



# koniag education foundation

*Empowering Alutiiq people to achieve their potential through education.*

## Did You Miss the General Scholarship?



Don't fret! Our Spring Only Scholarship is open for those students who may have missed our annual KEF General Scholarship deadline of March 15. Applications are open now until **October 31, 2022**. All the requirements are the same, but the award will only be for the spring term.

Make sure to add the 23-24 KEF General Scholarship application opening to your calendar, which opens on **December 15, 2022**. The KEF General Scholarship will close on **March 15, 2023**. Apply by **February 15, 2023**, and receive an additional \$50 to your award!

Please email [kef@koniageducation.org](mailto:kef@koniageducation.org) visit our [website](#), or call (907) 562-9093 for more information.

## Letter of Recommendation & Resume Guide

Asking teachers or mentors for a letter of recommendation can be a little unnerving. We

also know for some students, the first time they apply for scholarships may be the first time they attempt to draft a resume. Both can be daunting and a tough nut to crack without help from your parents or peers.

Last year's 2021 - 2022 Student Advisory Committee Members, Simon Schumacher and Chris Nelson, saw a need for their fellow students and wanted to provide tools to help KEF students navigate the process of requesting letters of recommendation and creating a resume.

### Letter of Recommendation Guide

### Resume Guide

## Board Spotlight



“Life is too short to do things you don’t care about. Find what matters to you and keep moving forward.”

— Liz Odongo, KEF Board Member

### Liz Odongo

"Life is too short to do things you don't care about. Find what matters to you and keep moving forward," shares KEF Board Member Liz Odongo. Odongo took a holistic approach to her education. Like many, it was not a straight and narrow path but a windy, twisty road that has taken her to many places and brought her meaningful life lessons. In high school, Odongo spent her junior year living with a host family in Venezuela through an exchange program. In addition to Spanish, she learned about herself and her passion for education and public health. She dreamt of becoming a foreign service officer upon graduating.

Odongo went to college and dove into all the things the university has to offer. In the midst of the excitement, she inevitably failed out of school, lost her scholarships, and then decided to move back home. She quickly realized that she had sacrificed her education and well-being for the sake of fun. This was a challenging time for Odongo. She hit rock bottom and knew she had to do something—so she began rebuilding. From her failures, she grew tenacity and resiliency. She was committed to doing the work to heal herself.

Odongo returned to college with courage and regained her footing. Each year, she became stronger and more focused. Her hard work paid off with a bachelor's degree in Global Studies from the University of Washington and a master's degree in International Training and Education from the American University. She later served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Guyana.

Throughout her educational journey, Odongo saw the impact racism and sexism can have on one's overall well-being. She witnessed the harm that people from underserved communities experience, which is strongly connected to poor health outcomes and development. This lit a fire in Odongo. She decided to commit herself to helping individuals find their voice while giving the next generation the skills to persevere.

Odongo followed her passion for advocacy, leading her to her current position as the Director of Grants and Programs for the D.C. Coalition Against Domestic Violence in Washington, DC. Since then, she has designed and facilitated national and international trainings to address violence against women and girls and developed curricula for the U.S. Military, State Department, and other agencies.

In addition to her advocacy work, Odongo teaches persistence through playing, watching, and coaching sports. She coaches children's basketball and baseball teams and a championship-winning adult co-ed recreational softball team. She also loves to travel and learn from different communities and cultures.

## Get In the Know Drawing!

KEF will choose three lucky students who subscribe to our fabulous monthly newsletter by September 30 to receive a KEF Coffee Mug!

1. Go to our [homepage](#).
2. Scroll to the bottom.
3. Enter your email address, and press 'sign up'.

You will receive a confirmation email, which may hit your junk mail, so be sure to add us to your safe sender list! Students will be randomly drawn from all entries, and results will be posted on our website!



## Koniag Fall Shareholder Meetings

Mark your calendars! Koniag's townhall meetings start September 13. Stop by and meet with KEF staff to ask any scholarship questions you may have. We are excited to see you there!

Date	Time	Meeting
Sep 13, 2022	9 AM - 11 AM	Akhiok Townhall Meeting
Sep 13, 2022	1 PM - 3 PM	Old Harbor Townhall Meeting
Sep 14, 2022	9 AM - 11 AM	Larsen Bay Townhall Meeting
Sep 14, 2022	5 PM - 7:30 PM	Kodiak Townhall Meeting
Sep 15, 2022	9 AM - 11 AM	Port Lions Townhall Meeting
Sep 15, 2022	1 PM - 3 PM	Ouzinkie Townhall Meeting
Sep 20, 2022	5:30 PM - 7:30 PM	Soldotna Townhall Meeting
Sep 21, 2022	6 PM - 8:30 PM	Anchorage Townhall Meeting
Sep 22, 2022	6 PM - 8 PM	*Portland Townhall Meeting
Oct 1, 2022	9:30 AM - 1 PM	Annual Meeting

\* KEF will not be able to attend.

## Previous Publications Now Available

Are you looking for past



e-newsletters?

Previous publications starting from February 2022 are now available on our website.

[Previous Publications](#)

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"Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today."  
– Malcolm X

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