



## **MISS & MRS. VIETNAM USA SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION**

To Whom This May Concern,

We have available, 5 scholarships in the amount of \$1000 each that is aimed at young female 8<sup>th</sup> graders of Vietnamese descent. We are interested in advertising this scholarship those students who qualify and would very much appreciate any assistance in getting the word out to your students. The deadline is March 1, 2016. Below is more information regarding the scholarship. Thank you very much.

Mrs. Vietnam USA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to empowering Vietnamese American women while preserving Vietnamese culture and language. The Miss and Mrs. Vietnam USA Scholarship Foundation was established in an effort to broaden this goal to include young Vietnamese American women who will succeed with guidance, mentorship and financial support. Scholarships in the amount of \$1000 will be provided to 8<sup>th</sup> graders to assist them with supplemental course and application fees. Additionally, mentors will be available to guide the students through high school and college.

Currently, the mentors are three highly successful women from three very different stages of their academic and professional careers. Dr. Mai Vuong, also Mrs. Vietnam California 2012, is currently teaching chemistry at the college level. Born in Vietnam and raised in America, Dr. Vuong attained her B.A. at the University of California Berkeley in Chinese Language and Literature in addition to a Ph.D. in Chemistry and Biochemistry. As an underprivileged Vietnamese immigrant and first generation college graduate, Dr. Vuong teaches chemistry at a community college in an effort to better serve her community and to inspire more young Vietnamese women into graduate school in STEM (Science Technology Engineering Mathematics). Thanh Xuan Vo, also Mrs. Vietnam USA 2015, is currently a Doctor of Pharmacy Candidate at California Northstate University College of Pharmacy. Mrs. Vo, a first generation college graduate, immigrated to the United States in 2007, started her career at Evergreen Valley College and transferred to the University of California, Los Angeles with a major in Biochemistry. Currently in her second year of pharmacy school, Mrs. Vo continues to balance school, raising a family and English as a second language. Han Nguyen, also Miss Vietnam USA 2015, is a recent high school graduate attending the University of California, Berkeley with an intended major in Psychology and East Asian Studies. Ms. Nguyen, a first generation college student is interested in helping the under privileged with one year of Teach for America after graduation followed by attaining a Master's Degree in East Asian Studies and a Ph.D. in Psychology. These women who have conquered individual hardships will be help mentor the scholarship awardees for 8 years. Mentorship and guidance includes college applications assistance including essays and fee waivers, ways to maintain grades in high school, SAT preparation, application and strategies to test well, college tours, communications with mentors via email and yearly meetings.

The scholarship is dedicated to providing underprivileged female Vietnamese American 8<sup>th</sup> graders with financial support in addition to mentorship and guidance. The ideal candidate is chosen based on merit, socio-economic status and involvement in extracurricular activities. Our goal is to encourage and assist young Vietnamese women into higher education.

Financial support shall be \$1000 in cash, to be given in 3 installments over the course of 4 years under the condition that the student maintains their academic standing. Decisions will be based on merit, socio-economic status/ hardships overcame/ under privileged/ 1<sup>st</sup> generation college student and extracurricular activities such as volunteer & community work, clubs and sports. Please see scholarship application for more details.