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# FRIENDS OF DANCE SCHOLARSHIP

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April 22, 2019  
MiraCosta College  
1 Barnard Drive  
Oceanside, CA 92056

Dear MiraCosta Dance Department, its donors and supporters,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support of the Friends of Dance Scholarship. I am extremely grateful for the opportunities this award will provide me. I rely on financial aid, grants and student loans to help finance my education. Thanks to your generous support, the scholarship will help reduce my financial burdens and provide assistance for me as I continue pursuing my dance education and training.

Attending MiraCosta College (MCC) continues to be one of the most rewarding experiences in my life as a student, dancer, choreographer and artist. It has provided me with opportunities that I would not have dreamt of. There has been the multiple opportunities to participate and attend the American College Dance Association (ACDA) Conference, where I was given the chance to present work representing the student choreography for MCC. Having the resources to present work opened many doors and had given me the courage to showcase my work at different venues within and outside of the academia setting. I got to present my work at the John F Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, be mentioned in Dance Magazine, and will be showcasing work in Australia later this year. As a dance program, it has presented me with classes that allowed me to grow, to gain tools that help me excavate more within my own identity and craft. The classes allowed me to ask questions about my human history and how to hone in a choreographic voice I can call my own. The continued support of the wonderful faculty who are always there to share their art, their talent, and their guidance has been everything a student can ask for from an instructor and role model. They welcomed what I had brought in, and enhanced my dance experience intellectually and physically. Furthermore, it has allowed me to partake in the annual summer dance intensives where we get to work with world renowned choreographers and dance companies, an opportunity rarely found elsewhere!

Having received this scholarship in the past allowed me to continue to take classes, and continue to create work that had been showcased at the dance concerts held on campus. It gave me a platform to tell my story and share my thoughts in motion, in a beautiful space that creates different fantasies and worlds where the audience can really be submerged into my concepts, journeys, and ideas, having them truly be a part of the dance experience.

I look forward to the many experiences that lie ahead of me thanks to your support, words cannot express the amount of gratitude and appreciation I have for this opportunity you have given me.

In gratitude,

Issa R. Hourani