



The Sonia Daly Belcher Annual Scholarship

The Sonia Daly Belcher Fund was established in 2020 to honor the life of Sonia Daly Belcher and to continue her legacy of generosity, service, and faith. The Sonia Daly Belcher Scholarship Fund annually awards faithful Orthodox Christian students for the exploration of their purpose, passion, and response to Christ's call to love and serve others and will give at least one **scholarship of \$1,000 or more** to applicants who best meet the qualifications for the award as listed below. Applications must be postmarked no later than **August 1, 2021**; scholarship awards will be announced by September 17. Send completed applications, along with *all* required information, to:

The Sonia Daly Belcher Fund
% Saint George Orthodox Church
6 Atwood Avenue
Norwood, MA 02062

Applicants must:

1. Be a communicant member of a Canonical Eastern Orthodox Christian Church.
2. Be, at minimum, a sophomore in the Fall of 2021 at a college, university, or vocational school.
3. Be a resident of New England (Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island or Vermont) or attending college in New England.

Instructions:

Requirements: All your inputs and two recommendations must be postmarked by August 1, 2021.

1. Completed scholarship application and essay.
2. Transcript of the most recently completed semester and if available, the transcript should show cumulative GPA.
3. Two letters of recommendation, non-relative: one religious, one personal

RELIGIOUS: Your priest, deacon, or community leader (GOYA, SOYO, Camp or Choir Director, etc.)

PERSONAL: Your academic advisor, dean, professor, employer, etc.

Each recommender should write a letter on letterhead and place it in a sealed envelope to be included in the application packet or separately mailed and postmarked by August 1, 2021.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

(For additional space to complete any answer, use Section 6)

1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Full Name:	Date of Birth:
Permanent Address:	
Your preferred phone and email:	

2. SCHOOL RECORD

Name and address of the college/university/vocational school you will be attending in the Fall of 2021:
School-related activities, organizations, and teams from Fall 2019 to present (include start/end dates):
School-related <i>leadership</i> positions from Fall 2019 to present (include start/end dates):

3. RELIGIOUS RECORD

Name, address, and phone number of your parish church:

Name of presiding priest of your church:

Orthodox jurisdiction (Antiochian, Greek, OCA, Ukrainian, etc.):

Religious honors, activities, organizations, teams, leadership positions from Fall 2019 to present (include start/end dates):

You selected someone from your *religious* community to write your recommendation. Why did you choose this person?

4. WORK, SERVICE, & COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION RECORD

List and describe paid work experience from Fall 2019 to present (include start/end dates):

List and describe volunteer experience from Fall 2019 to present (include start/end dates):

You selected someone from your community to write a recommendation. Why did you choose this person?

5. ESSAY

Like her patron saint, Saint Sophia of Rome, Sonia demonstrated unwavering faith in Jesus Christ, encouraging others to devote their lives to Him in all things. Please reflect on the following virtues and write an essay (500 word maximum) on how these virtues have helped define your vocational call, and how you plan to continue a life of generosity, service, and faith in whatever profession you choose.

Wisdom: to work diligently with intentionality in recognition that a true education is a personal encounter, not a mere transfer of data.

Faith: to believe in Jesus Christ, "the Son of the living God" (Mt 16.16) - the source of all wisdom, power, and virtue - Faith is the means by which man can know and do all things, for "all things are possible to him who believes" (Mk 9.23, Mt 17.20).

Hope: to be joyful and strong when faced with adversity is a mark of good character and confidence in our Christian beliefs. Hope is the conviction that a life built on faith will produce good fruit and benefit the world. We come to know and understand ourselves better and can therefore position ourselves to live joyful lives in service to God and others.

Love: to love God and neighbor. We respond to Christ's call to love one another. Love, the settled disposition to be and to do good for the sake of others, guides our actions.

Please write or type your essay on a separate sheet and attach it to the application.

6. OPTIONAL: OTHER COMMENTS/CONTINUATIONS FROM EARLIER SECTIONS

(include Section Number)

7. MEDIA RELEASE: Scholarship recipients will be asked to provide a photo to be used, along with biographical information, in promotional print and online materials.

Initial here _____ to signify your approval.

8. REQUIRED: SIGNATURE

All information and statements in this application are true and correct.

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Date

Signature of Applicant

Applications will be kept confidential by the Scholarship Committee. Scholarship recipients will have their name, photo, and current school announced on our website, social media, and other press releases.

Applications will not be returned to the candidate.

CHECKLIST: Please review the entire application carefully before mailing -- incomplete and/or late applications will not be accepted. Your packet should include:

- Completed scholarship application
- Transcripts
- Two letters of recommendation (may be mailed separately by recommenders)

Please share with us how you learned about The Sonia Daly Belcher Scholarship:

- Priest, or Church Community
- Parents
- Friend
- TheSoniaFund.org
- Social Media _____
- Other _____