

Grand Canyon State Games
Essay Contest
Sponsored by Southwestern College

Medal Awarded
(circle one)

Gold

Silver

Bronze

Honorable Mention

Student's Name: SOPHIA OTTLEBEN

Student's Grade: 11TH

Student's School: SKYLINE HIGH SCHOOL

** Note: *Please paper clip this form to the top of the winning Essay*

Firmament of Opportunities

Goals, improvements, and accomplishments, are dreams that people set their hearts upon throughout their life. I once set an aspiration, an ambition to become a better person, but when I pondered on how to accomplish this I was shocked. What exactly is a “better person?” Is a generous philanthropist aiding the homeless, a hardworking persistent student, or a loving child who cares for his or her family one? All of the preceding descriptions resemble a well looked upon person, but I was searching for something more. Then, out from the clouds of my mind came the answer, responsibility. Through becoming more dependable, one could take on all the activities that an improved person would by taking initiative, planning, and managing all that one does.

As the first baby blue bird takes the initiative to step off the branch to fly, it also leads its siblings to take a chance. Being responsible calls for action to lead the way, just like the baby blue bird. By being responsible for guiding, one shows the premature skills of a leader and by becoming a leader, one can accomplish much. It takes determination and strength to venture forth all alone, but by setting an example to others, a person develops into someone who aids their community.

Many volunteer, but when someone elevates their sense of duty to the next level and organizes a service, they become a true leader. Planning ahead is an important process in enhancing oneself and assisting others. Volunteering is the first stepping stone, but the next footstep is to become an exemplar who sketches out paths for others. Due to the responsibility of scheduling charitable activities, it allows others to follow within footsteps already laid out. This way the followers can first learn and then establish responsibility themselves.

After the initiative and preparation are concluded, directing is next in line. By already taking the lead, a person is relied on to manage what they create. While overlooking their work, they fill those around them with the same motivation and accountability. Also, not only does supervising one’s own work cause an experience of triumph, it is a fulfilling occurrence since it is through them that this act of kindness flourished.

Taking on responsibility is a circle of benevolence. When a student matures and takes the initiative, plans ahead, and then starts to manage responsibility, great events occur. Any volunteer organization or helpful gathering contains a leader that stands out. These leaders go through the process of responsibility and continue passing on their knowledge by means of compassionate acts. I wish to do the equivalent and that is why I volunteer at local summer camps where I am able to commence the process of becoming a leader. As I pass through the years, I may establish my own humanitarian organizations to aid my community. I desire to be the first blue bird to set my feet off the branch and soar upwards through the firmament of opportunities.