

## **THE CHARLOTTE W. NEWCOMBE FOUNDATION**

### *Excerpts from letters of 2013-14 Charlotte W. Newcombe scholars*

“Thank you so much for this generous scholarship. Thank you, thank you Charlotte Newcombe Foundation. I am a senior struggling to manage life issues. Over the past months I have been through a lot. I started at Brooklyn College as a transfer student and I struggled with the new environment and challenges. I thought getting a scholarship was like winning the lottery, but when I applied, I thought, “Hey, you never know.” And what were the odds that I actually got it! Yes, I did it all by myself. I feel so proud, happy and grateful, but most of all I feel a sense of accomplishment. I did not plan on getting this scholarship. I was planning to figure out how to break the news to my parents that I could not finish school because I didn’t have the funds. This would have made me feel terrible, that I would be the only one of their seven children to not earn an education. I would be an outcast. My parents came to the United States from Haiti with no money in their pockets. They came searching for the chance to give their children what they never had and that was freedom, the freedom to set the bar high for ourselves, make our own choices, and become independent. You have given me hope that I can live up to their ideals. This is the first scholarship I ever got and I highly appreciate it. Just because I was raised in the projects doesn’t mean that there isn’t a way out of poverty. I am so grateful for the Brooklyn College office of disability services for helping me out.

I am honored by your confidence in my abilities and with your support I will be able to finish my education. Thank you, thank you.”

*- Brooklyn College*

“I was so happy to learn that I received the Charlotte W. Newcombe Scholarship. I am writing to thank you for your generous financial support of my education. I am a Communications Studies major who plans to pursue a teaching career at the elementary level. I am currently in my second summer semester and plan to graduate in the Fall 2015 or Spring 2016. After graduation, I will seek employment at one of the deaf schools with hopes of inspiring other deaf students to achieve higher education.

By awarding me the Newcombe Scholarship, I am able to concentrate on what is important to me, education. Your financial generosity has allowed me to be one step closer to my goal and has inspired me to help others by giving back to the community. I hope one day I will be able to help other students achieve their goals just as you have helped me.”

*- McDaniel College*

“I am honored to have been selected as a recipient of the Charlotte W. Newcombe Foundation Trustee Scholarship. As of Spring 2014, I will mark the final few months of my academic journey towards achieving a Bachelor of Science in Information Systems. Having a high level of difficulty retaining classroom information because of a traumatic brain injury I experienced as a teenager, the task of completing my degree has had plenty of obstacles. I have worked very hard but have rarely been acknowledged for my efforts. That’s one reason that this scholarship is so meaningful to me. Now that I am nearing the end of the Information Systems degree, I have been looking into continuing my education at Penn State for a MBA.

I plan to find work within the IT department of a well-established company and if fortunate enough, I may even be able to work within a business that would offer to finance the expenses of a graduate degree. Thanks for helping me in this journey. I will always remember your generosity.”

*- Penn State Harrisburg*

“It is with sincerity and gratitude that I thank you for the scholarship funds. This scholastic journey that I began several years ago has taken many ups and downs as well as twisting roads and my journey is not complete yet. Similar to Mrs. Newcombe and Mr. Winheld, I have come up against many challenges and expect to meet many more before my journey is complete. Your assistance with this scholarship however, has made the journey that much easier to travel.

Not only has the monetary support of the scholarship made it that much easier to deal with these life challenges, it is also the emotional support that comes with the scholarship that helps to keep me going. Often I just want to give up, even though I am close to my goal. Recent changes in my symptoms have presented me with the fact that I will need to divert from my previously chosen path and take a different path but I refuse to give up! Financial limitations will also provide continuous bumps in the path as I am closing in on the maximum amount of financial aid available to me, but I will continue on.

Thank you for all of the support and I hope to one day be able to pay this forward!”

*- Temple University*

“Thank you so much for this generous amount of money to assist me in the funding of my education. This helps me to keep my head up and see that I have people who believe in my success! You will not be disappointed. Thank you again!”  
- *Edinboro University*

“Thank you for the generous scholarship to be put towards my education at Temple University. My medical condition has greatly impacted my family’s financial circumstances and this award is very much appreciated...”

Currently, I am a second semester freshman at Temple in the Fox School of Business, majoring in accounting. I chose this major because I love math, so I thought it would be a great choice for me. Once I graduate, I hope to get my MBA and work for a big accounting firm.

When I was four, my small intestines twisted due to an undiagnosed birth defect and had to be removed during emergency surgery. Since I have no remaining intestines to absorb any food, I am hooked up to an IV through a catheter in my chest for 10 hours each day, which supplies me with all my nutrients. My condition has also caused me to develop diabetes and osteoporosis. But this has not stopped me from pursuing my career aspirations and goals.

I don’t want my disability to deter me from my aspirations. I want to live my life to the best of my abilities.”  
- *Temple University*

“I want to take this moment to express my deepest gratitude for the scholarship I received. This scholarship will help me immensely with expenses I may incur during my last semester at Penn State Altoona. As a non-traditional student and a single mother with a learning disability, I have to try even harder than other students in my academic classes. I cannot hold a job while attending school so again this scholarship will help in more ways than anyone knows. Thank you again for awarding me this scholarship for the fall semester. I will make the Foundation proud.”  
- *Penn State Altoona*

“I am an OSD student at Edinboro University. My major is Social Work. I want to become a social worker because I’d love to work with children. My dream job would be to work in a Shriner’s Hospital in Erie, PA or Alfred I. DuPont Children’s Hospital in Wilmington, DE. I am so very honored to receive the Charlotte W. Newcombe Scholarship. It makes me so happy to know that someone believes in me and what I’m doing. With this scholarship, I will be able to afford the necessities every college student needs to be successful. Thank you for taking me one step closer to my dream.”

- *Edinboro University*

“Thank you so much for this scholarship. This award is helping me and my family financially, as well as allowing me to reach my goals and graduate. Most people think that students with disabilities can’t make it through college; even though I have had some struggles, my tenacious attitude has brought me success. Every person with a disability is smart in their own way. It’s just that we might interpret things differently. My disability has given me the opportunity to make me strive to succeed farther than what most people would imagine, and I plan to pursue and continue my education because I know I can do it.”

- *Penn State*

“I’d like to thank you for the generous scholarship that has given me a way to pay the fees of the Academic Skills Program in the Student Academic Support Services department of McDaniel College. It helps me and my family a lot. I started the Academic Skills Program during the second semester of my freshman year, and it helps me receive tutoring, advising, and counseling and I’m able to get the accommodations I need for exams. I love being able to take tests in a quiet environment! The Academic Skills Program is helping me achieve my dream of becoming either a doctor or forensic scientist and I am truly thankful that this scholarship will enable me to continue my studies at McDaniel College.”

- *McDaniel College*

“...Not all disabilities are visible, and I struggle with my education as much as anyone, but I never allow my learning disability to get in the way of my future. The disability does not make me any less of a person or any less intelligent than others. Getting this scholarship proves to me that other people see the potential I have and it allows me to continue to follow my dream. I can’t speak for every student that has a disability, but I know how great it feels to have somebody else wanting to see me succeed. That means SO much.”

- *Temple University*