

Dear Sponsor of the Robert L. Jamieson Bursary,

I am currently in my first year at St Lawrence College in Brockville, Ontario, studying Musical Theatre Performance. The program has an option that allows students to either stay for the full three years at SLC, or to start with two years at SLC and finish the program with two years at Queen's University in Kingston to get a Bachelor's Degree in Music Theatre. It is a hands-on, conservatory style program that requires intensive training and long hours. This is exactly the kind of training that I need to succeed in my line of work, and I am so incredibly grateful to be here. It's quite far from my hometown of Vancouver, BC, but the support that I have received has meant the world to me. This bursary was a major stepping stone in my educational journey, and it means that I'm able to move away from home and get the training I need without worrying about how I'll be able to afford it.

The industry I plan on going into is notoriously difficult, both in the effort required to succeed and the financial stability required to make a living. My hope is to save up enough that after my schooling, I'll be able to move to a larger city nearby. Toronto has excellent opportunities for theatre, and the dream is to one day make it to New York City. I've known since I was very young that this is what I want and need to do with my life. Telling stories and connecting with audiences is such a fulfilling career, and I hope that I'll be able to use this medium of art to tell my own stories as a young Plains Cree Indigenous woman. Every cent is another step closer to realizing my dreams and making some sort of impact through the stories I tell. It truly means so much. Thank you for your generosity and support.

Best wishes,

Taea Rattlesnake