

HII Scholarship Fund: Post-Secondary Education

Speaker 1: It is my pleasure to introduce HII's president and CEO, Mr. Mike Petters. Joining us today are post-secondary scholarship recipients.

Mike Petters

It's great to meet with you. I'm excited about what you all are going to go do. I would say that it was a scholarship that allowed me to kind of change my frame of reference about college. There was a scholarship that allowed me to stop thinking about, "If I go to college," or "Should I go to college?" It basically was, "Where do you want to go to college?"

Augusta "Gussie" Nafziger

What is it about education and learning that makes you want to offer this opportunity for students?

Mike Petters

Because we were born in this country, we're given an opportunity to achieve our own potential, our personal potential, and make a contribution beyond what our circumstance at birth might have predicted. I think education is the thing that unlocks that for people. Education is a way for you to actually be who you were meant to be.

Yasmine Robinson

We stressed education for Jada because what we understand is, it offers opportunities, not just for her, but for generations that come behind her. Education kind of sets the trajectory for the family, so it's been a big deal.

Carter Blackmon

The ability to be one of the first people in my family to go to a major university has always inspired me. This scholarship alleviates a big burden on my parents and me, with being able to worry less about the financial aspects of education in college and being able to focus more on my studies and getting good grades and being able to keep going.

Jada Robinson

We're all in college, we're all trying to figure out what we want to do later on. Is there something that you would recommend for us to take, or study, or read? Anything?

Mike Petters

My general advice is to make sure that you are investing your time in stuff that you really like to do, because what the world needs from you is your best work. At least in my case, I wanted to practice the art of communication as much as I could because I think that's... and that was last century. This century,

I think the art of communication is even more important. So, invest your time in stuff that you like to do, pick up the skill of communication somewhere along the way, and you'll be well-served.

Elias "Eli" Nafgizer

This year has been especially difficult with COVID and everything happening. But when I got the email that I've got the scholarship, that was one of the high moments of my year, and I'm very grateful for it. Thank you so much.

Mike Petters

I've benefited from some scholarships along the way, and pay it forward is a pretty important part of our society. So the company is really happy to be able to help you all do that, and I wish you all the best. It's a strange time, but you will get out of it whatever you put into it.