

7/7/2017

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Dear Mr. Gordon L. McKenzie,

I am so grateful to have been given this merit scholarship. Thanks to this scholarship, I will continue to pursue my career in Journalism and International Studies with a bit less financial stress.

As an immigrant American, many paths I've walked down were laden with different barriers. The first one has always been made of money. However, I have never let that stop me from working or learning how to ask for help. I have found millions of reasons to be thankful for the woman I am today. Specifically, I have been able to thank the communities that gave me the opportunities to volunteer and the help to flourish. Today, I thank you for your help.

I became a Hawkeye in August 2014 but it was the staff and classes here that led me to what I am now most passionate about, Journalism and International Studies. From the classes I took, to the work I did as an intern at the Sustainability Center, The University of Iowa community has helped me find myself. Scholarships like yours have gotten me to the millstones in my academic career and have enabled me to learn, travel, and connect with people all over the world.

I've enjoyed learning to report in Morocco and writing in depth stories through my classes at the university. Last year, I was even able to take a graduate level PR class that will help me in my future job prospects if I wish to focus more in that field. Thank you for your generous gift that has allowed me to continue to pursue my dreams. My continued dedication to my education would not waiver in the absence of your scholarship but the presence of it only strengthens my determination and allows me to better focus on the future.

Sincerely,

Arlinda Fasliu