

## The Abou Traore Student Scholarship Application

### BACKGROUND:

- Abou Traore was an international student who attended SVSU from 2005-2007.
- Sadly, Abou lost his life in a tragic accident before the start of the Fall 2007 semester.
- Abou was a pre-med major who dreamed of returning to his home country of Senegal as a doctor, to make a better life for his people.
- He was preparing to be a Resident Assistant for the 2007-2008 academic year.
- Abou played soccer, worked for Campus Facilities and Dining Services, and was an important member of the International Student Club.
- Abou was treasured as a friend and brother by many SVSU students, respected by faculty and staff, and loved by all who knew him.
- Abou characterizes the concept of the “power of one” and the value placed on each member of our University community.
- He is remembered by his friends as embracing life with joy, living it fully, and without regret.
- His friends at SVSU established the scholarship fund in 2007 and continue to raise funds to make more scholarships available to SVSU students in Abou’s name.

### ELIGIBILITY:

1. To be eligible, a student must:
  - a. Be enrolled full time in a degree program;
  - b. Have a cumulative grade point average of 2.75 or higher;
  - c. Be of Sophomore class standing or higher.
2. Preference will be given to candidates in the following order:
  - a. Students from West African countries;
  - b. Students from any region of Africa;
  - c. Students from any country, including the United States.
3. Candidates must demonstrate a commitment to campus and/or community involvement and the potential to make a continuing meaningful contribution to their community in the service of others, following graduation from SVSU.
4. Candidates must submit an essay describing their specific plans for after graduation to improve the quality of life for others in the world.
5. Recipients will be selected by a committee chaired by the Associate Director of Residential Life and include at least one representative from each of the following: Office of International Programs, International Student Club, and the SVSU faculty.
6. A scholarship of \$500 will be awarded annually from cash gifts provided by donors for that purpose pending the endowment reaching the \$10,000 goal.
7. When the endowment reaches the \$10,000 level, the number and amount of the scholarship awards each year will be determined by the amount of money available from the earnings of the endowment fund in accord with the policies of Saginaw Valley State University and the Saginaw Valley State University Foundation.
8. The Office of Scholarships and Student Financial Aid will disburse the awards according to regular University fiscal procedure.

If, at any time, the University policies and procedures in effect for the administration of privately funded scholarships are changed, the above provisions will be modified to conform.

The fund is to be invested and reinvested according to regular SVSU/SVSU Foundation procedures. Whenever it appears that changing conditions make the plan no longer applicable, practicable or suited to the general purposes stated above, representatives of the University will confer with the donor or representatives of the donor to secure a modification of the plan. If the University is unable to locate the donor or representative after reasonable efforts, then, the University is authorized to utilize the fund for any other suitable educational purpose so that the fund will provide maximum service to the community through the advancement of higher education. In such instance, the recipient shall meet the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c) (3).