

# Scholarship Winner – Ryan Smith

## (\$500 ASHC + \$1000 TCI)



Ryan Smith, Hazel Gold, Stan Harford, Terry Kelly

### What Being Tall Means to Me

Being tall has aided me greatly in a wide variety of areas throughout my life. My height allows me to ride any roller coasters, always able to see at movies, reach the top shelf without having to climb onto the countertop, and leap tall buildings in a single bound. Well, maybe not the last one, but being tall truly is very meaningful to me. My height has especially helped me to be successful in my athletic and leadership pursuits.

Athletically, being tall serves as an advantage and provides me the opportunity to excel. My height is a key physical attribute of mine that, coupled with hard work, has helped me to triumph on the court, in the pool, and on the field. In basketball, it gives me the extra inches to grab a crucial rebound or block an opponent's shot. It provides me with a longer reach to win the photo finishes in swimming. In baseball, it gives me the extension to cover the whole plate while also giving me the satisfaction of pulling down a football floating down over the outstretched arms of a defender.

Being tall makes me the instinctive choice of others to view and select as a leader. It is human nature to view tall people as leaders, and I have benefited from this intuition. When I am the tallest person in a group of people, which is often the case, people will often seem to form around and key off of me. If a person is meeting a group of people that I am with for the first time, he will oftentimes introduce himself to me first. In the same way, if a stranger is asking for directions when I am with a group of people, he almost always ask me. My height, along with my personality and other attributes, has helped me to be elected co-president of the student council, selected to the Gwinnett Student Leadership Team, and chosen to be the captain of the varsity basketball team. My height helps me to reach elevated positions.

Being tall provides me with many small, almost superficial pleasures that I enjoy daily, such as dunking a basketball and being spotted easily in a crowd, but I truly do enjoy these. Most importantly and meaningfully however, being tall provides me with the opportunity to succeed in athletics, leadership, and life.

# Scholarship Winner - Miles Robinson (\$250)



Hazel Gold, Stan Harford, Miles Robinson, Terry Kelly

## Scholarship Essay – by Miles Robinson

I am incredibly proud to say that being tall is one of the many things that make me truly unique. I feel that I am truly blessed to have gotten the lucky tall genes from both sides of my family even though no one in my family is nearly as tall as I am. I am not saying that being tall doesn't have its down sides. In addition to being tall, I am incredibly skinny. This predicament makes it particularly difficult to go shopping for clothes or even getting the right sized clothes for formal events. Even with this small negative, being tall has allowed me to be an individual. Even people who do not know me still refer to me as "the tall guy". This association has allowed me to stick my head above the crowd and be known. I also love to use my height to make an association with another tall figure, Abraham Lincoln. Old Abe and I are both of the same height (6' 4"), and I don't let anyone forget this. One of my deepest loves is actually the field of political science. While I look up to Lincoln as the political leader that I aspire to be, I see him eye to eye as a tall person. I plan on running for political office one day, and I am confident that others will be able to recognize me for my political stature just like other tall leaders such as Bill Clinton, Lyndon Johnson, and Thomas Jefferson. Being tall is important to me because I feel that it makes me a noteworthy individual with a bright future, and because of this, it does not bother me telling people "no I do not play basketball".