

NAACP

An
invitation
to support
a unique program
of education
to advance
equality:

The Herbert Lehman Education Fund

enables Southern
Negro students to
attend recently
desegregated
public colleges
and universities
in their own states,
and provides
legal education
for both law
students and
practicing
attorneys to
prepare them
to combat
discrimination
through the
courts.

sponsored by the
NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc.

*A Negro boy or girl
in the South today
has only one-third the chance
of a white young person
to attend college.*

*15% of Negro youth
of college age are in college
as compared with 44% of
white youth.*

The Herbert Lehman Education Fund

was created in memory of the late Senator Lehman in 1964 by the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund to stimulate a flow of Negro students into newly desegregated state colleges and universities in the South.

Higher public education is still today provided for Negroes in the South in segregated state colleges. The great majority of Southern Negro collegians are enrolled in such "Negro" institutions whose physical and educational facilities are grossly inferior to those of the principal state universities.

Seventeen Lehman Fund students have received degrees from leading colleges and universities in the South. Some are already at work as lawyers, teachers, social workers; others have been awarded grants for further study. Ten of them are pictured on the following pages.

VERNA BAILEY - Social Work
University of Mississippi, is
presently working as a counselor
with the Mississippi State
Employment Security Commission,
the only black woman out of a
staff of forty. Plans to secure M.A.
degree in Sociology. "When I
do get my master's I'm coming
back to Mississippi to help as
many of my black sisters and
brothers as I can."



Since 1963, the *legal* possibility has existed for Negroes to study with white students in every state. But economic barriers have limited Negro attendance at "white" institutions to token numbers, especially in the Deep South.

When the Lehman Fund was launched in early 1964, there were only three Negroes in Alabama's white state universities, six in South Carolina's.

*Six years ago
there were still Southern states
where Negro students were barred
from admission to publicly-supported
colleges and universities maintained
for white students exclusively!*

Legal barriers that kept Negroes out had to be battered down one-by-one in 16 states through legal action taken by lawyers of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund (Arkansas alone among Southern states opened its university without a law suit).

Finally in 1963, South Carolina and Alabama became the last to relinquish their barriers. The University of Mississippi admitted its first Negro in 1962, the University of Georgia in 1961, the University of Florida in 1958, all as a result of suits brought by the Legal Defense Fund.

The Legal Defense Fund is determined that the rights to equality in higher education won dur-

ing more than 20 years of court battles should be enjoyed in practice and that Negro young people should at last have an equal chance to get the best public education available in the states where they live.

The Negro Student in the South Cannot Afford a Desegregated Higher Education

Average costs for fees, tuition, and room and board in a Deep South "white" university is \$1,500 per year, in a Negro State college, \$850. This \$650 differential is decisive in a region where the Negro family's median income is \$2,200.

The result: Although segregation statutes have been outlawed throughout the nation, the overwhelming majority of Negroes attending tax-supported institutions of higher learning in the South are in low-budget colleges created as segregated Negro schools.

The Negro student attending "segregated" institutions is deprived not only of a quality education, he is also cut off from the mainstream of life in the state in which he will vote, earn his living and raise his family.

The Herbert Lehman Education Fund was established to provide a special program of assistance for Negro students, enabling them to attend the leading public colleges and universities in their states.

CYNTHIA L. SCRUGGS—
Elementary Education—East
Carolina University. Worked with
Head Start program during the
summer of 1969. Will begin
teaching sixth grade in the
Kinston City School System,
Kinston, N.C. in the fall of 1969.
"My appreciation and sincere
thanks to the Fund for their part
in enabling me to advance my
education."



WARREN COX—Law—
University of Mississippi, is
setting up private practice in
Greenville, Mississippi, the
first black lawyer in that area.
"I chose law to elevate
myself and to aid my people
through the courts."



145 Lehman Fund Scholars To Be Aided in 1969-70

Students are considered for scholarship assistance who have fulfilled the academic and test requirements for admission to a desegregated college or university and have been accepted. Since it was initiated in 1964, the Lehman Fund has received 3325 applications. In this five-year period 464 scholarships have been awarded. Seventeen Layman scholars received degrees in 1969. Ten of them are pictured in these pages. The chart shows distribution of aid for the first five academic years and proposed distribution for the coming year.

	grants to new students	renewal grants	total grants
1964-65	33		33
1965-66	46	19	65
1966-67	56	57	113
1967-68	32	77	109
1968-69	51	93	144

Proposed for the coming year:

1969-70	33	112	145
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Geographic Distribution

The Fund has tried to give preference to applicants from Deep Southern states where there is least integration on the higher education level because of maximum prejudice and minimum Negro earning power. The geographic breakdown for 1968-69 Lehman Scholars follows:

Alabama	12	Mississippi	20
Arkansas	10	Missouri	1
D.C.	1	North Carolina	29
Florida	6	Oklahoma	5
Georgia	19	South Carolina	16
Kentucky	1	Tennessee	2
Louisiana	3	Texas	12
Maryland	2	Virginia	5

A Four Year Program

The Lehman Fund renews scholarship grants on the record of a student's academic success. Scholars for the 1968-69 year included 43 freshmen, 22 sophomores, 32 juniors, 24 seniors and 23 graduate students.

A small but important part of the Lehman Fund program has been to make scholarships available to white students wishing to attend private Negro colleges in Deep South states.

Less than 25 per cent of Lehman Scholars have dropped out of school, despite the strain of very tight budgets and the burden of pioneering in the white academic world.

THOMISENE OLIVER - French - University of North Carolina. Presently working at the United Nations as Seminar-Director for the Council for International Relations and United Nations Affairs, coordinating speaking engagements between UN officials and student groups; plans to return to her home in North Carolina to live and work.

ALIX SANDERS - Law - University of Mississippi. Received a Regional Herber Smith Fellowship, one of 150 such awards to students who are then employed for one year with OEO affiliated service programs around the country. Will be the first black lawyer to practice in Greenwood, Mississippi. "A large number of the future leaders of Mississippi are being trained at Ole Miss, and I have had the opportunity to become acquainted with many of them. This is where the influence is going to lie in the State."



Special Lawyers' Program

A fraction more than one per cent of law students in the United States are Negroes. The resulting lack of Negro lawyers, particularly in the South where law schools until quite recently were closed to them, is grave. When the Lehman Fund was initiated in 1964, there were exactly four Negro lawyers admitted to the bar in the entire state of Mississippi.

Since 1965, scholarships have been awarded to law students at the Universities of Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, and South Carolina. Five young men whose studies at the University of Mississippi Law School were underwritten by Lehman grants are already practicing in their native state.

A special program for study of law at Mississippi University was created in 1967 with the help of Mr. Charles Merrill of Boston. Seven Negro students are now entering their third year of Law School under this program.

Civil Rights Law Institutes

Lawyers qualified to represent Negro citizens denied their constitutional rights are essential to the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund. This organization, carrying on more than

90 per cent of civil rights legal action in the South, relies on the cooperation of many scores of dedicated lawyers.

The Legal Defense Fund must not only encourage able young Negroes to enter the practice of law in the South, but must also provide specialized post-graduate training in the intricacies of this specialty for local cooperating attorneys.

Therefore, the Civil Rights Law Institutes, established by LDF in 1964, conduct a series of weekend seminars or workshops, staffed by faculties drawn from leading university law schools, at which cooperating attorneys are kept up-to-date on new developments in civil rights and poverty law. The Lehman Fund cooperates in this important educational program.

Financial Needs for the 1969-70 Academic Year

The amount of the scholarship grant is determined by need. The institution's official minimum estimate of costs for tuition, fees, and room and board is taken as the base. From that is subtracted funds available to the student from relatives and friends, his own earnings and other sources. Scholarships awarded for 1968-69 ranged from \$200 to \$1,200. The average student award for the year 1969-70 is estimated at \$800.

NOTE: The Lehman Fund does not administer costly screening or testing programs. Instead, the Fund uses the test scores which qualify the applicants for admission to a given college or university as one of the bases of selection of its grantees.

TERESA A. McELROY—
Sociology—University of
Alabama. On Dean's list in
sophomore and junior years;
interested in urban develop-
ment in her home state.
Will attend graduate school
of Social Work at the
University of Alabama.



EDGAR CAPLES—Engineering—
University of Mississippi, plans
to study Electrical Engineering at
Massachusetts Institute of
Technology. Honor student;
member of Engineering
Association and Honorary Math
Club; listed in Who's Who Among
Students in American Colleges
and Universities.



112 present Lehman Fund scholars are entitled, by their scholarship achievements in the current school year, to renewal grants for 1969-70. In addition, we hope to make grants to at least 33 new Lehman students, selected by qualification and need, from the several hundred who have applied.

Thus, funds are needed for 145 Negro students for the coming academic year.

Minimum Budget for scholarships
and essential expenses:

July 1, 1969—June 30, 1970 \$139,200

Your help is needed

A contribution in any amount will help a Negro in the South to a higher education.

A gift of \$800, plus personal funds, will ensure a year's study for one student.

A gift of \$3,200, plus other assistance, will assure a student four years' study at a desegregated southern college or university.

General contributions to the educational work of the Legal Defense Fund will aid the \$73,000 yearly budget of the Civil Rights Law Institutes.

The Herbert Lehman Education Fund

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The Lehman Fund is sponsored by

**The NAACP Legal Defense
and Educational Fund, Inc.**

Jack Greenberg, *Director-Counsel*

*Suite 2030, 10 Columbus Circle,
New York, N.Y. 10019*

ROSA E. MOORE—Audiology
— University of Alabama.
Received undergraduate
degree in speech pathology.
Now studying Audiology for
graduate degree at the
University of Alabama

JAMES A. GARRISS—Political
Science and Sociology—University
of North Carolina, was appointed
in February 1969 as full time
Assistant Director of Under-
graduate Admissions for the
University of North Carolina.
Enters Columbia University Law
School, New York, in the fall
of 1969



The Herbert Lehman Education Fund builds for the Future

The doors of leading publicly-supported colleges and universities in the South are now open to Negroes in theory. For all but a token number they are still closed by the harsh facts of Negro poverty.

Exclusion from the institutions attended by young white people who will play leading roles in professional, business and political life of their communities gravely handicaps able young Negroes and threatens the future stability of the region.

Unless young people of both races can share the formative experience of academic and professional training, there is little chance of productive cooperation between the two groups. Lehman Fund scholars, who have received the best public education their states offer, will be equipped to participate to the full extent of their capacity in the life of their Southern communities in the critical years ahead.

PERLESTA A. HOLLINGSWORTH—Law—University of Arkansas. Served as Chairman of the Legal Aid Committee of the Law School. Father of two children, ages 3 and 5, Mr. Hollingsworth graduated from high school in 1954, the year of the Supreme Court ruling against school segregation. Now working with Legal Defense Fund attorney John Walker in Little Rock, he says: "I chose law because there is a need for social reformation, and the legal field is a peaceful way to start."

