



## LOWER MERION TOWNSHIP SCHOLARSHIP FUND

BOX 346, ARDMORE, PENNSYLVANIA 19003-0346

610-645-1893 E-mail: [lmtsf@lmsd.org](mailto:lmtsf@lmsd.org)

July 8, 2019

Ms. Ronna Bonds  
Bobby Bonds Memorial Foundation  
722 Yale Road  
Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004

Dear Ms. Bonds:

On behalf of the Lower Merion Township Scholarship Fund, I would like to thank you for the donation of \$2,000 which will continue to fund the Bobby Bonds Memorial Scholarship. We are proud to be the benefactors of the Bobby Bonds Memorial Foundation and will award another student the "Bobby Bonds Memorial Scholarship" during our May 2020 reception. As you know, Kevin Zhai is the 2019-20 recipient of Bobby's award. Please find Kevin's touching thank you letter enclosed.

When the Lower Merion Township Scholarship Fund was established in 1964, the founding members set out to help "*bridge the gap between spiraling costs of a post high school education and the inability of an increasing number of families to bear the expense involved.*" (Excerpt taken from the **first** LMTSF appeal letter sent in 1964.) **Your** generous donation goes to help defray these increasing costs. We are proud that since 1965, we have been able to provide over 4,300 grants totaling more than \$3 million. For the 2019-20 academic year, we were able to award more than \$117,000 in grants to 111 new and renewing students.

Our original board of governors and our current board of governors feel similarly, in that the generous investment in the future of our youth is urgently needed to "*open doors of opportunity at present closed to many.*" It is gratifying to know that you, too, believe in our aim of assisting youth to improve their future through college education.

Thank you again for your generosity.

Sincerely,

Shari Bickel

On behalf of the LMTSF Board of Governors

Ronna -  
It was a pleasure meeting you  
at the reception.  
Thank you for continuing to fund  
this very meaningful scholarship.  
This year, helping Kevin was a  
complete coincidence that he was your  
neighbor - so great!

The Lower Merion Township Scholarship Fund is a registered 501(c)(3) Charitable Organization. This letter serves as your receipt for your income tax records.

Sincerely,

A copy of the official registration and financial information of the Lower Merion Township Scholarship Fund may be obtained from the Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Bobby Bonds Memorial Foundation/Bonds family  
Bobby Bonds Memorial Scholarship  
722 Yale Road  
Bala Cynwyd, PA, 19004

Dear Bonds family and the Bobby Bonds Memorial Foundation,

I am writing to express my humble gratitude of your generous financial donation towards the Bobby Bonds Memorial Scholarship. When I found out I had been selected to receive this, I was excited and surprised, but not just for the traditional reasons.

I will be attending the Leonard N. Stern School of Business at New York University this fall of 2019. Unlike many other universities, I was not allowed to select a major upon applying, so I appreciate that I get the opportunity to see the wide range of options available to me before making a potentially life-changing choice. I've always found business and finance to be interesting, as I loved finding innovative ways to pursue them. From reselling hyped clothing and shoes to working at an honest job, it seems as though business has always stayed with me throughout my life. New York University's tuition is quite expensive, so any financial aid I can get is already greatly appreciated. Thanks to this scholarship, I am now ever so closer to pursuing my dream without the stress of student loans over the horizon.

I am unsure as to whether I was selected specifically for my familiarity to the Bonds family, or if this happened as a random, blind act, but I am very thankful nonetheless. See, unlike many of my peers receiving grants and scholarships in a similar fashion, I have actually had a personal connection with the organization donating this generous gift to me. The Bonds family are my literal next-door neighbors, and I had many interactions with the late Mr. Bonds (who I knew as Bobby) as a result of this. Every morning during my elementary and middle school years, I would wake up to either walk to school or go to my bus stop, and I would see Bobby without fail, sitting at his front porch enjoying the day already. Sometimes we had a conversation, but sometimes a simple greeting sufficed, but the constant amongst all my interactions with him was that I knew I valued his company. I'd like to thank the Bonds family for all that they've done for me throughout my residence in Bala Cynwyd. From providing me one of my first friends in the neighborhood in the form of Bobby's son Andrew, to the occasional ride home from school, they really proved to be more than just neighbors, but valued family friends. I suppose in one final act of kindness, they've now helped me to lessen the financial strain university will have on me, something possibly only outshadowed by the incredible kindness as a whole they've shown me throughout my time here. I suppose it now goes without saying that I greatly value this gift, and will now go forward invigorated by the thought that I have the support of others. Seeing the



incredible graciousness Bobby has offered me, even in the afterlife, I am now inspired to honor his life by demonstrating these same honorable traits of kindness and generosity wherever I go, in hopes of even remotely accomplishing a fraction of what this great man has been able to.

From the bottom of my heart, thank you again for all that you've done.

Sincerely,

Kevin Zhai  
724 Yale Road  
Bala Cynwyd, PA, 19004