Announcing
the Lionel E. Smith Scholarship
for future African American World Language teachers

Although Lionel was not an educator, he strongly believed in the power of education to change lives and open new horizons. For thirty years, he supported his husband’s work in language education and observed the transformation of students’ lives through language studies and travels. Lionel believed that reparations should be made in the form of educational opportunities for African Americans in the United States.

To honor his memory, the Lionel E. Smith Scholarship for future African American Language Teachers was established through the Illinois Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages. A cash award of $500 will be given to an African American senior in an Illinois high school who intends to become a language teacher. The award will be renewable each year as long as the student continues to make progress toward becoming a language teacher. ICTFL will administer the scholarship.