Brexialee "Brexi"
SHA Resident Scholarship

Brexialee "Brexi" A. Torres Ortiz, was an extraordinary 11-year-old who loved her community. She was a 6th grade student of Syracuse STEM at Blodgett Middle School, where she was an honor student and president of her class when her life was cut far too short because of senseless gun violence. Brexi loved math, dancing, cooking, and her family and friends. She spent countless hours at the Boys and Girls Club participating in programming and helping others. Brexi was a child full of life and will be remembered as a "ray of sunshine everywhere she went."

Brexi's legacy will continue to shape the lives of many young students to come through this scholarship in her honor. Any High School Senior residing in Syracuse Housing Authority who share Brexi's love for the community, curiosity to learn, and desire to change the world are encouraged to apply.

Who is Eligible to Apply:

High School Seniors who live in Syracuse Housing Authority Public Housing or Housing Choice Voucher Program (Section 8). Students must have been accepted into a College/University and plan to pursue either a Bachelor's degree, Associate's degree or attend a Vocational School.

The high school student must be presently living within SHA for one (1) full year prior to submitting the application.

Requirements:

1. Recipient must be a High School Senior
2. GPA must be 2.7 (B)
3. Student must live within Syracuse Housing Authority or Housing Choice Voucher Program

Key Dates:

➢ **February 1st** Deadline for submission of application, essay, transcript, proof of commitment letter, and 2 recommendations letters.
➢ **Early April:** Determination of award recipients, letters will be sent following decisions.

Award Amounts:

One Time Award of: **$5,000**.
Award will be issued directly to their school after student provides proof of commitment letter.

RESIDENT REQUIREMENT CHECKLIST: Submit the following documents to SHA's Scholarship Committee. All documents must be typewritten in English. Please do not fold or staple documents.

1. APPLICATION: Visit www.syracusehousing.org/Scholarship to access the online application. Include the printed application in the packet of materials that you submit to Scholarship Committee.

2. VERIFICATION PAGE: Grade Point Average Verification (Contact your school counselor for verification letter).

3. SCHOOL TRANSCRIPT: You must provide an original and official copy of your high school transcript.

4. TWO LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION: You must submit one recommendation from a teacher, guidance counselor, coach, or extracurricular activities leader and one personal recommendation from a non-family member.

5. ESSAY: You must submit a typewritten essay in English addressing the following topic: How my public housing, high school and my community engagement experiences have influenced my life. Please include how your personal efforts, achievements and dreams for a better tomorrow can affect change in your school and community of where you live. (350–500 words).

6. CONTRACT: "Contract" prior to receiving scholarship. Applications must be completed in their entirety. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Applicant must be a high school senior and a dependent of a Full-Time SHA Employee. MINIMUM GRADE POINT AVERAGE – Student must have at least a "B" average (or 2.7 GPA) on his/her school's applicable scale during his/her high school career, cumulatively, to be considered for the scholarship.

7. CERTIFICATION: Student must sign this form certifying the following:

I certify that all information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I further certify the application is complete and contains all items from the "Requirements Checklist".

Student
Signature: _____

Printed Name:_____ Date:_____

SEND INFORMATION TO:
Syracuse Housing Authority:
Scholarship Coordinator   Or Email:
516 Burt St   SHASCHOLAR@SYRHOUSING.ORG
Syracuse, NY 13202

OFFICE PURPOSE ONLY:
Date all documents have been received: _____ Approved: _____ Denied: _____

Committee Member Approval Signature: _____ Date:_____