



## Wanda Robson Scholarship

Wanda Robson was born and raised in Halifax, Nova Scotia. She was a single mother who worked hard to raise her family and, later in her life, would marry her loving and doting husband, Joe Robson. In 2004, at the age of 76, Wanda graduated from Cape Breton University with a Bachelor of Arts degree, fulfilling her lifelong dream of pursuing a university education. Wanda was also given an honorary degree from CBU in 2014 for her efforts in ensuring her sister's legacy would not be lost to history.

Wanda has become known as the youngest sister of Viola Desmond, who challenged the practice of racial segregation in a New Glasgow, Nova Scotia movie theatre in 1946. Wanda has been a steady and forceful voice for social justice in her sister's name for more than 20 years.

Never wanting the spotlight, and known for her deep-rooted determination, Wanda sparked a national wave of social justice activism that started with the history-making Mercy Free Pardon of Viola Desmond by former Nova Scotia Lieutenant Governor, Mayann Francis, to securing Viola's portrait on the Canadian \$10 banknote.

Wanda spoke to thousands of people across the country, from students to academics, sharing her sister's story and, in the process, inspiring many to overcome hardships associated with racial equality and doing so with pride, enthusiasm and grit.

Wanda will always hold a special connection with Cape Breton University. From her time as a student to her endless guidance and advice and the recent establishment of the Wanda Robson Scholarships, Wanda's legacy will be a reminder to us all of the importance of continuing social justice work and our dedication to diversity and equity.



## **Wanda Robson Scholarship**

**Value: \$3,000**

**Applicants must:**

- Identify as African Nova Scotian.
- Be a Canadian citizen, or permanent resident of Canada whose parent(s) is/are of African descent, reside in Nova Scotia, and attended high school in Nova Scotia.
- Enroll part-time or full-time in an undergraduate or postgraduate program.
- Have and maintain a minimum average of 70% in the most recent evaluations.

**To apply, submit:**

- A completed Wanda Robson Scholarship application form (see next page).
- A 500-word essay outlining leadership qualities through community involvement, student activities, or athletics. Also outline your professional goals and indicate how this scholarship can support your efforts to advance your personal and academic development.
- A copy of your resume.

Deadline for applications: April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Email applications to [awards@cbu.ca](mailto:awards@cbu.ca).



## Wanda Robson Scholarship

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

CBU ID: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Do you identify as an African Nova Scotian Student:      Yes

Please make sure you:

- Submit the completed application form
- Identify as African Nova Scotian.
- Submit a copy of your 500-word essay
- Submit a copy of your resume.

**Deadline: April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024**