Short History of JMRL

Public libraries in Central Virginia have a rich heritage derived from the private libraries of leading forefathers—Jefferson, Monroe and Madison, who each had extensive personal libraries for their time. Public library service in this area has roots from a public subscription library established in 1823. Charlottesville Public Library became the community's first public municipal library in 1921. In 1934, the first branch library was funded by the City— the Colored Branch Library at Jefferson School. This library operated until 1948, when the libraries were integrated. Albemarle County joined the City in funding Bookmobile service in 1946 and opened branches in Scottsville in 1960 and Crozet in 1964. Gordon Avenue Library was built jointly by the City and Albemarle County and opened in 1966. In 1972 the City and Albemarle County joined with the counties of Greene, Louisa, and Nelson to form Jefferson-Madison Regional Library. Northside Library opened in 1991. Today, the Regional Library is one of the most heavily used public libraries for its size in the United States. JMRL welcomes over 1.2 million visitors each year and annually circulates about 1.6 million books. In recent years the library has expanded its computer online services, including electronic databases and eBooks accessible from computers at home, work, or school, and opened two new library facilities in Crozet and on West Rio Road.

Short History of Albemarle-Charlottesville NAACP

Founded Feb. 12, 1909, the NAACP is the nation's oldest, largest and most widely recognized grassroots-based civil rights organization. Its more than half-million members and supporters throughout the United States and the world are the premier advocates for civil rights in their communities, campaigning for equal opportunity and conducting voter mobilization. The NAACP's principal objective is to ensure the political, educational, social and economic equality of minority group citizens of the United States and eliminate race prejudice. The NAACP seeks to remove all barriers of racial discrimination through the democratic processes. The NAACP Albemarle–Charlottesville Branch was formed July 12, 2001 upon approval of a merger request from the Albemarle and Charlottesville branches. This merger has allowed the two localities to be more effective in working to ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights of all persons and to eliminate racial hatred and racial discrimination.
**Purpose of Program**

This NAACP/JMRL partnership is to encourage local African-American students to consider professional library work as a career option. To further that goal, NAACP/JMRL has established a library internship and scholarship program for students in Albemarle, Charlottesville, Greene, Louisa, and Nelson.

**Program Details**

This program offers 200 annual hours of library work experience and a stipend of $2,000. In addition, Interns are eligible to apply for an annual scholarship of $2,000 to be used toward completion of an Associate's, Bachelor's, or Master's degree. Total possible annual value of this program: $4,000.

**Application**

Applications may be submitted on paper or in electronic form to Jefferson-Madison Regional Library. Successful applications must include the following:

- An essay of at least 300 words describing the applicant's commitment to education and literacy, commenting on why the NAACP is needed today, and expressing the applicant's interest in public library work.
- Transcripts showing all high school courses completed and GPA.
- A list of all work experience.
- High school students must submit a letter of college admittance or a letter from a high school counselor verifying the applicant's intention to attend college.
- Letters of reference from two non-family members familiar with the applicant's academic and/or work background.

**Application Deadline**

Applications must be submitted by 5:00 p.m., April 7, 2017. Electronic copies must include the subject “NAACP/JMRL Program” and be submitted to halliday@jmrl.org. Paper copies may be submitted to Library Director, Jefferson-Madison Regional Library, 201 East Market Street, Charlottesville, VA 22902.

**Application Review Procedure**

Applications will be reviewed by a committee representing the Albemarle-Charlottesville NAACP and JMRL.

The Internship/Scholarship Award will be announced before May 19, 2017.

**For Further Information Please Contact:**

Library Director John Halliday,
201 E. Market St. Charlottesville, VA 22902/halliday@jmrl.org

or

Albemarle – Charlottesville NAACP
President, Dr. M. Rick Turner
P.O. Box 1522 Charlottesville, VA 22903

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http://jmrlfriends.org