



# M. Katherine Baird Darmer Equality Scholarship 2016 Application

The M. Katherine Baird Darmer Equality Scholarship Fund was named in memory of the late M. Katherine Baird Darmer, an activist, law professor, and champion of change for the LGBT community in Orange County and beyond. The Fund, which is sponsored by the Orange County Lavender Bar Association (OCLBA) and the Orange County Equality Coalition (OCEC), will award one or more scholarships each year to academically qualified law students who have demonstrated commitment to advancing equality for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community in Orange County. Determinations regarding the amount and number of awards are at the sole discretion of the scholarship committee jointly appointed by OCLBA and OCEC and the Liberty Hill Foundation.

## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be considered for the Darmer Equality Scholarship, an applicant must meet all of the following criteria:

- Be a current or incoming law student.
- Demonstrate commitment to advancing equality for the LGBT community in Orange County.
- Make every effort to be available for a personal interview should one be required.

## GUIDELINES & INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLICATION PACKETS

1. All applicants must submit the following to be considered (please do not submit additional materials):
  - Completed application form.** You must use the attached application form (you may not re-type it or otherwise alter the form in any manner). Please answer every question. If a question does not apply to you, write "N/A".
  - Personal statement** (typed, 1-2 pages, double-spaced). Please address the following topics in your statement:
    - Describe what role you have played in advancing equality for the LGBT community.
    - Discuss what motivated you to go to law school.
  - Two (2) questions and short essay answers** (typed, combined 3-pages maximum).
    - Question #1: Describe the differences and similarities, as you see them, between the LGBT equality movement in Orange County and in other parts of California and the country.
    - Question #2: Describe one compelling issue facing the LGBT community today and the role that law students and attorneys should play in addressing it.



- Two (2) signed letters of recommendation**, one of which must be from a college or law school professor. The authors should be familiar with your academic and/or LGBT advocacy work (no family members or friends) and the letters should be specific as to the author’s knowledge of your strengths and abilities and explain why the author is recommending you for the Darmer Equality Scholarship.
  - Transcripts for all colleges and law schools attended.** Photocopies of official transcripts and online print-outs of grade reports which include your GPA may be used.
  - Résumé**, which details your complete work and community service history.
2. All application materials should be sent together. Incomplete submissions will not be considered.
  3. Application materials will not be returned.

Please read through all of the materials provided before contacting us with questions. Questions may be emailed to Francine Lipman at lipmanfj@yahoo.com. No phone calls please.

**SUBMISSION INFORMATION**

**Your complete application packet (preferably in ONE EMAIL) must be received by email no later than 5:00 p.m. on May 1, 2016 to Francine J. Lipman at lipmanfj@yahoo.com**

We cannot return applications or provide feedback on applications while in process or after declined for a scholarship.

**TIMELINE**

- Deadline for Receiving Application Packets: **5:00 p.m. (PST) on May 1, 2016**
- Notifications Should Be Made By: **June 15, 2016**
- Presentation at OCLBA Annual Event in Orange County: **TBD July, 2016**

**Notice to Applicant:** In the event that the applicant receives a scholarship award from the Darmer Equality Scholarship Fund of the Liberty Hill Foundation, the applicant agrees to provide follow-up information as reasonably requested, including official transcripts and whether or not the applicant eventually earned her/his degree, and furthermore agrees to allow the Darmer Equality Scholarship Fund of the Liberty Hill Foundation to use her/his name and eventual success in obtaining her/his degrees in brochures and other informational literature describing the Darmer Equality Scholarship Fund and the involvement of OCLBA, OCEC, donors, and the Foundation with the Darmer Equality Scholarship Fund.



## M. Katherine Baird Darmer Equality Scholarship Application Form

*Please type or print legibly.*

### PERSONAL INFORMATION

1. Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
First Middle Last

2. Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

5. Cell Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

6. Personal Email: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

8. I am a member of :  Orange County Lavender Bar Association  
 Orange County Equality Coalition

9. Describe your ties, if any, to California and/or Orange County.  
*(Only use the space provided below)*



**EDUCATION**

10. Please complete the following even if this information is included elsewhere in your materials. Attach an additional sheet, if necessary.

Undergraduate Colleges/Universities (Name and Complete Address)	Date(s) Attended	Degree Sought	Major	Cumulative GPA

Law School (Name and Complete Address)	Full Time/Part Time	Legal Area of Interest	Expected Graduation Date	Cumulative GPA

**TEST INFORMATION**

11. LSAT:

Date taken/	Score	Date taken/	Score
To be taken		To be taken	

**COMMUNITY SERVICE, EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES, HONORS & AWARDS**

12. Please list no more than seven of your community service and extracurricular activities **in the order of their importance** to you. *(Only use the space provided below)*

Activity	To-From Dates Involved	Hours Per Week	Positions Held or Honors Won




13. Briefly describe any academic honors and awards earned during college or law school (if already enrolled).  
*(Only use the space provided below)*

**CERTIFICATION**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, under penalty of perjury, certify that the foregoing is true and correct. I will promptly inform the scholarship committee, in writing, if there is any change in the facts provided in this application or any change in my plans for school, including changing schools, and any change in legal status. I understand that my award may be adjusted accordingly. I understand that providing false, misleading or incomplete information will be the basis for denial or revocation of scholarship funds. I further agree to follow all terms and conditions stated in the cover letter and application for the Darmer Equality Scholarship Fund.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature of Applicant**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**



**CHECKLIST:**

- Application – completed and signed
- Personal statement
- Two (2) short question answer essays
- Two (2) letters of recommendation
- Transcripts for all colleges and law schools attended
- Résumé

**All application materials MUST BE RECEIVED by email to Francine Lipman at [lipmanfj@yahoo.com](mailto:lipmanfj@yahoo.com) May 1, 2016, by 5:00 p.m (PST).**