



CHABIKULI- LINTON: UNITY & EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP



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Award History



ISMAEL LINTON
Life Sciences '27



KIANA CHABIKULI
Health Sciences '27

The Chabikuli-Linton Award was created by two Queen's University students and co-presidents of the Queen's Black Academic Society (QBAS), Ismael Linton and Kiana Chabikuli, who embodied the values of unity, excellence, and scholarship throughout their time at the university. The founders created this award to recognize Black students whose contributions reach beyond their own individual accomplishments.

The Award reflects their shared belief that true excellence is demonstrated through acts of service, mentorship and the intentional creation of environments that promote the development of others. Through this Award, QBAS aims to ensure that the contributions of Black students are recognized, acknowledged, celebrated and supported long after they have left the university, and serves as a memorial for past leaders while providing a foundation for future generations of scholars and leaders at Queen's University.



I. Preamble

The Chabikuli-Linton Unity & Excellence Scholarship is a distinction established to recognize and support a Black undergraduate student at Queen's University who has demonstrated exceptional leadership, community impact by awarding \$1,000.00 CAD. The Award honours the values of unity, excellence, and service, recognizing students whose contributions extend beyond personal achievement to strengthen academic, cultural, and advocacy spaces at Queen's University. The Award affirms that leadership and scholarship are deeply interconnected, and that meaningful academic engagement includes mentorship, advocacy, and community-building. The Award is awarded annually to one eligible recipient.

II. Purpose & Authority

The purpose of the Unity & Excellence Scholarship is to:

- Celebrate Black student leadership and service;
- Support students who integrate unity with community engagement;
- Acknowledge contributions that create lasting institutional or community impact.

The administration and conferral of the Award shall be overseen by the designated awarding body or committee, in accordance with these Terms of Reference.

III. Eligibility & Qualifications

To be eligible for the Unity & Excellence Scholarship, a nominee must:

1. Be a currently registered undergraduate student at Queen's University.
 2. Self-identify as a Black student.
 3. Demonstrate strong leadership through involvement in one or more of the following:
 - Campus organizations or student governance;
 - Community initiatives or non-profit work;
 - Advocacy, equity, or inclusion-focused efforts;
 - Mentorship or peer-support roles.
- Members of the Queen's Black Academic Society's Executive Team are ineligible for the Chabikuli-Linton Scholarship.
- Applicants are **prohibited from using artificial intelligence (AI)** tools during any part of the application process. **Failure to comply will result in disqualification.**



IV. Nomination Criteria

In selecting a recipient, consideration will be given to nominees who:

1. Have made meaningful contributions to student advocacy, equity, or community-focused initiatives;
2. Demonstrate leadership that has produced tangible and lasting impact;
3. Integrate unity with service, community engagement, or intellectual leadership;
4. Embody the values of integrity, collaboration, and responsibility within the Queen's community.

Holding a formal position alone shall not be sufficient grounds for receiving the Award; emphasis is placed on impact and contribution.

V. Definition of Scholarship

For the purposes of this Award, scholarship is understood as a commitment to the intellectual life of the university beyond academic performance alone. Scholarship may include mentorship, peer support, advocacy for equitable access to education, engagement in research, or contributions that foster inclusive and supportive academic communities. Grades or GPA are not primary measures of scholarship.

VI. Nomination Process

1. Candidates must be nominated; self-nominations **are** permitted.
2. Each nomination is **recommended** to have one letter from a referee (e.g., employer, club president, mentor, or supervisor).
3. Each nomination must be submitted through the formstack.
 - The formstack can be found on www.queensblackacademicsociety.com/award
4. Nominations must speak directly to the nominee's leadership, impact, and engagement with the community.

VII. Application Timeline

1. Nominations and applications open **annually on February 1st**.
2. All materials must be submitted by **March 6th at 11:59 p.m.**
3. Late or incomplete submissions will not be reviewed.



VIII. Selection and Decision

1. The recipient shall be selected through a holistic review of all eligible nominations.
2. The selection decision is final.
3. Feedback on individual nominations will not be provided in order to preserve the integrity of the process.
4. Following consensus decisions, all records of applications & nominations will be destroyed to reinforce the confidentiality of the process.

IX. Award Recognition

1. The selected recipient shall be formally recognized as *the Chabikuli-Linton Unity & Excellence recipient*.
2. Recognition may include public acknowledgment through affiliated organizations or ceremonies.
3. By applying you agree to photography, and video footage of the awards ceremony.
4. Acknowledgement of past recipients will be recorded on the QBAS website and should remain up to date.

X. Review and Amendments

1. These Terms of Reference may be reviewed periodically to ensure alignment with the Award's purpose and values.
2. Amendments may be made by the review panel as necessary.
3. The name of the award, *The Chabikuli-Linton Unity & Excellence Scholarship*, shall not be changed, altered, or rebranded. This provision exists to preserve the legacy, intent, and individuals for whom the Award was established, and to ensure continued recognition of its foundational purpose.

XI. Review Panel

- This Panel consists of **two Administrators, one faculty member and the co-presidents of the Queen's Black Academic Society**.
- Decisions of the panel will ordinarily be made by consensus. Should the panel be unable to arrive at consensus, the Chair will call for a vote.
- The size of the voting panel (5 members) is an uneven number to come to a vote but should be consensus driven.
- The panel will be chaired by the faculty member.
- All members of the review panel are to meet with the co-presidents to review applicants the week following the application deadline **March 6th 11:59 p.m**
- Should a member leave the panel, it is the Chair's responsibility to establish a replacement.

Appendix A: Sponsorship Agreement by the Queen's Black Academic Society

Memorandum of Understanding

The following memorandum establishes a mutual understanding between the Queen's Black Academic Society (QBAS) and the Chabikuli-Linton Unity & Excellence Scholarship (the "Agreement").

Background

QBAS created the Chabikuli-Linton Unity & Excellence Scholarship to honour and assist with the development of Black undergraduate students who demonstrate excellent leadership and community service, as well as to provide support for their mentor-advocacy and commitment. The Queen's Black Academic Society has responsibility for implementing, supporting and managing this scholarship according to its Terms of Reference.

Purpose

This Agreement has been established to formally outline the financial contribution provided by the Queen's Black Academic Society (QBAS) for funding the Chabikuli-Linton Unity & Excellence Scholarship.

Funding

The Queen's Black Academic Society commits to contributing one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00 CAD) annually toward the Chabikuli-Linton Unity & Excellence Scholarship.

The funds will be used only to support the scholarship recipient and recognition of the award, pursuant to the rules of QBAS and the Scholarship's Terms of Reference.

Term

This Agreement shall be valid for five (5) academic years and may be renewed at the discretion of the Queen's Black Academic Society.

On Behalf of the Queen's Black Academic Society,

Name: _____

Title: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____



Confidentiality

I understand that I have access to greatly sensitive, personal and confidential information related to both nominees and the selection process as a member of the Review Panel for the Chabikuli-Linton Unity & Excellence Scholarship. I recognize the importance of keeping information confidential to preserve the integrity and credibility of the Chabikuli-Linton Unity & Excellence Scholarship.

I therefore accept the following conditions:

1. I will maintain confidentiality regarding the following:
 - a. All Nomination & Nominee Materials;
 - b. All Selection Materials;
 - c. All Review Panel discussions, deliberations, and decisions; and
 - d. All written or verbal communications to the Review Panel.
2. I will not disclose or otherwise use review panel confidential information outside my role as a member of the Review Panel.
3. All official communications regarding the Chabikuli-Linton Unity & Excellence Scholarship and its selection process will be made through the Queen's Black Academic Society.
4. I will securely retain all Chabikuli-Linton Unity & Excellence materials per the Chair's instructions and will not dispose of any material unless instructed to do so.
5. I recognize that my confidentiality obligations will continue after the conclusion of the Chabikuli-Linton Unity & Excellence selection process.
6. I acknowledge that a breach of my confidentiality obligation could lead to my removal from the Review Panel, and the obligation to keep confidential information will be binding indefinitely.

Conflict of Interest

I acknowledge that Review Panel members must conduct their duties in a fair, impartial, and unbiased manner.

1. I agree to disclose immediately to the Chair any actual, potential, or perceived conflict of interest, including but not limited to:
 - a. Personal, familial, financial, academic, organizational, or close personal relationships with a nominee;
 - b. Situations that could reasonably be perceived as compromising my objectivity.
2. If a conflict of interest is identified, I agree to recuse myself from discussion, evaluation, and decision-making related to the affected nominee and, where required, to leave the deliberation space.

Appendix B: Review Panel Confidentiality and Conflict of Interest Responsibilities

3. I understand that failure to disclose a conflict of interest may result in removal from the review panel at the discretion of the Chair.
4. I acknowledge that conflicts of interest may evolve and that disclosure is a continuing obligation throughout my service on the Review Panel.

Time Commitment

Members of this panel must attend three (3) official committee meetings with regard to the awarding of scholarships:

1. Meeting to review the Terms: This is where the scholarship terms will be reviewed and confirmed. This meeting is a preliminary meeting prior to the first official meeting.
2. Meeting for Application Review & Selection: This is a meeting to determine which applicants have been selected to be offered a scholarship based on the previous meeting's evaluations and discussions among the members.
3. Award Ceremony: This is where the selected recipient will be awarded their prize.

In order to ensure the awarding of the scholarship is done impartially, consistently, and with the greatest level of informed decision-making. All members are expected to attend both meetings fully.

Declaration

I confirm that I have read, understand, and agree to abide by the confidentiality, conflict of interest & responsibilities outlined above as a condition of my participation on the review panel.

Review Panel Member Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____





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