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## *Rev. Nkenge Mayimuna Olutunka Abi*

***“The greatest in the Kingdom of God are those who serve”. Matthew 23:11***

As far back in history as you will go, you will find that God’s best instrument for sharing love and wisdom has been through the black woman. Today, we honor our ***Sister, Rev. Nkenge Mayimuna Olutunka Abi, (superior mind; expressive; on guard; beloved of God)*** a woman who gave to the Pan African community through her service to the church. The voice and vision of Rev. Abi is part of our history, our hearts and minds as reflected in the words of poet Audre Lorde. ***“History is not something that is dead and gone; rather it lives on in the words and deeds of everyday life”. Just as a tree holds its rings of history making its trunk as strong and as fragile as it is so too do our histories live within us collectively and individually!”*** We are living and breathing collections of our history. Rev. Abi, our ancestral griot was a woman, who un-tirelessly gave of her time and talents, year after year, without fanfare, she heard and answered the call of God.

She like ***Deborah, Esther, Mary Magdalene, Queen Nzinga, Harriet Tubman, Ida B. Wells, Sojourner Truth, Mary Church Terrell, Mary McLeod Bethune, Fannie Lou Hammer, Rosa Parks,*** and the many others who stepped up when they heard the sound of the trumpet calling out for servants working for the freedom of our people. As Pan African Sisters we are privileged to celebrate our history, beginning with the founding of our historical institutions. Pan African Orthodox Christian Church renamed in 1977 honoring the Black Woman determined to advance our mission as The Shrines of the Black Madonna.

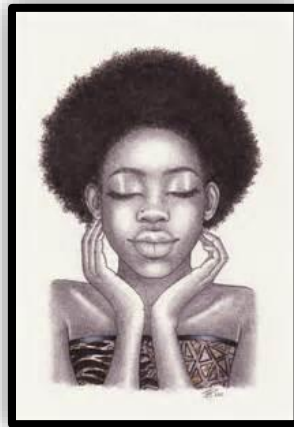
As a community of sisters, it is only befitting that on this day, this evening of honoring one another, we honor our Shero, Rev. Nkenge Abi, a woman whom forged new paradigms through innovation and entrepreneurship, thinking, cultural sustainability through arts and humanities and her special gift of storytelling. We will honor her life and legacy by gifting a young sister of promise attending a Historical Black College with a book scholarship award through the Heritage Scholarship Fund founded by the Shrine of the Black Madonna College Cadre in 2014.

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The young sisters in the Pan African Orthodox Christian Church portend great promise in myriad fields of endeavor, and we are honored to support their pursuit of excellence. We are so excited to celebrate the Women of Worship's founding, honoring one of our most distinguished Woman of God and most importantly, to raise funds to support the scholarship for a young adult. The Scholarship is dedicated to making a positive and lasting impact on the community by providing opportunities for young women to pursue excellence in the Pan African Community through her service. It is my honor to announce the Women of Worship Ministry

## *“Sister of Promise”*



Book Scholarship Award honoring, the life and legacy of the Majestic, Rev. Nkenge Abi. The aim of the Rev. Nkenge Abi *“Sister of Promise”* Scholarship is to create a legacy of strong and confident women who will share their energy and influence, resulting in active worship, community service and economic independence for themselves and others.

We Believe....

- Every person has a responsibility to leave a legacy of giving back
- By sharing our resources, we can positively affect lives
- In improving the community one person at a time, and that every effort, no matter how small, can make a difference
- Every young woman should have the opportunity to find her greatness, as she defines it
- In the power of economic independence is the ability of women supporting the efforts of young women
- In the power of community, encouragement, and understanding
- A support circle can build confidence and make opportunities known and real

Are you a young woman between the ages of 17 and 24 who volunteers in your community or school? Who sees challenges instead of obstacles? Hope instead of despair? If you are a young woman who believes in the power of spirit in action, then you may be eligible to win *“Sister of Promise”* the Rev. Nkenge Abi Scholarship Award. The Rev. Nkenge Abi Book Scholarship Award recognizes young women who make the community and world a better place through academic, community service and social actions that benefit youth girls and young women in the Pan African world.

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## The Nkenge Abi Book Scholarship Award

If you think you would make a good “*Sister of Promise*” Award candidate, please complete this application and tell us about your academic and community service action. Send it to: [theyearofrestoration.org](http://theyearofrestoration.org) listed on the application. Good luck! And, even if you are selected this year, we applaud your efforts to make the Pan African community a better place. ***It’s What You Do That Counts!***

### Instructions:

Deadline: Completed applications and any supporting materials must be received by the **July 1<sup>st</sup> (annually)**.

**Step 1:** Determine if you are eligible. Eligible applicants are young women who:

- are currently between the ages of 17- 24
- have demonstrated initiative in both identifying a problem and trying to solve it
- have had significant and noteworthy accomplishments in community service

**Step 2:** Complete the application. To fill out the form: (create a PDF file)

**Step 3:** Email your application. Send your application with any supporting materials to:

WOW Nkenge Abi “*Sister of Promise*” Scholarship Award: WOW Contact Person:

Email Address:

Address:

City/State/Zip:

Phone:

WOW Scholarship Coordinator: ***National Advisor***

All inquiries regarding this application should be made to the WOW contact person listed above.

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### Application General Information

Name:

(Last) (First)

(Middle Initial)

Date of Birth

Email Address

Address

(Number and Street)

City Province/State Postal Code

Country

Phone

Name of the organization where you serve/volunteer

Phone number for volunteer organization

**Application Deadline: May 1<sup>st</sup> ~ July 1<sup>st</sup> annually**

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## Essay

Write an essay, up to 750 words. Tell us where you serve/volunteer and why. Describe the goals of the organization and its impact on the problem(s) it addresses. What is your role in the organization? What have you accomplished as a servant/volunteer? What are your future aspirations?

Additional Materials (Optional) Please feel free to submit any supporting materials that you think we should see (for example, newspaper clippings, photographs, etc.). Additional materials are optional. Make sure that your name and phone number are on all additional materials.

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## Application Agreement

- I certify that all information provided in this application is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I will notify the designated Women of Worship Ministry to which I have submitted this application if there are any changes.
- I understand this award is taxable in the United States.
- I understand that my application and supporting materials become the property of WOW Ministry upon submission, and that WOW shall have sole discretion in using these materials for the purpose of publicizing the, Nkenge Abi “*Sister of Promise*” Scholarship Award.

By signing and or typing your name below you adhere to the above requirements.

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Signature of Applicant

Date

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Signature of Parent or Guardian

Date

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Signature of WOW Coordinator

Date

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## Essay

Please prepare and submit a typed essay up to 750 words.

Application Submittal Timeframe: **May 1<sup>st</sup> ~ July 1<sup>st</sup> annually.**

Award Date: **no later than August 31<sup>st</sup> annually**