

2020 BURGESS SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION THE FRANCINE RICHARDSON \$500 BOOK AWARD



*Francine Kay
Richardson*

Dionne George (Friend & Book Award Sponsor):

“You can never get a cup of tea large enough, or a book long enough to suit me.” This quote by C.S. Lewis is very fitting, for my sister friend, Francine (Fran) Richardson.

We became friends through my husband. The two of them trained in the martial arts together many years ago, and she became a black belt in karate. Our love for books and tea led us to start a book club. There is nothing in the world like a good book! Fran was not just your average reader. On a weekly basis she would read two books at the same time. I often teased her about this but benefited from having a girlfriend and a library rolled in one. She was an English teacher, and a chess coach. Fran’s love for children at school, spilled over onto my

own children. She was truly a blessing! Her son Paul was the apple of her eye, and she genuinely loved the Lord!

Francine was born on March 2, 1960 attending Detroit Waldorf School and graduated from Oak Park High School. She received a BA degree from Spelman College and Educational Specialist Degree from Wayne State University. Francine began her teaching career at the St. Cecelia Elementary. Subsequently, she served 25 years as an educator with Detroit Public Schools and worked as an instructor at Schoolcraft College. At Benjamin O. Davis Aerospace High School, she was the advanced placement English instructor, as well as chess club sponsor (and traveled with them to various chess tournaments) and faculty advisor for the school newspaper. Fran attended St. Stephen A.M.E. Church early in life and along with her family joined Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church. While not affiliated with a specific church just prior to transition to rest eternally in Gods, Fran loved the Lord. The true measure of one’s life is not its length, but its living. Francine’s joyful attitude, empathy, ready smile and laugh brought inspiration to all who knew and loved her. She impacted many students prior to moving to her eternal home on September 8, 2017.

Submission Due Date: June 15, 2020 12:00 pm
Email Completed Application to gaccsservices@gmail.com
Direct Questions to GACCS at 248 847-3600