



TERESA BLOSSOM



SCHOLARSHIP

Teresa Blossom has had a wide-ranging career, spanning four decades in journalism and public relations. A native of North Carolina, Blossom worked at the Fayetteville Times in the high school sports department as the first Black and woman, writing sports game summaries at night until she graduated in 1979. Professionally, Blossom turned an internship offer into a job at the Free Press. Her coverage included a Business Monday column for small, Black and female companies as well as the Lansing and City-County bureaus. Listening to Mayor Coleman Young about mortgage redlining, Blossom was on an investigative team that chronicled mortgage lending. The "Race for Money" series got a Pulitzer Prize nomination and other awards. In 1989, Blossom was hired by Young as an assistant press secretary. During his last term in office, she served as a spokesperson as well as spearheaded several film production and public service

campaigns. When Young passed in 1997, she collaborated with Calvin Brazile to prepare his obituary, which garnered national news coverage.

Four years later, Blossom served as Gil Hill's press secretary in his unsuccessful run for mayor and was hired in the same role during his 2002 bid to become Wayne County Executive. The winner, Robert Ficano, hired her as a part of his media team. Among her accomplishments is changing the county seal to remove Anthony Wayne and an indigenous leader together. The modern, blue water wave logo remains today.

Other work experiences include Health Alliance Plan, the Detroit-Wayne County Mental Health Agency and as the community relations coordinator for the Board of Police Commissioners.

A graduate of the University of North Carolina, she worked at the Black Ink paper, the publication of the Black Student Movement.

CRITERIA

- **Compile a grade point average of 3.5 or above.**
- **Provide evidence of church, community service.**
- **Provide your interest in journalism or public relations, particularly candidates that show a community focus. This should include clips and/or ideas of columns at your institution, local outlet or personal blog.**

This award is for a high school or college student, who shows outstanding promise in journalism or public relations.

This award is for \$2,500.

Application due by March 25.

Email: detroitnabj_scholarships@gmail.com

ESSAY

Please attach an essay of 250 words or more on how Teresa Blossom's career has inspired you to join either journalism or public relations. What does her career show about versatility? What kind of impact do you seek to serve the community?

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Email address _____

High School _____

Composite grade point average _____

College _____

Major _____

Community/Church service _____