The Ben Kessel Memorial Fund offers one or more scholarships, between $1,000 and $3,000, to one or more O’Bryant seniors planning to attend a two-year or four-year college with an Engineering Major. Our ideal candidate will demonstrate a high aptitude in Engineering and creative problem-solving skills, as well as a strong interest in the natural world or current environmental issues.

**The following must be submitted electronically (preferably as .pdf) to** **benkesselmemorial@gmail.com** **no later than April 1, 2023. Transcripts and letters of recommendation should be submitted (as pdf when possible) by counselors and teachers by the same date.**

* **Completed & Signed Application Form**
* **High school transcript**
* **SAT/ACT scores** *(optional)*
* **A resume that includes your work experience, extracurricular activities, community service, or other activities.**
* **Written responses to the prompts below.**
* **At least TWO letters of recommendation** from teachers, counselors, and/or leaders in any service, civic, religious, sports, or other organization. We would also welcome references from any individual who is familiar with any involvement you might have with the study or enjoyment of nature or the outdoors, or your interest or participation in any environmental issue, project or cause.

 **Student’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

 **Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

( ) Is it OK for us to text you?

 **Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Phone:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

 **If student is under 18 years old: Parent/Legal Guardian’s:**

 **Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Phone\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Email\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Planned College Major(s):**

**1st choice: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 2nd choice: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Guidance Counselor’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Colleges applied to (in order of Preference)**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Accepted?** | **Rejected?** | **No Decision** |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

**I authorize the John D. O’Bryant School of Mathematics and Science to release my academic records for this scholarship.**

**Student’s Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Please mark with an “X” to indicate “yes” to the following questions:

Are you the first person in your household to:

a) Graduate High School ( )

b) Pursue a 4-year degree ( )

How many hours (on average) do you work per week during the academic year, either for income or by providing care to family members?

a) None ( )

b) Under 5 ( )

c) 5 - 14 ( )

d) 15 or more ( )

Please provide short responses (≤200 words) to each of the following prompts. We are interested in content and clarity, not writing style or length of response.

1. What draws you to the field in which you intend to major?
2. How do you connect with nature and the outdoors? Have you had a specific experience that has deepened your connection with nature? If so, please describe it.
3. (a) Is there a particular environmental issue that you are passionate about? If so, why? (Please be specific; for example, “climate change” is too general.)
4. (b) How might you use your engineering education to address the issue you described in the previous question?
5. How do your non-classroom activities (extra-curriculars, community service, etc.) reflect your values or interests?
6. Describe a challengethat you have faced, how you have managed or resolved it, and what lessons (if any) you have taken from this experience.

*(You can describe a challenge that is personal, such as a learning difference, disability, identity struggle etc; academic, such as a particularly difficult school assignment, barrier to education, etc; social, such as an interpersonal struggle, family instability, etc; or another type of challenge, such as financial hardship, difficult work/job, etc.)*

1. Is there anything else you want us to know about you?