



## *Comisión Femenil*

*of the San Fernando Valley*

*Supporting the Latina through scholarships, leadership development, advocacy and community involvement.*

### **SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION TIPS & SUGGESTIONS**

The following are suggestions for the essay portion of your application. We strongly encourage you to take them into consideration.

1. Sometimes it helps to start with the end of your essay in mind. Start with the main idea or message you want to get across.
2. Don't use words you don't know. Trust your voice.
3. If the instructions ask you to write about your life experiences, do so, but be sure to include the lessons you learned from those life experiences. Don't give the reader a sob story. Use this opportunity to show your strengths.
4. Read your essay aloud to yourself. If it doesn't make sense to you, it won't make sense to the reader.
5. Have at least two people edit your essay (teacher, counselor, college advisor, mentor, etc.) and be open to their suggestions. This usually helps make your writing clear and less ambiguous. In addition, you can also ask your peers to read your essay, and do the same for your peers.
6. Keep in mind, the person on the selection committee that reads your essay does not know you; therefore, the reader should get a good idea of the person you are through the ideas conveyed in your writing.
7. Make your essay compelling, express your passion and be convincing. Think to yourself: "What else can I do to increase my chances of getting this scholarship? Write legibly, type your responses, answer all the questions or give a reason why you can't answer a question, etc.
8. After completing your essay, ask yourself these the questions:
  - a. Does this essay give a positive impression of me as a person who would make a good scholarship recipient?
  - b. Does this essay reveal my unique personality and distinguish me from other applicants?
  - c. Have I used vivid details and examples that support my main points?
  - d. Is my essay well organized, easy to read and carefully written?
  - e. Have I followed the basic rules of Standard English (Capitalization, punctuation, etc)?
  - f. Will the committee recommend me for a scholarship?

**Scholarship materials must be postmarked no later than Friday, April 6, 2018**

**¡Adelante!**