Eduardo Chivambo Mondlane Scholarship

The Eduardo Chivambo Mondlane Scholarship continues the outreach that enabled Mr. Mondlane to attend Oberlin College. Successful candidates will be offered up to a full-tuition scholarship for four years.

ELIGIBILITY

Any citizen from a sub-Saharan African country who is applying to the Oberlin College of Arts and Sciences is eligible.

APPLICATION

There is no separate application for the Mondlane Scholarship, apart from the regular admissions application.

SELECTION

The Oberlin College Office of Admissions will select Mondlane Scholars. Criteria for selection include a strong academic record and the potential to excel within an American liberal arts curriculum. This award does not require any supplementary materials.

ABOUT EDUARDO C. MONDLANE (1919-1969), OBERLIN CLASS OF 1953

In fall 1951, a tall, charismatic man transferred to Oberlin College from the University of Lisbon. Thirty-two years earlier, Eduardo Mondlane had been born in a peasant village in Portuguese, East Africa, the son of a tribal chief. He attended Witwatersrand University in South Africa until forced to withdraw by the new apartheid government. Interested in the fate of his native land, Mondlane went to Portugal to study. Finding discrimination there as well, he secured a scholarship to study in the United States. What he was to call his “American Decade” began with a B.A. at Oberlin College, followed by an M.A. at Northwestern University, and a Ph.D. at Harvard. His academic field was anthropology; his field of action became African politics.

Mondlane worked as a research officer in the Trustee Department of the United Nations, a position that led him back to Africa and, in 1962, to Dar Es-Salaam, where he took the lead in developing national liberation movement in Mozambique. Tragically, he was denied the fruits of his vision by his assassination in 1969 in Dar Es-Salaam. Mozambique attained independence in 1975.

Mondlane’s cosmopolitanism, his marriage to a white American woman, and his American education, rendered him particularly suited to forge a broad and inclusive nationalist movement. It is significant that he began his American education with a degree from a liberal arts college, one whose motto at the time was “Think one person can change the world?”

Eduardo Mondlane became a prominent force in changing the political landscape of Africa. It is wholly appropriate that Oberlin College established a scholarship in his name and memory to enable another African student to follow in his path and fulfill his dream of a world of peace and justice.

For more information about the scholarship, contact the admissions office.