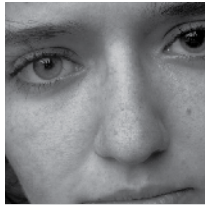


2010/11 Worldstudio AIGA Scholarships Young Photographer's Alliance



HALEY FLORES

Photography
Sophomore
Wartburg College



Nineteen years ago, I was born into a family of four: two parents and two older brothers. Mom and Dad shared passions for dance, singing and art. They divorced while I was three; my family members became fascinated with art as a freeing outlet of expression. Within the next few years, I began dancing, playing the piano and saxophone and visiting art festivals.

Dad granted me with my first camera on December 25, 1998; I was elated. Within the hour, I finished a roll of film. Not long after, Mom, who taught darkroom photography at a high school years earlier, enlightened me about the "tricks" and techniques of photography.

Dad unexpectedly passed away in 2001. Later that year, Mom discovered digital photography and bought our family a digital camera. Hour upon hour, I explored different aspects of photography: focus, lighting, shutter speed, and exposure. I spent days photographing my surroundings.



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HALEY FLORES

Photography



In middle school, I learned to utilize my talents for the well-being of others by volunteering. At Bible Camp, I encountered my first experience with printing pictures in a darkroom. This event opened my eyes to the wonders of photography. Although many people never personally develop their own black-and-white photos, I believe the darkroom contains one of the most fascinating processes in the world. In the darkroom, I decided photography needed to not only be my passion, it required my future. I decided to study art and communication design at Wartburg College. Much of my free time was also dedicated to shooting and editing pictures.



Every second of life is precious; each moment dissolves as the next ensues. Photography allows something not much else can: time freeze. Photography captures a moment as it is; nothing more, nothing less. Each photo encompasses overlooked beauty: precious smiles shared by two best friends, the union of two lives in love, a lovely flower in full bloom, the comforting embrace between a father and daughter, or simply the vision of grace in the eyes of a young girl. I want to help people of all ages and races gain positive self-images and embrace photographs as lingering, irreplaceable memories.



I remain completely overjoyed to be able to study an area so dear to my heart. After earning my bachelor's degree and gaining more work experience in photography, I plan to become an entrepreneur by originating a photography studio. One of my greatest goals in life remains to continue waking up with a smile on my face, ready to pursue my God-given life and purpose. My success in the area of art is inevitable because my desire to find true beauty remains prominent in the scope of my vision. Every day is filled with new zest and opportunities in the eyes of a photographer.

