

Celina Quintana  
Fashion Design & Marketing Program  
Reba Gilman Scholarship Application

- While growing up my family always taught me to have a strong entrepreneurial spirit. They taught me to not wait for things to change, but to change them myself. I have learned a lot about this mindset through my family's construction company. I do most of the social media and some advertising for it. Most companies have a website and social media accounts to attract their tech savvy customers. I decided to take that a step further by doing daily tips on our facebook page. Everyday I post a home decorating/ remodeling tip for our customers to read. The tips range from things they could do on their own to things they might need a little help with from a professional. This had gotten our customers more involved with our facebook page in a fun, informative way.
  
- I believe I took a stand on a tough issue by doing running start at Seattle Central instead of going to my high school. Most students that decide to do running start go to Highline College because it is the closest one to Federal Way. I did that for fall quarter of 2014 and discovered that they didn't offer the classes I need to pursue my career. I could've finished off the whole year at Highline College and started Seattle Central in fall of 2015 but I knew that wasn't the best option for me. I went back and forth between my high school and the college until I got my paperwork finished and all straightened out. Since my high school is not used to having students go to Seattle Central they were a bit skeptical about how this would work out for me. I am very glad I made that decision because I started my higher education a year early and some of it was paid for by my high school.
  
- I believe my unyielding commitment to excellence is shown through my commitment to getting the education I need to achieve my career goals. Currently I am taking the classes that are required to get into the Fashion Program at Seattle Central. It is about a 40 minute drive from my home to the school which is often quite tough because I spend a lot of my day driving. Since I take the evening classes I usually do not get out of class until 9 pm. The classes are very fast paced compared to high school classes which can sometimes get a little overwhelming. Although there are many obstacles in my way, I know I must overcome them to get my further education.
  
- One major accomplishment of mine is that I got an internship with the Young Men's/ Young Women's designer at Shah Safari. This opportunity is very rarely given to college students, so me, being a high school student and interning there is an opportunity that very few people get. I am extremely proud of myself for getting this internship because at such a young age, I will get a lot of real-world experience.

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- I am applying for this scholarship because I will be attending Seattle Central College in the fall. This past school year I did running start and took the prerequisite classes needed to be accepted into the Fashion Program at this college. It is a two year program and the estimated cost for tuition is about four-thousand dollars per year, plus books and supplies. I would use this scholarship to pay for part of my first year's tuition costs. Getting this scholarship would be a huge help for me because it would get me a step closer to achieving my career goals. My family is very supportive of me continuing my education, but unfortunately they do not have the money pay for it. I am planning on paying for my further education on my own by working a full time summer job as well as a part-time job when I start the program. I realize that working and going to school is a tough thing to do, but I am confident in my ability to push through it because in the end I will reach my goals and it will all be worth it.
- In five years I envision myself designing casual clothing for a company like Topshop. I have spoken to some instructors as well as students that graduated (or close to graduating), about what they got out of the program. Most (if not all) said that the program gives you many skills some of which include: how to design and construct your own line of clothing, learning how clothing goes together to be a stylist, and even creating your own clothing patterns. Since this college is very well known, they have a lot of connections in the garment industry. They use those connections to get their students internship and eventually jobs by the time they complete and graduate from the program.
- I have been at PSSC for two years now and have had many opportunities to participate in leadership experiences. In my first year at PSSC I went to New York for one week, we met with many different companies and people that are currently in the garment industry. It was very interesting to see first hand what they do and what advice they had for students like me. During that same year I also had the opportunity to design the tickets for our annual silent auction. I worked with the Digital Media program to create and print the tickets. This year I had the opportunity to be a part of our annual Fashion Show. I was the organizer of the modeling committee, which included measuring and working with the models. I was also part of the merchandising committee, I took care of partnering with stores and choosing the garments that the models would wear. For two years now, I have attended the Fashion Conference at Sanford-Brown College in Tukwila. This conference helps me understand what it is like to work in the garment industry through workshops, lectures, a fashion show and a Q&A with professionals. Finally, I want to include the two internships I have had in the past school years. My first one was at Poggi Bonsi a specialty store in Renton, it taught me so much about customer service, buying and selling, and running my own business. The second internship is at Shah Safari with the young men's/ young women's designer. It has taught me a lot about the responsibilities a designer has and what they do on a day to day basis.