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Patricia David

President, Dominica-America Scholarship & Culture, Inc. (DASCI)
P.O. Box 360246
Melbourne, Florida 32936-0246
patdavid323@gmail.com
(732) 470-6501

Global Giving Donors

Re: Donor Request – DASCI Scholarship for Secondary Education

Dear Potential Donors,

I am writing on behalf of **Dominica-America Scholarship & Culture, Inc. (DASCI)** to request funding to support our scholarship programs, which provide critical educational assistance to underserved students in the Commonwealth of Dominica and St. Lucie County, Florida. Since our founding, DASCI has been committed to advancing educational access, promoting community well-being, and fostering cultural understanding across local and international communities.

DASCI's origin dates back to 2001, when a small group of Dominicans in Brevard and St. Lucie counties gathered to celebrate their heritage. The organization formalized as the **Dominica Social Club** in 2003, incorporated in 2009, and in 2013 became DASCI, achieving 501(c)(3) status to expand its charitable mission. Our Board of Directors, elected per our Constitution and Bylaws, provides transparent oversight, with quarterly virtual meetings and rigorous financial governance. DASCI has also earned the **Platinum Transparency Seal from Candid.org**, reflecting our commitment to transparency, strong financial practices, and systematic tracking of program outcomes.

Since 2007, DASCI has awarded **185 scholarships totaling US\$126,950 (EC\$343,089)**, primarily supporting students in Dominica pursuing secondary education. Between 2023 and 2025, **86 students** benefited from our programs, receiving assistance for tuition, registration fees, uniforms, textbooks, and school supplies—barriers that often prevent enrollment or continuation in school.

Our programs include:

- **DASCI US Scholarship** – \$1,000 for graduating seniors in St. Lucie County public high schools of African American or non-Hispanic Caribbean descent, demonstrating financial need and planning to attend an accredited college, university, or technical program.
- **DASCI Scholarship Fund** – US\$750/~EC\$2,000 for eligible students in the Commonwealth of Dominica, awarded based on achievement and financial need, enabling access to quality secondary education.

The total project will cost \$28,250. We expect to raise approximately \$20,750 from memberships, events, donations and sponsors. We are requesting **\$7,500** from Global Giving donors, which will provide targeted scholarships for **10 of the budgeted students in Dominica**, directly covering tuition, registration, uniforms, textbooks, and school supplies.

Donors support will allow these students to remain enrolled, succeed academically, and gain opportunities that would otherwise be out of reach. Beyond financial assistance, DASCI's programs strengthen community networks and foster cross-cultural understanding.

Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

Patricia David

President, Dominica-America Scholarship & Culture, Inc.

www.DASCI.org

Dominica - America Scholarship and Culture Inc.

QUICK-FACTS FOR NEW MEMBERS - History of DAsCI

Welcome to the DAsCI Family!

HISTORY

- DAsCI's origin dates back to 2001 when a few Dominicans living in Brevard and St. Lucie counties in Florida began getting together to socialize and celebrate Dominican culture.
- The group formalized its existence in November 2003 as the Dominica Social Club and in November 2009 incorporated as Dominica Social Club, Inc., a not-for-profit corporation under the laws of the State of Florida.
- The organization changed its name to Dominica-America Scholarship and Culture, Inc. and applied for and received its 501(c)(3) tax-exempt designation from the United States Internal Revenue Service (IRS) in December 2013.

GOVERNANCE

- The organization operates under the terms of its Articles of Incorporation and in accordance with its Constitution and Bylaws.
- The Constitution provides for the election of 5 officers to serve on the Board of Directors (BOD).
- Under the Bylaws, the officers can appoint additional members to the BOD as the officers deem appropriate.
- Elections to the BOD are held in even-numbered years. The Constitution and By-Laws can be updated in odd years, if necessary.
- BOD Meetings and General Meetings are normally held 4 times per year with BOD Meetings generally occurring immediately prior to General Meetings. Meetings are virtual and information is sent electronically.
- The organization's fiscal year runs from January to December.

MEMBERSHIP

- Membership is limited to persons 18 and older who are of good character and are of Dominican heritage by birth, naturalization, marriage or family.
- **Membership dues are currently set at \$50.00 per year, payable in January.**
- The membership roster with contact information is updated every January; however, to keep channels for both telephone and electronic communication with members open and effective, members should promptly notify the Secretary of changes to their contact information.

MAJOR PROGRAMS

- The scholarship award program was started in January 2007 and is administered by DAsCI's Scholarship Committee under the leadership of the Committee Chair.
- The scholarship program provides scholarships to Dominican elementary school students entering high school in Dominica and college-bound high school students in St. Lucie County to help defray education costs.

FUNDING SOURCES

- Membership dues, private donations and proceeds from fundraising events and activities.
- DAsCI is entirely dependent on its members to plan and execute the 3 major fundraisers held every year to underwrite the cost of high school and college scholarship awards.

DASCI 2026 Budget

Students for 2026/2027 school year: 36

Scholarship Amount per Student: \$750

Total Project Budget: \$28,250

Category	Amount (USD)
2027 Dominica Scholarship Fund (33 students)	\$24,750
2027 DASCI US Scholarships (3 students)	\$3,000
Banking/Transfer Fees	\$500
Total (36 students+fees)	\$28,250

Administrative costs are 1.8% which are well below funder best practice thresholds

DASCI is seeking donor support for the Dominica Scholarship Fund for 10 out of the budgeted 36 students (10 x \$750 = \$7,500). Measures are being taken to secure funding for the balance of the students budgeted and banking and transfer fees.

Scholarships / Direct Aid

Global Giving funds would provide Scholarships to 10 secondary-school-bound students in the Commonwealth of Dominica with a scholarship valued at \$750 (~EC\$2,000).

Scholarships offset tuition, registration fees, uniforms, textbooks, and required school supplies, reducing financial barriers to continued education.

Program Administration and Monitoring & Evaluation

The scholarship committee are 100% member-volunteers who would administer the program and support tracking student enrollment and attendance confirmation to ensure accountability and measure outcomes.

Banking & Transfer Fees

Covers international fund transfer/wire and currency processing costs required to disburse scholarship funds securely. Minimal fees for international calls/postage and mailing.

Personal Essay from Scholarship Recipient

I am quite an affectionate little boy who goes by the name of XXXXXXXX, an 11 year old student at Newtown Primary School, and I would like to share a bit about myself and my dreams.

Growing up in an extended family of nine members, in GrandBay, I have observed the financial challenges that my mom encountered during the 2019 pandemic and even more so as the cost of living increases. As I pursue higher education I know that it will be a bigger strain for her, who is the sole breadwinner. She has instilled in me the values of hard work and perseverance; dreaming big despite our financial constraints, emphasizing that education is the key to a better future. She has always urged me to do better than her, and it is my hope to do so.

As I go through my academic journey, I have developed an extreme love for drawing up house designs. My aspiration is to become an architect. I am convinced through the many successful past students that attended the school of my choice, St. Mary's Academy will most definitely assist me in setting the pace for my dream job. I strongly believe that I will be able to help families be happy while building their dream home. However, the financial burden of Secondary School is indeed too costly, and this scholarship would ease the pressures my mom would face for stationery, uniforms and bus fare, hence allowing me to pursue my goals through less limitations due to money constraints.

I am involved in many extracurricular activities and community service. I am a member of Newtown Primary School 4 H Club and Boys' Club. I volunteer some of my time feeding the less fortunate in the Feeding Jesus Program at my Church. These experiences have not only enriched my understanding of community needs but have also strengthened my commitment to contributing positively to society.

Receiving the DAsCI Scholarship would not only provide much-needed financial support but also serve as a confirmation of my potential. With this assistance, I am confident I can pursue my academic goals and make a meaningful impact in my family and community.

Thanks for investing in the future of children of our beautiful country, Dominica. I look forward to the possibility of contributing to the values that Dominica- America Scholarship & Culture, Inc. upholds.

June '25

Twenty six (26) students from eight (8) primary schools in Dominica and two (2) High schools from Florida, will now find it easier to attend secondary school and college this year, thanks to Dominica America Scholarship & Culture Inc (DASCI).

At its virtual awards ceremony held on June 21, 2025, DASCI announced the twenty eight (28) students with scholarships valued at US\$750 (~\$2,000 EC) and US\$1,000, respectively, to further their education for the upcoming 2025 - 2026 school year.

DASCI is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization mostly comprised of Dominicans living in Florida. Every year, the organization invites students from a select number of Primary Schools in Dominica and high schools in St. Lucie county, Florida to apply for scholarships.

This is DASCI's 22nd anniversary year. Due to membership fundraising and generous donations, DASCI was able to offer these scholarships. The 2025-2026 scholarship recipients from Dominica are from the following primary schools: San Sauveur - two (2), Newtown - one (1), Petite Savanne - one(1), Soufriere - one (1), Atkinson - three (3), Castle Bruce - five (5), Salybia - one (1), Sineku - nine (9) and Warner - three (3). Names and photos of the students are posted on www.DASCI.org (under scholarship recipients).

School principals play a critical role in facilitating the application process for their students. Mr. Rickey Ellick of Sineku Primary School had this to say about the scholarship, "I commend DASCI for the wonderful work to assist Dominican children. May your input into their lives be extremely significant and contribute to the realization of their dreams."

Parents also play an integral role in developing our youth. Parent Mrs. Catherine Charles who's son attends Newtown Primary School had this to say when her son was awarded the scholarship, "This scholarship will significantly ease the financial burden of my financial burdens of stationery, uniforms, bus fare and other miscellaneous expenses that come with secondary education. This surely allows me to focus on other items that come with the responsibility of a parent."

DASCI has been awarding scholarships to Primary School graduates bound for Secondary School in Dominica since 2007 and, to date, has awarded 162 such scholarships with a combined value of US\$106,950/EC\$288,765.

DASCI is committed to investing in the education of young people and looks forward to continuing the work.

If you wish to donate and help DASCI continue it's great work, please visit www.DASCI.org and click 'Donate'.

Forward We Go

Dominica-America Scholarship and Culture Inc

Statement of Operations - Year Ended December 31, 2025

DOMINICA-AMERICA SCHOLARSHIP AND CULTURE INC		
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS		
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025	2025	2024
INCOME		
MEMBERSHIP DUES	\$ 1,750.00	\$ 1,700.00
CONTRIBUTIONS--CASH	\$ 22,775.00	\$ 12,353.55
CONTRIBUTIONS--INKIND	\$ 539.59	\$ 861.17
PAYPAL DONATIONS		\$ 4.50
NOVEMBER 15 EVENT TICKET SALES	\$ 10,780.00	
50/50	\$ 610.00	\$ 308.00
PICNIC	\$ 3,188.00	\$ 1,985.00
MISC. INCOME(NOV. AUCTION AND PICNIC RAFFLE)	\$ 674.00	\$ 90.00
PICNIC CASH CONTRIBUTIONS	\$ 1,235.00	\$ 330.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 41,551.59	\$ 17,632.22
EXPENSES		
SCHOLARSHIPS: US	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
DOMINICA	\$ 19,500.00	\$ 15,000.00
FOOD AND BEVERAGE FOR EVENTS	\$ 5,234.57	\$ 693.35
SUPPLIES	\$ 840.09	\$ 362.24
GIFTS/PLAQUE		\$ 35.85
THANK YOU CARDS, FLOWERS,AND BEST WISHES	\$ 64.20	\$ 32.04
POSTAGE AND SHIPPING	\$ 15.60	\$ 40.07
WEBSITE HOSTING	\$ 276.00	\$ 276.00
WEBSITE DOMAIN NAME	\$ 22.99	\$ 23.17
PARK RESERVATIONS AND EVENTS VENUE	\$ 1,001.33	\$ 54.28
TELEPHONE AND WIRE SERVICE	\$ 450.00	\$ 350.00
VENUE DECORATIONS	\$ 700.00	
ENTERTAINMENT NOV.15 EVENT	\$ 1,421.00	
MISC EXPENSE	\$ 131.59	
PO BOX RENTAL	\$ 210.00	\$ 200.00
STATE FILING	\$ 61.25	\$ 61.25
AMERICA ONLINE GIVING FEE(MATCHING DONATION)	\$ 29.25	\$ 14.50
PAYPAL FEES (FROM DONATIONS)	\$ 4.96	\$ 78.66
ZOOM SUBSCRIPTION	\$ 159.90	\$ 159.90
ADDITIONAL RENTALS (POP CORN MACHINE)	\$ 75.92	
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$ 32,198.65	\$ 19,381.31
INCOME FROM OPERATIONS	\$ 9,352.94	\$ (1,749.09)
RECONCILIATION		
BEGINNING CASH JANUARY 1, 2025	\$ 34,406.06	\$ 36,155.15
INCOME FROM OPERATIONS	\$ 9,352.94	\$ (1,749.09)
TOTAL	\$ 43,759.00	\$ 34,406.06
DEFERRED REVENUE(STEWART LEBLANC)	\$ 50.00	
CASH ON HAND	\$ 43,809.00	\$ 34,406.06
OUTSTANDING CHECK NOT CASHED	\$ 79.80	
TOTAL CASH IN BANK	\$ 43,888.80	