

## FEATURE ARTICLE SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

### 2010 HFA SCHOLARSHIP AND GRANT WINNERS!



#### Abby Sloan

I recently graduated from Bothell High School as the Valedictorian of my senior class. While in high school, I enjoyed competing in National Science Olympiad competitions. In my freshman year, I won the national Anatomy and Physiology event. I also enjoyed contributing articles to the school paper where I served as Editor-in-Chief. In the fall, I will attend Whitman College, a small liberal arts school in Walla Walla, WA. I plan to study pre-medicine, and I ultimately hope to become a pediatric cardiologist.



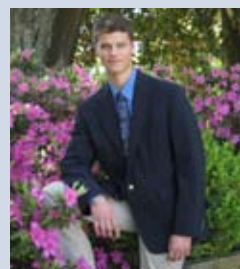
#### Mrs. Roberson

I am thirty-nine years old, have been married for nineteen years, and have three children. I am currently in the nursing program at . I have von Willebrand's disease as do my children. I grew up with von Willebrand's disease but was not diagnosed until my mid-twenties. Prior to my diagnosis I was always reassured by my doctor, "Some people just bleed more than others." I know better now and know that other people, especially girls, suffer with this disease unknowingly. This is why I want to become a nurse. I have always had a strong desire to help others and now I tend to focus my help to those of the hemophilia community. Once I receive my nursing degree I hope to work within our local hemophilia treatment center. (HTC)



#### Gina Olzowski

I'm an artist and author from the Chicago suburbs. In addition to drawing cartoons for the local newspaper and creating murals out of home-made sidewalk chalk, I also wrote a book about urban sprawl and its affect on nature and community, inspired by my childhood on the edge of suburbia. The book, *Now Coming to a Town Near You*, was published through an environmental grant from The Wild Gift. This fall, with the support of an HFA educational scholarship, I will begin my MFA in Creative Writing at Chatham University, where I will continue to write about social and environmental issues.



#### Jacob Kerr

My three brothers and I are homeschooled and live in a rural town in northern Florida. My youngest brother and I are severe, Type A Hemophiliacs. I am homeschooled and graduated from high school this year while working part-time at a small-engine repair shop. My hobbies include reading, writing, hunting, fishing, and building household wood items. I have written three books, and am preparing the third one, *Man Without a Cross*, for publishing. The prospect of publishing my own book is very exciting, and I am very grateful for the Artistic Encouragement Grant that the Hemophilia Federation of America has awarded me. I have decided to publish *Man Without a Cross* through the Westbow Publishing Company, and hope that it will be a successful venture!



#### Kristina Lebron

I am 18 and currently live in Orlando, Florida with my parents and my 14-year-old brother, who has severe Hemophilia A. I love to play tennis and in my spare time I enjoy writing poetry, drawing, and reading. I am very outgoing and make friends easily. I am privileged to be a part of the bleeding disorders community, which has given me the opportunity to make lasting friendships and partake in leadership roles that have inspired me as an individual. I'm looking forward to attending University of Central Florida this fall majoring in accounting.



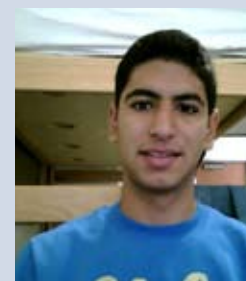
#### Kyle Davis

I have always felt connected to the medical community after being diagnosed with Hemophilia A at a young age. I first knew I wanted to pursue a career in medicine after spending my elementary school's 4th Grader Shadowing Day with my hematologist, Dr. Ruymann. From my experience that day, I knew that I too wanted to be a hematologist and care for patients with bleeding disorders. I recently graduated cum laude from the Ohio State University with a major in Biology and a minor in Psychology. During that time I was the president of a pre-health organization, captain of a NHF Walk team, and involved in volunteer activities through the university hospital. At the beginning of this I was accepted into medical school at the Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine. In August, I will begin my challenging and rewarding journey to medical school, as I work to live out my dream and become a hematologist.



#### Patricia DeRatto

I am on track to graduate in May 2011 with an associate's degree in Human Services. I will be graduating at the same time that my daughter earns her bachelor's. As she considers a post-graduate degree I will be contemplating moving forward to earn my Bachelors degree. This is something that I had never dreamed I would ever accomplish and am so happy and proud of myself for persevering. In addition to the education, the confidence I have gained from this endeavor will help me achieve any goal I set in my future.



#### Perseus Patel

My personal drive to help others combined with my academic interests in science and mathematics culminated in a pursuit of a career in hematology. I look forward to beginning my junior year at the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA) this September. I enjoy playing basketball and remain heavily involved with the Hemophilia Foundation of Northern California, my local chapter. Apart from volunteering at various fundraisers for the chapter, I am an Assistant Counselor at Camp Hemotion and will soon begin the programming internship for summer camp. I look forward to being an integral part of the bleeding disorders community for a long time and thank HFA for helping defray my college expenses so as to help achieve this goal.



#### Ryan Shorosky

My name is Ryan Shorosky, and I am 21 years of age. Currently I attend School of Visual Arts in New York City, in pursuit of a BFA in photography. I am pursuing photography not only as a career but also as a lifelong obsession in hopes of continually exploring the vast parallels of human nature. I also want to be able to wake up every single morning knowing that I am doing something I love. Besides photography, I enjoy spending time experimenting in other medias of art, riding long distances on my bike, exploring nature, and skateboarding.



#### Veronica Idoate

I'm a seventeen-year-old that has a big dream to be a film producer and look forward to attending Columbia College in Chicago. This year I take one of the most important steps to fulfill my goal of going to college. With my determination and with the help of the Sibling Continuing Education Scholarship, this very important first step will be possible.