

THE OGLETHORPE ECHO

PO Box 268, Lexington, GA 30648 ● 706-743-3111

THE ECHO'S RALPH MAXWELL JR. SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____

Age _____ Gender _____

Mailing Address _____

Physical Address _____

Phone Number _____

High School Name _____

High School Phone Number _____ GPA _____

Please list any extracurriculars:

Please list any honors or awards:

College attending in Fall 2025:

Have you been formally accepted? Yes No

Declared major: _____

The Echo's Ralph Maxwell Scholarship

Open Application Dates: March 9th - April 9th, 2026

Objective:

The Echo's Ralph Maxwell Jr. Scholarship is designed to provide financial assistance to three outstanding students residing in Oglethorpe County who demonstrate exceptional academic achievement and leadership within our community. Named in honor of Ralph Maxwell Jr., longtime editor and publisher of The Oglethorpe Echo and a dedicated champion of local journalism and community life, this scholarship reflects his deep commitment to the people and future of Oglethorpe County.

Our hope is to honor Mr. Maxwell's legacy by investing in the next generation of the community he loved and served so faithfully.

Scholarship Requirements:

1. Eligibility Criteria:

- Must be accepted or enrolled at a college or university for Fall 2026.
- Applicants must be a resident of Oglethorpe County, GA.
- Applicants must be high school senior.

2. Application Requirements:

● Access Application Form:

- <https://www.theoglethorpeecho.com/oglethorpe-echo-2026-scholarship>

● Application Submission:

- Applications can be submitted via email to lourdest.echo@gmail.com or dropped off at The Echo office, 121 E. Main St. Lexington, GA 30648.

- Applicants must submit the following documents for their application to be considered:

- **Personal News Article**

- For this essay, you will be required to write a journalistic news article about yourself. In 500 words or less, tell us about yourself, your future collegiate and career goals, as well as where you see yourself in 5 years. This should be in the 3rd person, written from a journalistic point of view.

- **Academic Transcript:**

- Official or unofficial transcript from high school. Proof of residence on transcript.

- **Proof of Enrollment or Acceptance:**

- A copy of your acceptance letter or proof of enrollment at an accredited educational institution.

3. Scholarship Amount and Duration:

- The scholarship award amount is \$1,000.00 to be used for tuition, books, or related educational expenses, check will be made out to the institution.
- The scholarship is a one-time award.

4. Application Deadline:

- All application materials must be submitted by Thursday, April 9th, 2026 at 12 pm.
- Late or incomplete applications will not be accepted or considered.

5. Selection Criteria:

- Applicants will be evaluated based on the following criteria:
 - Strength and relevance of the personal essay/ personal news article.
 - Acceptance to college
 - County student/resident
 - Creativity and effort

6. Notification of Award:

- Selected recipients will be notified by Monday, April 13th, 2026.
- Scholarship recipients will be required to attend a photo session for The Echo at a TBD date.

- Selected recipients will need to be willing to be interviewed and have a story written about them in The Echo's publication and/or have their essay published.

7. Terms and Conditions:

- The scholarship must be used for educational purposes only, such as tuition, books, or related academic expenses.

8. Contact Information:

For questions or more information about The Echo Scholarship, please contact

Lourdes Boyd
lourdest.echo@gmail.com
706.743.311
www.theoglethorpeecho.com

Thank you for your interest in The Echo's Ralph Maxwell Jr. Scholarship! We look forward to reviewing your application and wish you the best of luck in your academic endeavors!

By signing below, applicants are agreeing to:

- Adhering to all guidelines, failure to do so will have scholarship revoked
- Personal article being published in The Oglethorpe Echo's publication.
- Photo and story on recipient published in The Oglethorpe Echo's publication.

Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____