Charles and LaVerne Earley, Jr. Scholarship in Teacher Education

The University of the District of Columbia Foundation, Inc. is pleased to announce the availability of the Charles and LaVerne Earley, Jr. Scholarship in Teacher Education for Dunbar Senior High School graduates (Washington, D.C.). The purpose of the scholarship is to stimulate interest in teaching as a career. The endowed scholarship fund was established by Dr. LaVerne Earley and family in honor and memory of her husband, Mr. Charles Edward Earley, Jr. an avid supporter of education. Mr. Earley graduated from the District of Columbia Public School (DCPS) system and is an alumnus of the District of Columbia Teachers College. Mr. Earley continued his education at the University of Connecticut and received a master’s degree in Special Studies from George Washington University. Mr. Earley dedicated 35 years of his professional career to educating and helping young people, as a teacher and an attendance officer in the DCPS system. He is remembered and respected for his unique and special relationship with all children; offering advice, confidence, encouragement, and philosophical conversations. He was well-known for giving to those who were less fortunate.

Scholarship Award: The Charles and LaVerne Earley, Jr. Scholarship in Teacher Education is awarded annually to Dunbar Senior High School (Washington, D.C.) alumni who have declared teaching as a career choice. The scholarship supports tuition and fees for the fall and spring semesters. Continuing eligibility for the award will be determined each year. Awardees will be known as “Earley Scholars.”

Eligibility: Applicants must reside in the District of Columbia, Maryland or Virginia, be enrolled as a full-time student in the University’s four-year Education Program, and maintain a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.5.

Applicants must submit a typewritten double-spaced 500 word essay on one of the following topics (graduating high school seniors select from the topics marked with an asterisk *):

1. “Education remains the key to both economic and political empowerment. That is why the schools charged with educating African Americans have perhaps, the greatest, the deepest challenge of all.” Barbara Jordan, Lawyer and U.S. Congressperson
   Explain how the quotation is personally meaningful to you and your education at the University of the District of Columbia.

2. Choose a favorite movie, book, quote or quotation and explain how it personally impacted your education at the University of the District of Columbia.

3. Ronald Heifetz, one of the world’s leading authorities on leadership said: “People don’t learn by staring into a mirror; people learn by encountering difference.” Reflect on a situation at the University of the District of
Columbia in which you encountered difference and describe the circumstance. What did this experience teach you?

4. President William L. Pollard selected the theme of the University of the District of Columbia: “A new day, a new opportunity.” Write what this means to you.

*Incoming High School Students choose from topics below:

1. Congress has just voted to allow 18 year olds to run for president of the United States. You have decided to run for that office. Why have you chosen to run and what are your three most important agenda items and explain?

2. If you could change places with another person for one year (past or present), who would you choose to be, why and what would you do?

3. When someone asks you to describe yourself, where do you begin—with your agenda, your race, your religion or your talents? Everyone is multifaceted. What would you bring to the University of the District of Columbia community?

Applicants must submit three (3) letters of recommendation from persons other than family members who know the applicant well; one (1) letter from a principal, president, dean, chairperson, teacher, professor, counselor, or a community leader. Applications must include official copies of school or college transcripts.

Deadline for Applications: Applicants must submit entries to the UDC Foundation Inc., Attn: Ms. Edna M. King, Bldg. 39, Rm. 301N, 4200 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20008 before *March 1 (if this date falls on a non workday the next business day applies).

*Extended through August 15, 2007