

Tuesday, October 13, 2009

Hard work, dedication honors scholarship supporters

With the support and encouragement of SBA alumni, friends and business partners behind them, SBA scholarship recipients work diligently to do their best work in the classroom, in internships and in the community to honor and thank supporters for making their college education possible.

By alleviating some of the financial burden that accompanies a college education, scholarships provide students the chance to focus on their academics and participate in valuable experiential learning activities, all which build the skills that allow them to gain employment and contribute the community throughout their life.

One SBA student who has received several scholarships over the course of her SBA education, Kaja Mitevaska, a senior marketing major, thanked SBA alumni and friends during her remarks at the SBA 40th Anniversary Dinner Celebration, in October.

"Choosing the right college was a difficult decision, if I've learned anything over my time here at Oakland is that between a phenomenal business program, caring faculty and staff, the support, I picked the right university.

"... scholarships have given me the opportunity to focus on academics, complete several internships and give back to the community ... Without the generosity of the people sitting in this room, I can confidently say that my college experience would have been a lot different and I would not be as excited about my future. Without your generosity, I would be working multiple jobs in order to pay for school and I'd still graduate several thousand dollars in debt in an unstable economy with practically zero field experience.

"Although I'm grateful for the financial burden lifted off of my shoulders, to me receiving a scholarship is not just about the money. A college education is expensive and therefore hundreds of people apply for the same scholarships. My firm belief is when a scholarship recipient is chosen, they not only receive a monetary reward, but also encouragement from a company, organization or individual that they're on the right path.

"I've spoken to several scholarship recipients and we all agree that no matter how hard a class may seem or how tired we are from being involved in so much, we keep pushing through because the least we can do is our absolute best in every aspect of our lives as a thank you to the people that are financially supporting us.

"So on behalf of all of the past and present scholarship recipients sitting in this room, I'd like to say thank you. Thank you for allowing us to obtain a college education and thank you for your continued encouragement. Please know that every dollar makes a significant difference in someone's life and every dollar helps support a student toward a bigger and brighter future."

SUMMARY

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