

OUR 2019 SCHOLARSHIP AWARD RECIPIENT

daddy's little girl
scholarship foundation



Daddy's Little Girl Essay



Thank You, Family Daddy's Little Girl

Since I can remember, the importance of family has always been present. I am blessed to be able to say that I have countless childhood memories of my immediate and extended family coming together on numerous occasions. Being in such an intimate and supportive environment as that of my family has made me into the loving and compassionate person that I am today. To have a family is more than the fact of blood. It's knowing there is no end to the list of people you can call when you need *anything*.

Although I did not often need to, I knew that there was always a cousin, uncle, aunt, or family friend I could go to if it weren't for my mother and father. The Daddy's Little Girl scholarship emphasizes both the importance of a young woman's biological parents as well as those who would drop everything to be there, if ever in need. I commemorate and dedicate this essay to the enormous support system I have by my side.

My favorite memories with my family include the recurrent backyard cookouts, both at my Grandma Denise's house and my Uncle Ron's house. Here, my family would come together for holidays, birthdays, good weather, or simply, quality time. I ate bratwurst, corn, ribs, pasta salad and bottled green tea; while the adults played blackjack and yelled over the *Temptations* or danced to "*Some Enchanted Evening*." When I think about those days I get a warm feeling in my heart. I am beyond appreciative of the joy and togetherness that radiates through these memories; so much so that my future endeavors will reflect that aspect of my life in some way.

I have chosen to further my education at the esteemed Florida A&M University in Tallahassee, Florida. My decision to attend this Historically Black University was deeply rooted in the fact that I was raised in a family full of intelligent and accomplished black women and men. My Grandmother attended college and my Mother is currently a part-time college student. These women have influenced me in a number of ways to begin my journey through adulthood by getting a higher education. I was also enticed by the familiarity of an HBCU where I would be surrounded by other black people on a similar

journey as I. Although I am doing this for me and the betterment of my future, this is also my way of making my family proud.

I want to succeed for them because I cannot thank them enough for the endless support they have showed me through my young adult life.

Arionne Holden