

## **2014 Martin F. Palumbos Rochester Area Business Ethics Foundation Scholarship**

Although I tend to be a very humble person, I would like to share some details with you to explain who I am. I am a senior business management major at St. John Fisher College and will graduate in the spring of 2015. My current cumulative GPA is 3.09. I have invested myself in my time at Fisher to make sure that I improve as a student and as a person. This is directly reflected in the fact that my grade point average has increased each semester over the past three years.

In addition to being a student, I am also a member of the Fisher Football team where I play defensive tackle. Football has taught me several important life lessons that have shaped me into the individual I am today. Whether it is sportsmanship, leadership, dedication, or time management, being a student athlete has helped me acquire many important skills. Being a football player requires one to be committed on a greater level than most students. Balancing practices, weightlifting sessions, and meetings on top of a full semester of coursework has been difficult, but has forced me to develop an excellent work ethic that has allowed me to succeed. Additionally, I have been employed during both the winter breaks and summers in order to help defray my tuition and room and board expenses.

Outside of school and sports I have developed a passion for spending time with and helping children with disabilities. I have dedicated a great deal of my time during the past ten years volunteering at programs for special needs children such as the Moving Miracles Dance Program and Tops Soccer. These programs allow children with similar disabilities to interact with each other. Besides having a great deal of fun, I have observed the long lasting relationships that these children have developed with one another. My passion for volunteer work with disabled children developed after meeting the disabled younger brother of my best friend. I first met Carmen, who has cerebral palsy, when I was five years old. Ever since, I have done anything I could to make sure that Carmen spends each day of his life happy and is able to deal with any challenges that he desires to face. Being around children with disabilities has made me appreciate the good health that I enjoy and has influenced me in a positive way.

This summer, I was fortunate to complete an internship with Enterprise Rent a Car in Buffalo, NY. In addition, I also worked for a landscaping company and worked part-time

providing security at a restaurant/bar. As a management trainee intern for Enterprise, I had responsibilities similar to those of a full-time worker. I am thankful to have had this great opportunity and learned a great deal about the workings of the business world. One of the five major values of Enterprise is integrity. I feel that I represented myself and the excellent education I received at St. John Fisher College very well. The effort that I expended during my time with Enterprise culminated with a full-time job offer after I graduate.

In conclusion, this scholarship would be of great financial assistance to me. Considering the cost of living in an apartment and travel to my internship and other employment venues this summer, my financial situation is somewhat stressed. Receipt of the RABEF scholarship would allow me to finish my education at St. John Fisher College and hopefully move on to a successful career. Thank you for your consideration.