

Douglas Portner's Scholarship Essay

"Why I want to further my education and where I see myself in five years"

I would like to gain the education needed to understand and possibly change this world for the better. Education combined with patience and understanding allows a person to see the world without prejudice. I wish for nothing but the opportunity to further my education in hopes of being able to change the world in a positive way. Education will establish a strong foundation and combined with my thirst for knowledge, I will be able to overcome many of life's obstacles that come in my way.

With a gained education I will be able to understand what I need to do to possibly change this world for the better. I will understand what's right and what's wrong to do, to keep this world a better place. I find it very important to keep this world as safe as possible so that everyone can live there life's to the fullest potential possible. And with that everyone can have an equal chance of doing what ever that person wants to do.

If you don't have an education, you look differently towards everyone. You look at them with a way of prejudice. The actions that a person does shows a lot about them, so when they act prejudice you can see it in their actions and behaviors. And when that happens people start doing bad things to either hurt themselves, or hurt other people. And that's what I don't want to see. I want to see everyone have an equal chance of getting the same education no matter what the color of your skin is.

Say that I become a police officer and I arrest about 100 people a year, that's 100 people that I just saved from either being robbed or even worse, being killed. And this would make me feel like I just changed this world for the better. The more I do to protect other people, the more I'll feel that I'm changing this world. I want people to know my name so they can come to me when they need any type of help.

When needing a strong foundation, education is key. I can either stand tall, or crumble like nothingness. My thirst for knowledge will lead me to have a strong foundation. The more knowledge I have, the stronger the foundation will hold. My education will lead me to teach others about what I have learned.

In order to overcome many of life's obstacles I will need to have all these things work correctly for me. If they don't work out for me, than my ways of wanting to help the world for the better, will have to wait a longer time. In five years I see myself being a college graduate and either continuing my education or finding a career in my choice of major. And hopefully I can become a role model and leader to all my peers, so they can follow in my footsteps.

Lindsey Singer's Scholarship Essay

I find it a disturbing fact that America is ranked number twenty-two in education worldwide. As a socially informed young adult I believe that education is necessary and will only leave me with positive benefits such as a more enlightened view of the world and a career that I am truly passionate about. I feel strongly that without education social world progress will become affected leading only to a vicious cycle of ignorance, violence, and hate.

So, while I can tell you for certain why I feel it is important to further my education, it is a little more difficult for me to explain where I see myself in five years. Since I have been a voracious reader from a very young age, I have always imagined myself trying all different kinds of careers and lifestyles. I can say for sure that I will graduate college with a Bachelor or a Masters degree and perhaps decide to go to graduate school for my PhD in history. I also hope to join the Peace Corps and volunteer my time to help people in impoverished nations, especially the African countries that are being hit hard by the AIDS epidemic. I also have an interest in anthropology and could picture traveling to remote foreign locations to run excavations. Another completely different avenue would be to explore my creative and artistic side by writing and producing films with my sister who is currently in film school- we're always brainstorming for new ideas and plan to have a joint owned production company. Perhaps I will study abroad and learn linguistics, or since I went on the March of the Living, which is a program sponsored by the Jewish federation that gives young teens in grades 11 and 12 the chance to walk in the shoes of the six million Jews that died in the Holocaust and then takes them to Israel to celebrate Israeli independence day, caused me to realize my ultimate dream of going to college and studying in Israel. I feel particularly drawn to Israel since I went on the trip; the dedication and spirit of the Israeli people is infectious and inviting and I could even envision myself making Aaliyah one day.

I feel so lucky that I have been given the opportunity to study at one of the best universities in Florida and will take the task of furthering my education with complete dedication and sincerity. It is amazing that I attend such a large university which has such a wide array of classes to choose from. Many of my ambitions may sound idealistic, but I am determined to lead a challenging and unique life that is more than just ordinary

See the insert for four more award winning essays

South Florida Shomrim Society Membership Application

JULY 2006
VOLUME 22
ISSUE 7

NAME: _____

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CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

HOME PHONE: _____ CELL PHONE: _____

DEPARTMENT: _____

POSITION/TITLE: _____

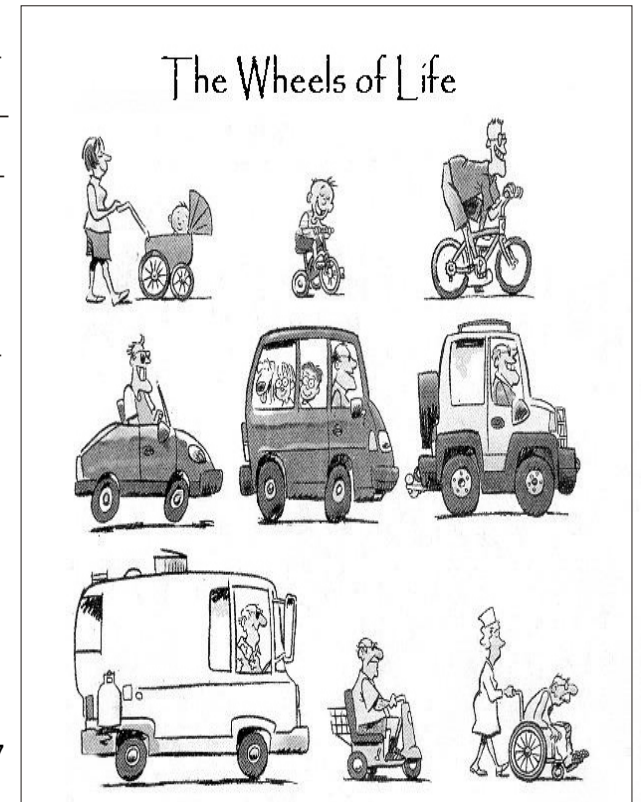
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REGULAR MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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BEVERLY MORSHENSON, 600 NE 36 STREET #405, MIAMI, FLORIDA 33137



SOUTH FLORIDA SHOMRIM SOCIETY JULY 2006 MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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NEXT MEETING

July 30, 2006

10:00AM

Jewish Federation Bldg
4200 Biscayne Blvd
Miami, FL 33137

CONDOLENCES:

To Brother Mike Hochstadt and his family on the passing of his mother, Charlotte Hochstadt.

MAZEL TOV

To Brother Gregory Feldman the new Director of Campus Safety & Security at Johnson & Wales University.

To Brother James Rubin on his promotion to Commander/Legal Advisor for the Village of Biscayne Park P.D.

SPECIAL PROJECTS COMMITTEE:

CHAIRMAN: BARRY MANKES

MEMBERS: Helen Baimel, Beverly Morshenson, Nancy Wolff

The beginning stages for the Annual Dinner Dance, scheduled for November 9, 2006, are underway. (November 10 is the celebrated Veteran's Day holiday)

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

CHAIRPERSON: MICHELLE SABAG

MEMBERS: Rhonda Walenda, Jennifer Siller-Lasry

The Committee will award the scholarships at the July 30th meeting.

A BISSEL BUPKIS

1700 June 23, SOLOMON DE MEDINA (c. 1650-1730) (England)

Was knighted by William III of England. Medina was the first professing Jew to receive a knighthood. Medina had helped finance what became known as the "glorious revolution" which installed William of Orange and Mary (the daughter of James II) on the throne.



HERE ARE THE SEVEN SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS THEIR ESSAYS ARE POSTED IN THE NEWSLETTER

THOMAS WALDMAN - SON OF RICHARD WALDMAN
TIMOTHY VER STRATEN - SON OF GAIL & KEVIN VER STRATEN
DOUGLAS PORTNER- SON OF MARCIE & STUART PORTNER
LINDSEY SINGER - DAUGHTER OF LUCY & BOB SINGER
KRYSTINA LEIBOWITZ - DAUGHTER OF LINDA & STEVE LEIBOWITZ
STEFANIE LEIBOWITZ - DAUGHTER OF LINDA & STEVE LEIBOWITZ
BRANDON LEIBOWITZ - SON OF LINDA & STEVE LEIBOWITZ

MAZEL TOV TO ALL OUR AWARD RECIPIENTS!!

YEARLY PHYSICAL

I went to the doctor for my yearly physical. The nurse started with certain basics.

How much do you weigh?" she asked. "115," I say. The nurse puts me on the scale. It turns out my weight is 140.

The nurse asks, "Your height?" "5 foot 8," I say. The nurse checks and sees that I only measure 5' 5".

She then takes my blood pressure and tells me it is very high. "Of course it's high!" I scream, "When I came in here I was tall and slender! Now I'm short and fat!"

She put me on Prozac !

Timothy Ver Straten's Scholarship Essay

The key to success I firmly believe lies within the individual who wants it. Indeed, this person must acquire some sort of endurance which drives them to the very last level. For me, I have had those whom I have learned from, not to mention myself! Experiences here and there have truly shaped my character into a solid, insightful and disciplined individual.

There are people in this world today who do not have the opportunities that I do-as an American, particularly with the opportunity furthering ones education. I write about this because I am now *nineteen*, about to graduate from high school. I am alive and healthy, and am able to write this essay with ease. However, I wouldn't be able to do these things if it hadn't been for the mom and dad that I have now. Because of them, I will go on to further my education; because of them I will not bear the same fate which my biological parents had. Furthering my education is a possibility which I treasure, a possibility that many take for granted. Why wouldn't I want to go to the college of my dreams-which by the way is "Full Sail"-and become what I dream of becoming? I know you know the answer to that, so why waste any more precious time? I plan on going to BCC for two years until I accumulate enough college money to go to Full Sail. I hope to graduate from the BCC "campus life" having a beginner's knack of the recording arts. By doing so, I will take my pre-requisites and then get my AA degree in the recording arts. After two years of BCC, off to Full Sail to start my career in the movie business where I hope to become a full-time editor of movies. Not having a degree in today's way of life is a one-way ticket to working full time until the last of your breathing days! However, I want to get up everyday and LOVE what I do for a living! Some people are happy working as a clerk at a gas station but I don't see that similar destiny for me! I don't want to be like those insipid job-dwellers who contemplate taking a jump out the nearest window! No! Five years from now I will be working in a studio, hopefully my own, with well-known rock bands that are trying to get their music out there to their enthused fans! If I am not working from a studio, then I hope to be working on certain movie projects for a big-time movie corporation. I hope to have worked on a number of movies, adding and editing the sound quality to the clips! I love sound because it moves people. I love music because I can hear everything within a song, and that engenders inspiration to my psyche. I see myself in five years hopefully an ecstatic married man, if not engaged! I will have graduated from college by this time. I am hopefully going to be living in an apartment, my studio, or house supporting myself, taking care of what we have all come to call "bills." I will be "living the life" so they say! My daily life I hope will be less stressful, though there is no guarantee of this ever happening! I will be making a decent living applying myself artistically to every aspect of my life. I wish also to possibly get recognition for doing music editing for movies, and possibly win an award. Living a happy and successful life however is by far the most important goal for me. My kids, if I ever get persuaded into having any, will most certainly be glad to call me "dad!"

RABBI'S MESSAGE

Rabbi Pinchas Weberman is the spiritual leader of Temple Ohev Shalom and the South Florida Shomrim Society. He is also a Chaplain for Miami Beach PD, ATF and MDPD.

They journeyed from the mountains of Hashem a three day distance (Numbers 10:33)

The Ramban expounds on the above Scripture, quoting a Midrash saying that this was a major fault in the attitude of the people. *They ran from Mount Sinai like juveniles running out of school. They feared lest more responsibilities and disciplines would be imposed upon them if they would stay there longer (see also Shabbos 116a Tosafos)*

It was destined for Israel to go directly on their way from Sinai to the Promised Land. This land was initially settled by the Semites (see Rashi Genesis 12:6). Upon the approach of the Israelites under Moshe Rabenu the aliens would have fled and evacuated. Our people would then have settled there without any opposition.

In describing the events that occurred in the settlement of the Holy Land, Asaph the Psalmist (Psalm 78:37) says: *Their heart was not steadfast with Him, they were not faithful to His covenant.* Faith and steadfastness to the Torah given at Sinai would have brought out a desire for more dedication and commitment as they left Sinai. They would have looked forward eagerly for the additional commandments that apply in the Holy Land. They would not have fled from the additional responsibilities and disciplines.

The right to the Holy Land is granted to those whose goal is to live a holy life. For those whose intention to settle there is only a desire for material prosperity and security, their claim would have no more validity than that of the aliens who were there.

Throughout the long history of the Diaspora there were numerous times when it seemed that redemption the end to the exile was imminent. Why the delay? It is waiting for: *Their heart to be steadfast with Him, and for them to be faithful to His covenant.*

The seventeenth of Tammuz until the ninth of Av is a three week period in which we incorporate mourning for the tragic events of two millennium is exile. It should be a time for each and everyone of us to reassess our attitudes and to readjust our goals and standard of values. Then these days will be turned from fasting and mourning to gladness and festivals.

If you will follow My decrees and observe My commandments I will provide peace in the land and you will lie down with none to frighten you, and a sword will not cross your land. (Leviticus 26:3 -6)