

**AFRICANA STUDIES DEPARTMENT
THE BLISS VERDON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

The Bliss Verdon Memorial Scholarship is available annually to one or two outstanding students at Stony Brook University, State University of New York, in recognition of strong academic performance and demonstrated commitment in the area of African issues. The Bliss Verdon Memorial scholarship has been established to celebrate the life and accomplishments of Bliss Verdon, a 1995 graduate of SUNY Stony Brook, who completed her BA in Africana Studies and Anthropology after spending a semester in Accra, Ghana. Ms. Verdon had planned to begin her graduate studies in International Relations with a focus on African issues in the Fall of 1997, but on June 10th of that year she was murdered in Jackson Heights, Queens, by an ex-boyfriend, a New York City police officer.

ELIGIBILITY

The Bliss Verdon Memorial Scholarship is open to full-time, upper-division students (junior or senior standing). Candidates must demonstrate an academic focus on and commitment to African issues in their university coursework, as well as a need for financial assistance, and a commitment to helping others. Candidates may be nominated for the scholarship or may apply directly.

AWARD

The scholarship carries an annual award of \$500 per student. The award may be used to supplement costs to pursue study abroad in Africa.

SELECTION CRITERIA & PROCEDURE

Commitment to African issues and qualities of academic performance and service to one's community are important criteria reflected by the life of Bliss Verdon.

An applicant should submit:

- a) Completed application form
- b) A 1-2 page essay/ statement of eligibility
- c) A résumé
- d) A transcript
- e) Two (2) letters of recommendation, one of which must be from a faculty member at Stony Brook, and one may be from outside the Stony Brook community.

DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS/APPLICATIONS

Nominations or applications should be received by Thursday, April 30th, 2020. Applications should be submitted electronically to Tracey.Walters@stonybrook.edu with a copy to Ann.Berrios@stonybrook.edu

SELECTION

1. Candidates will be screened by a selection committee and finalists submitted to the Stony Brook Foundation.
2. Finalists may be asked to appear before the Stony Brook Foundation.
3. Awards will be announced in the month of May, before the end of the Spring semester.

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APPLICATION FORM

Name of Applicant:	
ID#	
Address	
Cell Phone #	
Major:	Class
Current GPA:	GPA in AFS
Academic honors (please list)	
Extracurricular Activities:	
Documentation included: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Essay2. Resume3. Transcript4. Letters of support (2)	
Signature of applicant:	
Send completed application to Tracey.Walters@stonybrook.edu with a copy to Ann.Berrios@stonybrook.edu	