

2012/13 Worldstudio AIGA Scholarships

Anonymous Honorable Mention



CHEYENNE JULIEN

Illustration

Freshman

Rhode Island School of Design



At an early age, I knew that I was an artist. My fondest memory is of the time when I painted a self-portrait on my wall. The pose of the painting was inspired by the Mona Lisa and even resembled her facial expression. I thought my mom would yell at me when she got home, but she actually loved it and encouraged my drawing and painting on the wall. There were no boundaries for my art and I was able to express myself without worry. Stepping into the apartment was like walking into an art gallery.

I try picturing myself without art and it's impossible to imagine. Being an artist has taught me to be open-minded and that there isn't necessarily a right or wrong in art (applicable to many things in life). It has taught me how to work hard to achieve my goals. Putting in long hours and staying up till the wee hours of the morning painting to reach deadlines has been challenging but also rewarding. No artist improves without struggling and stepping outside of their comfort zone.



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the professional association for design

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A goal and dream that I have is to open a free weekend art program for teens. I will be able to do this while pursuing a professional career as an illustrator and teacher. The program will be similar to the Art Academy which had a great impact on me, but will also provide in-depth services. Program funding will come from government and corporate sponsorships for community and art initiatives. The environment will have a studio and gallery feel and will be a safe, loving second home to the students. We will provide individual and family counseling to help get them through the rough times in life. We will help build their college portfolios and help with every step of the college application process. We will track their progress throughout college and invite them to return during breaks to mentor the students. As they near graduation, we will provide career counseling and job-hunting skills. The program will be entirely free and only ask the students to commit to coming back to the program as volunteer art teachers and counselors—to return the good and pave the way for the next generation of artists.

