to support your choice."

All applicants must submit this letter of recommendation along with the scholarship application and other required materials by **July 1, 2010**.

Directions

This recommendation must be completed by the applicant's high school counselor or teacher, an employer, or a community leader. Please place the letter in a sealed envelope with signature across the back flap. The letter of recommendation for this applicant should include, but is not limited to the following information:

- Discuss the student's leadership potential. Please enlighten us on any extra-curricular activities or community recognition.
- Discuss the student's commitment to higher education. Please include any knowledge of the student's application or acceptance to an accredited college or university, community college or vocational school.
- Discuss how the student has demonstrated a sense of responsibility for his/her future or that of family members.

Counselor/Teacher Name: _____

School Name and Address: _____

School Telephone: _____ E-Mail Address: _____

Thank you for taking the time to complete this letter of recommendation for the above scholarship applicant.

For additional information about NextGen Network and the Donna Jamison-Lago Memorial Scholarship visit our website www.nextgennetwork.com