Gwendolyn Sawyer Cherry was born in Miami, Florida in 1923. For approximately 22 years, she taught in the Dade County (now Miami-Dade) Public Schools. She became a pioneer of the State of Florida's legal profession. She received her undergraduate degree from Florida Agricultural Mechanical University ("FAMU"). She later returned to FAMU to obtain her Juris Doctorate degree and serve as a professor at its law school. She was admitted to The Florida Bar in 1965. She was the first Black woman to practice law in Dade County, Florida. She was one of the first nine attorneys who initially served at Legal Services of Greater Miami in 1966. In 1970, Ms. Cherry was elected as a state representative, becoming the first Black woman to serve as a legislator for the State of Florida.

The Gwen S. Cherry Black Women Lawyers Association (GSCBWLA), formerly the National Bar Association Women Lawyers Division Dade County Chapter, was formed in 1985. The association's mission is to address the concerns of women lawyers as they relate to the social, economic, political and moral needs of the community.

The Gwen S. Cherry Black Women Lawyers Association is committed to investing in the future of the legal profession. This year we have scholarships available to current law students that will assist them in buying books for class or for bar review.

The 2021 Scholarship Application is now available for law students attending law school in Miami-Dade or Broward counties.

Requirements:
1. Must be enrolled in a law school in Florida.
2. Must complete the scholarship application and essay.

Winners of the GSCBWLA Book Awards will be notified on February 8, 2021 and publicly announced at the Gwen S. Cherry Black Women Lawyers Association’s Virtual Scholarship, Awards & Installation Banquet in June of 2021.

Applications MUST be postmarked by Friday, January 29, 2021 to Gwen S. Cherry Black Women Lawyers Association at 6750 North Andrews Avenue, Suite 200, Fort Lauderdale FL 33309 or sent via email to info@gscbwla.org.
2021 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Applications MUST be postmarked or emailed by Friday, January 29, 2021
to Gwen S. Cherry Black Women Lawyers Association at
6750 N. Andrews Ave., Suite 200, Fort Lauderdale FL 33309 or info@gscbwla.org.

APPLICANT NAME: __________________________________________________________

ADDRESS: ________________________________________________________________

EMAIL: _________________________________________________________________

PHONE NUMBER: __________________________________________________________

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:

1. ________________________________________________________________

2. ________________________________________________________________

3. ________________________________________________________________

CURRENT LAW SCHOOL? ________________________________________________

EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE?

Month: ___________________________

Year: ____________________________
“Statistics show that Black people are sicker and die earlier than other racial groups. Many factors likely contribute to the increased morbidity and mortality among Black people. It is undeniable, though, that one of those factors is the care that we receive from healthcare providers. Black people simply do not receive the same quality of healthcare that our White counterparts receive, and this second-rate healthcare is shortening our lives. Is there a role for lawyers to play in reducing implicit bias and racial disparities in healthcare?” Explain your answer in 500 words or less.

For questions, please email info@gscbwla.org.