

Katherine E. Curtis
Scholarship Essay

Why I am Interested in Pursuing a College Degree

I desire to live a life that powerfully impacts and challenges the world around me and that leaves a permanent mark on the world in lives and hearts. My goal is to live my life to the fullest, touching and enriching people's lives in all I do and experiencing all that is full and enriching and could best prepare me to more fully benefit those whose lives I touch. My dreams include the hope of being a published author, a high school English teacher, a wife, a mother, a mentor to young women, and a daily blessing to my community. A college degree would be, in many ways, a spring board and stepping stone toward my ideals.

My greatest desire for attending college and getting a degree extends beyond better career opportunities to finding greater fulfillment for my thirst for learning. I greatly enjoy learning and discovering new things and concepts and ideas. These broaden the horizons of my understanding of the world around me. I love the thrill of figuring out and fully understanding new concepts and ideas, putting them together piece by piece like the parts of a puzzle. Each new understanding strengthens or develops my beliefs and opinions and forms me into a more thoughtful, aware person better able to understand, contribute to, and succeed in the world around me. Learning in the college environment would allow me to better understand the philosophies; beliefs; and political, social, and scientific opinions of the world around me and to better know my own. Broadening my mental horizons through continued learning is a personal thrill and adventure for me and a powerful asset to my contribution and service to the world around me.

Not only do I feel a college degree would fulfill my thirst for knowledge and better prepare me as a person and citizen, but I feel it will also stretch and strengthen my mental and academic abilities, particularly in the area of writing. A highly academically demanding college will push me to develop skills and abilities to reason, write, think, and communicate; and to strengthen germinating seed of talent or ability already existing which I might otherwise never fully develop. College will allow me to grow in my ability to think, reason, and express myself. I particularly hope it will stretch and improve my writing skills and abilities and bring me to greater excellence as a writer. The challenge to excellence and improvement in writing will give me the outside push I need to develop my writing ability. My writing dreams and academic goals will be benefited, I think, by the practical application demanded and enforced by college.

College will be, moreover, a stepping stone toward my future career plans. With the education and experience it will give me, I hope to go on and complete the necessary training and education to be certified as a high school English teacher. I also hope to gain the needed preparation and experience to get into the field of writing and begin being published, even in small degrees, as a writer. I hope to improve and excel through college as a writer and bring into reality my long held dream of published authorship. The preparation, education, and experience of a college education and the expansion of opportunities offered by a university degree will set me on the road toward achieving my career goals.

College is not the universal cure-all or the magic key for whatever you want. A person will only get as much out of something as they put into it and a person won't find college to be their answer to protection from personal effort. But for someone dedicated to getting as much as they can out of life and to improve themselves at every opportunity, I believe college can be an excellent tool for such success. For this reason I sincerely hope college will be an asset, a benefit, and a tool of improvement for helping me to be all I'm set forth to be.