

Dear Mr. Gavin,

In these tough economic times, it is a great honor that you have again selected me to receive the Charles E. Gavin, III scholarship. Without this financial contribution I would not be able to continue my career at Auburn University, and I have fallen in love with everything Auburn. Thank you for helping to further my continuing education and for your support.

My first year at Auburn University was one of growth and learning. I finished my first year as a sophomore only three hours short of junior status. I feel that I have gained much from my time on campus and that my time there has only increased my love of chemistry and the world around us. In my studies, I have learned many interesting principles that I can apply to the actual world and use in real life. This knowledge allows me to relate to the world and to see it through new eyes, allowing me to understand the processes that occur before my eyes. It has given me much respect for the materials that I previously took for granted, and has even provided some new ideas on what should be done. I honestly cannot wait to start into my major next year and be able to learn more about chemistry and the processes involved in materials, fluids, and energy. It is very exciting to consider all that lies in my path...

Once again I sincerely thank you for your support of my education and for your generous gift. I would also like to thank you for your support of Auburn Academics and I sincerely hope to be able to give back to Auburn so that others may have a similar opportunity for an education and for personal growth. WAR EAGLE!

With sincere thanks,

Andrew Jeter



Note: Andrew Jeter is a two-time recipient of the Charles E. Gavin III Family Scholarship. To see if you qualify, visit www.aatcc.org/foundation/grants.htm.



Alyssa Fetera, Lasell College, is the first recipient of the AATCC Foundation Color Solutions International Scholarship. Visit www.aatcc.org/foundation/grants.htm for more about the scholarship.

Junior year of high school was when I realized what I wanted to go to college for and ultimately spend the rest of my working career doing. I want to be a fashion designer. I guess it could be looked at as a "meant-to-be" journey since I had been sketching as early as elementary school and altering tiny clothes on my Barbie models. Fashion is more than being stylish and shopping at the mall. To me, fashion is passion, dedication, and discipline. It is really an art in itself...

Since beginning my fashion career, I have tried to gain as much knowledge and experience in the industry as possible. I have tried to keep a 3.7 GPA and been acknowledged by the Dean's List for four consecutive semesters. I have been working at Banana Republic since May 2007. Retail is a huge part of the industry and I feel that no matter what division of fashion you would like to be a part of, you need to know every aspect of the industry.

During the fall semester of my junior year, I was fortunate enough to have the opportunity to study abroad in Florence. Words can't bring justice to what I experienced in Italy. I was able to live the Italian culture and see the impact fashion has on its people. I even wrote for the Florence Newspaper focusing on fashion and entertainment. I definitely took a part of Italian fashion back with me to the States. A lot of my ideas are now influenced by Italian people and their culture.

After returning back to the States, I found myself only staying for a month or two before I was back on a plane London-bound. Fashion is about chances. While I was in Italy, I traveled to Milan during Fashion Week in hopes of getting into the event for the newspaper. I never found the event; however, I stumbled across a trunk show where, by chance, I met Carlotta Gherzi, designer of Sado Fashion House. She invited me to help with her show at London Fashion week. It may sound crazy, but what did I have to lose? Sometimes you have to just put yourself out there and see what happens.

I try to utilize any opportunities that come my way. With that said, I have participated in the undergraduate fashion show at school for two consecutive years. I have also been a writer for Polished magazine for my sophomore and junior year. I have also turned to my entrepreneurial skills and created a small alterations business. I provide minor tailoring skills at an affordable price to college students through Fetera's Custom Fit.

Receiving this scholarship would greatly impact the burden of tuition. It would make it that much easier to pay off loans once I have graduated. Fashion design is the most expensive major on campus and it won't get easier after college. The fashion industry is very demanding and can be very difficult to emerge into. Any amount of money is worth the chance to live what you love to do.