



Noble Samuel Scholarship Application

Friends of Virgin Islands National Park sponsors a scholarship program to encourage higher education among Virgin Islanders with an interest in the cultural and environmental well-being of the Virgin Islands. The scholarship reflects the values embodied by Noble Samuel and supports students who demonstrate a commitment to community, stewardship, and sustainability of the territory.

The Noble Samuel Scholarship is awarded to a St. John or St. Thomas student who is attending or entering an accredited college or university. Applicants must have a declared or intended major in a field that contributes to the environmental, social, or economic well-being of the Virgin Islands. Eligible fields include cultural preservation, education, business, public health, social sciences, or other areas that support the growth and vitality of Virgin Islands communities.

The annual scholarship awards \$5,000 per academic year, disbursed at a rate of \$2,500 per semester. It also includes a paid internship with Friends of Virgin Islands National Park on St. John during holidays and the summer months.

To be eligible for the scholarship, students must:

- **Be a St. John or St. Thomas resident, and have completed high school in the U.S. Virgin Islands (or be currently in the final semester of senior year).**
- **Have attained a minimum 3.0 ("B") average during their most recent three semesters of high school and/or college (whichever is applicable).**
- **Plan to major in a field that contributes to the environmental, social, or economic well-being of the Virgin Islands — whether through cultural preservation, education, business, public health, social sciences, or other areas that support the growth and vitality of Virgin Islands communities.**
- **Submit two letters of recommendation, including one from a teacher, educator, or school counselor.**

More information about this scholarship is available at www.friendsvinp.org/scholarships.

SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION BY MARCH 13, 2026 to Ki'Janne' Alfred at kalfred@friendsvinp.org or call 340-779-4940 with any questions.

**Friends of
Virgin Islands National Park**

**Noble Samuel
Scholarship Application**

Date: _____

Name: _____

Place of Birth: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Physical Address: _____

Email Address: _____

High School(s) Attended: _____

Date of Graduation: _____

University Attending: _____

Date of University Entry: _____

Intended Major: _____

Friends of Virgin Islands National Park Programs:

Have you participated in or volunteered with any Friends of the Park or National Park programs or events, such as Summer Trail Crew, School Kids in the Park (SKIP), Learn to Swim, Youth Conservation Corps, Junior Ranger Program, Power Swim, or other related activities?

If yes, please describe briefly:

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**Noble Samuel Scholarship
Application Attachments Checklist**

Please attach the following items to complete your application:

1. Official Transcript

- a. An official copy of your high school or university transcript.

2. Personal Essay (approximately 250 words)

- a. Topic: *“Why pursuing study in a field related to cultural or natural resource management is important to me and the future of the Virgin Islands.”*
- b. Applicants should ensure that their essay reflects their own thoughts and experiences; any use of AI tools should be appropriately acknowledged.

3. Two (2) Letters of Recommendation

- a. One from a **current teacher, educator, or counselor**
- b. One from a **community member** who knows you personally and can serve as a character reference.

Guidance for Recommenders

References should submit a **signed letter** addressing the applicant’s relevant qualifications and character. While recommenders are welcome to structure their letter as they see fit, the following suggested questions may be shared to help guide their response, if needed:

- 1. How do you know the applicant, and for how long?
- 2. What strengths, leadership qualities, or personal traits stand out most?
- 3. How has the applicant demonstrated interest in environmental, cultural, or community issues in the Virgin Islands?
- 4. Why do you believe this applicant would be a good recipient of the Noble Samuel Scholarship?

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