

RH Flowers Scholars
First-Year
Program Handbook
2018-2019

Multicultural Programs
Intercultural Office
Messiah College

Contact Information

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Student Leaders

Martin Mentors

Arion Dominique

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Britney M. Yauger

R.H. Flowers Mentors

Brianna Deklavon

Mina Diep

Emily Fanton

Kyle Foy

Anita Garber

Ricky Hoerl

Raad Khan

Anna Mayo

Amber Paxton

Andrea Perez

Christina Perez

Sam Rivera

Wilfredo Rohena

Ella Silvera

Kassidy Singleton

Kendra Sommers

Jesse Stevens

Halie Stewart

Kai Thomas-Robertson

Kate Thompson

Nathan Vargas

Emma Workman

Mission

Fostering RH Flowers Scholars in their awareness of domestic racial matters and ethnic identity development in order to prepare for reconciliation in the church and society.

Goals

Multicultural Scholars will:

- Be better prepared to engage successfully in college-related activities, curricular and co-curricular alike.
- Receive one-on-one peer guidance on how to manage college expectations, social life and diversity in our community.
- Be connected to at least one upper class student.
- Be more connected to Multicultural Programs and will see it as a resource.

General Scholarship Requirements

- Students who receive a Multicultural Scholarship must maintain at least a cumulative 2.5 GPA in their first year and at least a cumulative 3.0 GPA in subsequent years.
- The scholarships renewable for up to eight semesters at Messiah College.
- Students will be expected to respect the Messiah College community covenant and maintain good standing with the college by not being placed on academic or disciplinary probation or suspension.

Program Requirements

All first-year RH Flowers scholars will:

- Attend Multicultural Student Orientation in August.
- Attend an educator-led sixer chapel series in the fall semester.
- Meet individually with a peer mentor twice each semester at a minimum (or 4 times during the first year).

Additional Requirements to earn a Multicultural Scholar Cord

A student must decide to work toward the scholar cord by the start of the second semester in order to complete the following requirements continually until graduation.

- Be involved in leadership through the Agapé Center, Collaboratory, College Ministries, LOFT, SAB, SGA, as a Multicultural Scholarships Mentor, Resident Assistant, Multicultural Council leader, Humanities Student Fellow or other approved position.
- Meet once a year with the *Assistant Director of Multicultural Scholarship Programs* or the *Assistant Director of Multicultural Student Programs*.
- Attend two approved diversity events per semester.

Summary Reports

- During your first year you are required to submit a summary report each semester evaluating your peer mentoring relationship to the *Assistant Director of Multicultural Scholarship Programs* by way of Canvas in order to receive “credit” for the experience.
- We also ask that you complete the RH Flowers chapel evaluation once the series ends in December.
- If you are planning to earn Multicultural Scholar Cords, starting the second semester it is your responsibility to submit two one-paragraph summary reports highlighting two diversity events you attend.
- Scholars that wish to earn cords have an additional report stating the leadership position you have acquired for the following year.

Policies:

Participation: Active, informed participation is absolutely essential. Meaningful participation involves careful preparation, consistent verbal contributions, and respectful listening. As we will discover together, engaging ideas and experiences in a supportive, collaborative learning environment is a great foundation for the kinds of collaborative work you will do as leaders at Messiah.

Comportment: When attending approved diversity events, you represent Multicultural Scholarship Programs. Please leave your cell phones off and your laptops (and other electronic devices) in their cases, unless otherwise instructed. Practice respect for your facilitators, guest speakers and other students: no sleeping, no Facebook, no texting, and no otherwise disruptive or distracting behavior. If you fail to behave in an appropriate manner, you will be considered as not fully participating in the program. In extreme cases, you may be asked you to leave the session.

Inclusive Language: Please carefully review Messiah’s Statement on Inclusive Language in the Messiah College Student Handbook. Particularly in a program like this, where we are paying attention to the dynamics of social and historical categories such as race, gender, class, religion, etc., it is crucial that we remember that, “language, as a means of signifying and communicating, is not static or value-free.”

“Stuff” happens: Things happen in life. And when “stuff” happens, please let the *Assistant Director of Multicultural Scholarship Programs* know as soon as humanly possible. If you have something going on in your life, we can try to help you, but if you don’t tell us, we won’t know and you will be penalized.

Academic Difficulty

If a student is deemed to be in academic difficulty by being either at risk of failing one or more courses or earning a GPA lower than required to maintain the scholarship or if a professor issues an Academic Update that indicates that the student is struggling in a

course, the student will meet with the *Assistant Director of Multicultural Scholarship Programs* to identify a plan for success specific to you. Strategies may include, but are not limited to:

- Meet biweekly with the *Assistant Director* or another educator mentor
- Attend study hall sessions
- Use other academic resources on campus on a regular basis

Grade Point Average Review

As previously stated, recipients of a Multicultural Scholarship must maintain a minimum GPA in each year that they receive the scholarship in order to continue to receive the scholarship for the next year. The minimum GPA is 2.5 for the first year and 3.0 each year thereafter.

The criterion for continuance of this scholarship is based on either a yearly GPA or your cumulative GPA. In other words, if either your cumulative GPA or your GPA for the two semesters of the most recently completed academic year meet the minimum for your scholarship, you will continue to receive the scholarship for the next academic year.

If you do not meet either of the above GPA criteria, you will receive a probationary semester during which you will continue to receive the scholarship and can attempt to increase your GPA. At the end of the probationary semester, if you meet either the cumulative GPA criterion, or if your GPA for the past three semesters (the probationary semester and the two semesters during which you failed to re-qualify) is up to the requirement for your grade level, you will continue to receive the scholarship for the semester following the probation and will continue to receive it as long as you continue to meet the requirements.

You will receive only one GPA probationary semester during your time at Messiah College. If you fail to re-qualify after the probationary period, you will lose your scholarship, with no opportunity to regain it in the future. If you re-qualify after the probationary period, but fail to re-qualify at any time in the future under either criterion in the above paragraph, you will lose your scholarship, with no opportunity to regain it in the future.

A student may appeal the decision to discontinue the scholarship based on GPA requirements by writing a letter to the *Director of Financial Aid*.

ADA STATEMENT (Americans with Disabilities Act)

Messiah College welcomes students with disabilities to participate in all of its courses, programs, services and activities. If you have a documented disability and are requesting accommodations, please:

- 1) Contact *Amy Slody, Director of Disability Services*, in Murray Library 115C, by phone (717-796-7258) or email aslody@messiah.edu. If your documentation meets the

college's documentation guidelines, you will be given a letter from the Office of Disability Services for your professors.

- 2) As early as possible in the year, set up an appointment to meet with the *Assistant Director of Multicultural Scholarship Programs*. During this meeting, we will discuss the academic adjustments specified in your accommodations letter as they pertain to this program. Please note accommodations are not granted in a retroactive fashion.

Finally

We look forward to working with you! Never hesitate to ask questions. We also welcome feedback and suggestions about what can be done to help you get the most out of your experience in this program.

Requirements Check List – First Year

Fall requirements	Date completed	Details/Notes
Fall peer mentor meeting 1		
Fall peer mentor meeting 2		
Submit peer mentor report on Canvas after 2 meetings		
Attend Thursday RH Flowers chapel series bi-weekly		
Submit chapel evaluation on Canvas after last chapel		

Spring requirements	Date completed	Details/Notes
Spring peer mentor meeting 1		
Spring peer mentor meeting 2		
Submit peer mentor report on Canvas after 2 meetings		

Additional requirements to earn a Multicultural Scholar Cord – First Year Spring

	Date completed	Details/Notes
30-minute check-in with Assistant Director		
Submit acquired leadership position report		
Submit spring event report 1 on Canvas		
Submit spring event report 2 on Canvas		

First-Year R.H. Flowers Calendar 2018-2019

(subject to change)

Fall

Fri. August 31, 2-3:00, Union (Move-in Day)	Multicultural Scholarship Programs (MCSP) Information Session
Sat. September 1, 12-2:00, Boyer Howe Atrium & Patio	Multicultural Programs Welcome Picnic
Thur. September 13, 7:00-8:00pm, lecture Fri. September 14, 2:00-4:00pm, open archives Sat. September 15, 7:00pm, performance	Rachel Helen Flowers Centennial Celebration
Thur. Sept 13, 27, Oct 18, Nov 1, 15, Dec 6	Chapel Series A
Thur. Sept 20, Oct 4, 25, Nov 8, 29, Dec 13	Chapel Series B
Thur. December 18 5:30-8:00pm, Orchard Hill	ICO Christmas Party with President Phipps

Spring

-Scholars who plan to work toward the Multicultural Scholar cord should 1) schedule a check-in meeting with the Assistant Director, 2) secure a leadership position and 3) begin to attend approved diversity events this semester and continue through graduation.

Sat. April 6	International Banquet (First year participants & leaders are supplied tickets at a discounted price. Watch for an email with the details.)
Thur. April 25, 5:00-6:30, Martin Commons	ICO Celebration Dinner