



June 7, 2008

Dear Friend:

In the spring of 2006, undergraduate student Jason Johnson was expelled from one of Kentucky's institutions of higher education. Not because he was failing — he had good grades! Not because he caused problems — he had many friends and contributed to the community! He was expelled because he was gay. And rather than go home and hide, Jason took a courageous route — he spoke up against this injustice, and he started a statewide debate about funding for such exclusionary schools. **The Kentucky Fairness Alliance (KFA) Foundation is seeking to help such bright, energetic young leaders to continue their schooling**, especially those who face difficulties because of their willingness to speak up about controversial subjects and to be who they are. As a statewide LGBT organization, the KFA Foundation is committed to honor and support these leaders. The KFA Foundation is committed to promoting diversity in Kentucky's schools, and to supporting Kentucky's gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender (GLBT) students attending them.

Education is the key to strong social progress and must be opened and made available to everyone. Discrimination has no place in the community of higher education. With that being said, an ever-increasing component of the collegiate experience is students' exposure to diversity. Fair-minded Kentuckians live in rural towns like Murray and major metropolitan areas like Lexington. Both those communities and the universities that serve them are going global, reaching out to all walks of life. The KFA Foundation wishes to further that initiative for global acceptance and **provide equal education to another undergraduate student in the 2008 academic year.**

A \$1,500 scholarship will be awarded this year to a Kentucky student based on social and financial need, scholastic aptitude and leadership potential. We will pay close attention to those students who have lost the financial and social support of their families and/or communities as a result of revealing their sexual orientation or gender identity.

Please **share the attached scholarship application** with anyone who may be an applicant for this award. **The deadline to submit applications is August 15, 2008.** If you have any questions regarding this scholarship program, please feel free to contact Jody Cofer electronically at jodycofer@bellsouth.net or by phone at 270-703-1582.

Your support of this program will not end anti-fairness extremism in Kentucky, but it will provide support to a student facing hardships that many of us have already experienced.

In Fairness,

A black ink signature of Jody Cofer, written in a cursive style.

Jody Cofer, Chairperson
Board of Directors

A pink ink signature of Christina Gilgor, written in a cursive style.

Christina Gilgor
Executive Director

The Kentucky Fairness Alliance seeks to advance equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people through leadership development, public education, and by encouraging participation in the democratic process. We are dedicated to building a fair Kentucky from the ground up! Visit kentuckyfairness.org!

PO Box 1280 • Frankfort, KY 40602 866.205.3239 kentuckyfairness.org

The ampersand symbolizes the inclusiveness we are working toward and the solidarity we are building with fair-minded Kentuckians.



2008 Jason Johnson Scholarship Application

Please provide all of the following in a Microsoft Word file:

1. Name, Home Address, Phone, Email, Grade Point Average, Class Rank, and Major(s).
2. An autobiographical statement that describes you and your academic and future goals. The statement should describe your educational and community experiences and your plans for future education or work. (up to 500 words)
3. A description of any services to, contributions to, or activities in the gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender community in Kentucky. (up to 250 words)
4. An outline of your student involvement, leadership experiences, volunteer efforts and/or work experience. Please provide reference and contact information for each experience. (up to 500 words)
5. A statement describing your financial need. (up to 250 words)
6. Three letters of recommendation to support your application. They should vary in scope (student colleague, faculty member, administrator, community member, etc.)

Please remit by August 15, 2008 to:

Jason Johnson Scholarship Selection Committee
c/o KFA Board Chairperson Jody Cofer
jodycofer@bellsouth.net