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Applications accepted for scholarship in memory of victim in Stuart case

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By Matt Rocheleau, Town Correspondent

Applications are being accepted for an annual Mission Hill scholarship program established two decades ago by the family of a murdered woman whose death led to a notorious criminal investigation that heightened racial tension in Boston.

After a pregnant Carol DiMaiti Stuart was fatally shot on Oct. 23, 1989, false accusations that a black man had murdered her were backed by city officials and Boston police.

Three months later, her husband Charles Stuart was identified – by his brother Matthew Stuart – as the killer. Charles Stuart [jumped to his death](#) from the Tobin Bridge the day after. In the aftermath, the city was divided over the racial profiling that drove the initial investigation.

Matthew Stuart [was found dead last week](#).

A year after the murder, the DiMaiti family [established a scholarship](#) for Mission Hill residents, and a memorable “[Mission Hill in Harmony](#)” benefit concert at Mission Church, which raised \$20,000 for the fund, brought the community together and began a long healing process.

“In the past 20 years, [many a kid](#) who came through Mission Hill has benefitted from that scholarship,” program director Donald Garnett told Boston.com last year.

Harmony on the Hill, which oversees the current scholarship program, launched this year’s application process on Sept. 1. Awards of up to \$500 are available for Mission Hill residents attending any form of post-high school education or training, the organization said. Applications are due by Sept. 23.

Mission Hill residents gathered for a series of [20th anniversary events last year](#), some of which helped raise money for the scholarship program.

Scholarship applications can be obtained at the Mission Hill Health Movement office at 1534 Tremont Street, or by downloading from Mission Hill Health Movement’s website, [here](#).

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