

Student Scholarships



I hope to receive this award because I have spent a majority of my life committed to my studies. I take pride in the work that I do and always give 100% of my effort when it comes to school. I have always taken honors classes or above and devoted much of my career to the AICE program classes, of which I have taken 8. I've also taken 7 AP-Level courses, as well as two dual enrollment courses at PBSC. I have also earned membership to 6 National Honor Societies. Finally, I spent many hours in Khan Academy in preparation for the SAT, and it paid off, allowing me to achieve a very good score.

Additionally, I gave much of my time to helping out the community through both community service and fund-raising. Specifically, I spent time helping out at the Furry Friends animal shelter and getting donations for Shands Children's Hospital. I have also volunteered as a counselor in summer camps. I've even volunteered and helped out in my town's local Italian festival. All of these have provided me with an opportunity to really feel like I am helping the people around me -- something I hope to pursue further in college.

On the subject of college, I could use this scholarship money to further my education in various ways. It could help purchase potentially expensive school supplies, and would help me in other financial areas that are not covered by my Bright Futures scholarship. Basic living necessities would also be much easier to obtain with the leeway that this money would provide. As for what I plan to do in college, I am not entirely sure as of yet. However, whatever I decide to do will be something that makes a considerable contribution to society. I have a strong interest in math and science, and I have taken several STEM courses. I have various ideas as to what I want to do, and I know that whatever I do choose, my family will back me on it and be supportive.

To speak for my family quickly, I am Italian on my father's side. I also am proud of my Italian heritage, as I love my father and my two siblings, and while I didn't know much of my grandmother and grandfather, the stories my father has told me about them have often fascinated me. I was unfortunately unable to have them in my life, as they both died soon after I was born. I wish that I had some memories of them, as it would have been nice to learn about my bloodline and what my grandparents' lives were like. Family stories are great, but I never got to experience them firsthand. Nevertheless, I am devoted to obtaining this scholarship specifically relating to my father's heritage would likely make him very proud, so I really hope I earn it.

By Ethan Gallo

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My father's grandmother was born in Italy and so were her parents and while that is as far as my personal records go, most likely their parents before them. I have always been interested in my Italian heritage and hope to one day visit the nation when it is safe to do so. I have a love for learning, pushing myself out of my comfort zone to try new things whenever possible. In trying something I had never done before I found my love for the theatrical arts. A passion I pursued while participating in the International Baccalaureate program at William T. Dwyer High School. While in highschool I dual enrolled at Palm Beach State College, taking college classes to prepare myself for the future and exploring personal interests. I plan on furthering my education at the University of Central Florida this coming fall. I hope to receive this scholarship for my Italian heritage and pursuit of knowledge in every aspect of life.

If I received this scholarship, I would put it towards my tuition and board at UCF, the money would help ease a portion of the financial burden of paying for college. As a theatrical art major, I will be involved in school productions with my studies. To participate in these performances and performances in the community additional costs may arise. As an art major I will also need to set aside money for tools and supplies. While I plan to get a part time job and possibly participate in work study programs; every scholarship I am awarded will aid me in my studies. Going off to college and becoming an adult is a time of growth and change; it also comes with additional responsibilities. Managing my finances is a part of these newfound responsibilities, and scholarships, such as this one, help students achieve their dreams and go on to pursue successful careers.

My dream is to leave a positive impact on this world by bringing people's imaginations to life through the theatrical arts. As an actor or actress, you draw on your own emotions to bring a character to life, and the stories told through theatre can inspire their audiences into self reflection, action, or delight. To me, seeing the beautiful art come to life through live performances or screen adaptations, is an astonishing marvel that I feel privileged to partake in every time I step on the stage. My father had a love for theatre, and as do I. With the help of this scholarship, it is a passion I will be able to continue pursuing in college.

By Evelyn Murray