

Thank You!

At Rice University I am constantly representing my Efik culture among the students to show that I am proud of who I am and where I come from. I can only be proud because it is my culture and upbringing that has instilled in me the mindset to value education. Having Nigerian parents, especially with an Efik background, has taught me to have pride in my potential. With this potential, I am sincerely appreciative for the monetary and emotional assistance the members of Efik National Association Inc. have given me. I know without the wonderful members of this great organization that this scholarship would not be possible. I would also like to specifically thank the National President, Mr. Paul Orok Bassey-Duke, as well as the President, Mr. Francis B. Ironbar, and members of the Dallas Chapter. I admire and greatly appreciate the head members of the Efik National Association for having faith in me and finding me deserving of this scholarship. I know that these types of deeds come truly from the heart. Finally, I would like to say to all the people who made this scholarship possible that I will make them proud and not let their donation be a waste.

To end this letter, I would like to tell the members of the Efik community a little about myself. I am a sophomore at Rice University in Houston, Texas. I am currently majoring in Sport Medicine with a minor in Business. I am also a Pre-Medical student and plan on attending medical school following graduation to become an OB/GYN. At Rice University I am involved in many organizations such as the Pre-Medical Society, Black Student Association, Minority Interest Committee, and finally the African Student Association. I am happily representing as the only Efik student on campus and I make it a priority for the African Student Association to acknowledge our culture.

One of my interests and goals in life is motivating other African-American students that success in education is possible with hard work and dedication. Motivation is not achieved through words alone, but through actions and examples. I make it a priority to take advantage of the many educational opportunities that surround me so that I can show other African-American students that success is obtainable when one has initiative and willpower. It is my upbringing that helped me to learn that no one has a limit or a capacity. I want others who may have not had this upbringing to adopt this same mindset. I plan on making the Efik community proud in the near future and I am very appreciative for the scholarship I have received.

Itong uwem osong mbufo,
Chelsea Henshaw
Austin, TX
Dallas Chapter