

## **The John, Lynne and Nicole Belli Memorial Scholarship**

### **Purpose**

The Belli Scholarship honors the memory of John, Lynne and Nicole Belli by affording college tuition and expense monies to a diverse group of Gwinnett County high school graduates, particularly those with documented economic need who may not be identified as academic or athletic leaders in their schools but possess the skills to be academically successful in college. The intent of this scholarship is to provide financial support for students who might not otherwise have an opportunity to attend college.

### **Scholarship Information**

- The Belli Scholarship will be awarded during the summer after high school graduation
- Provides \$5000 annually for college expenses including tuition, books and fees up to \$20,000.
- Renewable for up to four years of documented college coursework (must maintain a 2.0 college GPA)

### **Criteria**

- Students must apply in their senior year of high school
- Students must receive a College Preparatory diploma at graduation
- Top 10% of Senior Class **NOT** eligible
- Students must have a 2.5 minimum cumulative GPA at time of high school graduation to receive the scholarship
- Student must have TWO recommendation letters (ONE from two different CORE subject teachers) substantiating student's ability to be successful in college level coursework.
- Submit a one-page essay on your financial need, career goal and education plan as well as any extraordinary circumstances you have overcome to graduate from high school.
- **Economically disadvantaged students will be given priority in awarding this scholarship.**

Gwinnett County Public Schools will establish a selection committee each year and coordinate choosing appropriate recipients for scholarships. Two high school counselors (minimum) must serve on this committee along with other members TBD. Scholarships will be awarded after graduation upon confirmation of a 2.5 minimum high school GPA.

Scholarships will be renewable up to four years (\$20,000 total) providing recipients remain enrolled in college and maintain a cumulative 2.0 grade point average or above. Recipients will request the \$5000 from the **Northeast Georgia Community Foundation** with an official transcript from the previous year's college coursework during the summer prior to each fall semester. The scholarship money will be sent directly to the college or university of the recipient's choice. No money will ever be awarded directly to the recipient.