

# HUMAN RIGHTS AND SOCIAL JUSTICE SCHOLARSHIP

## Alison Des Forges Scholarship Opportunity for Buffalo High School Seniors

### About the Scholarship

The Alison L. Des Forges Memorial Committee at the University at Buffalo (UB) offers an annual \$5,000 undergraduate scholarship renewable for a total of four years to qualified graduates of Buffalo public and charter schools to study at UB. **Application deadline: Friday, April 7, 2023.**

### Who was Alison Des Forges?

Alison Des Forges was an inspirational advocate for human rights and a forceful campaigner for public education in Buffalo. She was an influential historian of Central Africa, and the leading American voice in defense of human rights in Rwanda. Alison alerted the world to the early signs of genocide and, when the genocide began in 1994, she worked tirelessly to save people and to exhort leaders in the world community to stop the carnage. See the video *Confronting Evil: Genocide in Rwanda* at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=0h3vJJWRcFE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0h3vJJWRcFE). For much more, see [www.AlisonDesForges.org](http://www.AlisonDesForges.org).

### Who is Eligible to Apply?

Any Buffalo public or charter school student may apply if they are accepted to the University at Buffalo, in any major, and if they demonstrate a commitment to pursue issues related to human rights and social justice.

### Fields of Study

A student in any academic major may apply. Scholarship recipients have majored in many different disciplines, including Biological Sciences, Biomedical Engineering, Environmental Geosciences, Management, Political Science, Sociology, Speech & Hearing Science, Theatre, and Urban & Public Policy Studies.

### Who has received the Scholarship?

See [www.AlisonDesForges.org/recipients](http://www.AlisonDesForges.org/recipients) for information about past and present Scholarship recipients.

### Application materials must include:

- Personal statement of 500-800 words demonstrating your awareness of the life and work of Alison Des Forges; your intent to pursue courses, activities and a career in human rights and social justice; any previous relevant experiences; and an explanation of how this award would make a difference in your life and in the lives of others.
- Two letters of recommendation. One letter must be from a teacher; the second letter may be from a coach, mentor or unrelated adult.
- High school transcript (including GPA)
- SAT/ACT scores (optional)
- List of extracurricular activities

*“Alison was one of the  
greatest advocates of  
human rights in our time”*

Human Rights Watch

### How do I Submit an Application?

Application and submission details are on the UB Scholarship Portal at:  
<https://buffalo.academicworks.com/opportunities/6114>

**Questions?** Students and Guidance Counselors may email [ALDScholarship@buffalo.edu](mailto:ALDScholarship@buffalo.edu).

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: FRIDAY, APRIL 7, 2023 AT MIDNIGHT**

[www.AlisonDesForges.org](http://www.AlisonDesForges.org)