



April 1, 2021

Dear Friend of AKOMA:

AKOMA, Rochester's African American Women's Gospel Choir has been in existence for more than 25 years. In addition to honoring and praising God through vocal music and the spoken word, AKOMA also emphasizes community service, the focus of which is our scholarship fund. Named after our adopted mother, Nona Patterson Chambers (NPC), the fund provides a financial gift to Rochester area African American female high school graduates who will attend college the fall after their graduation. Since 1996, a cadre of recipients have shared a portion of the more than \$177,000 raised on behalf of the NPC Scholarship Fund.

Thank you for your continued support of AKOMA and the work which has come to define much of what is important to her: faith, family, vocal music, sisterhood, community, and above all, service to God.

Because of Covid-19, AKOMA's 25th Silver Soiree Scholarship Concert continues to be postponed; however, we are planning a short Virtual Scholarship Celebration during the Fall of 2021. The purpose of our annual concert is to honor and praise God; to thank you for blessing our ministry; and to recognize present and past scholarship recipients. We hope to see you soon virtually and continue to pray that in-person gatherings can take place in the near future.

Each AKOMA Sister-Member is asked to encourage friends and family to support AKOMA's ministry, both spiritually and financially. With your help, AKOMA will be able to assist more deserving female African American high school graduates to attend the college of their choice.

We understand that this is a financially challenging time for many of us; however, any amount donated supports the dream of an NPC Scholarship Recipient to graduate with a college degree. You may select either of the following ways to give: \$App; PayPal Link (if you have a PayPal account); PayPal (via our website if you don't have a PayPal Account); or Personal Check. Please see the Donation Form and specific details on page two.

With a Heart full of Thanks,

***The Sisters of AKOMA***

**Founder &  
Artistic Director:**  
Dr. Arlette Miller Smith

**Executive Music  
Director:**  
Gloria Brooks

**President:**  
Ruth Anderson

**Vice President:**  
Carmen Allen

**Secretary:**  
Anita Simpson

**Assistant Secretary:**  
Regina Fowler

**Treasurer:**  
Donna M. Jones

**Assistant Treasurer:**  
Myrtle Day

**Chaplain:**  
Dr. Gaya Shakes

**Herstorian:**  
Déserée Bliss

**Conductors:**  
Kathy Damann

**AKOMA  
P.O. Box 19627  
Rochester, NY 14619  
www.AKOMA.org**



## AKOMA SCHOLARSHIP CONCERT DONATION FORM

Your Name (Please PRINT) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Phone \_\_\_\_\_

### CATEGORIES of SUPPORT

\_\_\_ Friend (\$10- 24); \_\_\_ Patron (\$25-49); \_\_\_ Sponsor (\$50.00-99); \_\_\_ Supporter (\$100-149);

\_\_\_ Benefactor (\$150-199); \_\_\_ Sankofa (\$200-249); \_\_\_ Nsoroma (\$250-350); \_\_\_ Tabono (\$351-500);

\_\_\_ Hye-Wo-Nhye (\$501-799); \_\_\_ Nyame Nti (\$800-999); \_\_\_ Eban (1000+)

**AKOMA (the Heart)** is the West African Adinkra symbol that means patience, endurance, consistency & faithfulness. We highlight other Adinkra symbols--- Sankofa (sang-ko-fah): wisdom- “Go back and fetch it”; Nsoroma (n-soar-row-mah): faith & leadership; Tabono (tah-bow-no): strength and persistence; Hye-Wo-Nhye (she-wo-n-shee): forgiveness & durability; Nyame Nti (n-yah-may n-tee): by God’s grace; Eban: Love, safety and security “fence”.

**You may donate in one of four ways:**

1. **Cash App: \$AKOMA1995**

2. **PayPal:** [https://paypal.me/AKOMAGospelChoirRoc?locale.x=en\\_US](https://paypal.me/AKOMAGospelChoirRoc?locale.x=en_US)  
(you must have a paypal account to us this link)

3. **PayPal:** Visit our website [www.AKOMA.org](http://www.AKOMA.org) and hit the donate button. (There is a service fee)

4. **Check: Check Amt. \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_**

For proper notation and credit, please PRINT below the name of the AKOMA sister you are supporting.

**AKOMA SISTER:** \_\_\_\_\_

*Make Checks payable to **AKOMA**, a 501(c) (3) organization.  
Donations are tax deductible.*

Mail your check to:  
**AKOMA**

P. O. BOX 19627

Rochester, New York 14619

**Email: [akomascholarship@gmail.com](mailto:akomascholarship@gmail.com)**