

Delta County Democratic Scholarship Application for 2017-2018

Name Kaleigh Nethington

City Delta, Colorado

School Delta High School

1. Describe your involvement in school and the community during the past four years.

Over the past four years I have taken honors and Advanced Placement classes, participated in sports, and also been involved in countless clubs. When I was a freshman, I was a class representative in student council, while also participating in volleyball, tennis, and choir. My sophomore year I participated in student council, volleyball, tennis, and choir once again. I also joined two new clubs, National Honors Society and Key Club, plus I became the Varsity Girls Basketball Manager. My Junior year I was involved in student council, a basketball manager, National Honors Society, tennis, and Key Club. This year in Key Club I assumed the leadership position of Event's Coordinator. A service activity that I participated in my Junior year was being a student aid at Lincoln Elementary School in Mrs. Bohling's kindergarten class. These children are the future generation and future members of this community. By being involved in their lives, I'm helping them learn the importance of giving back to the community. My senior year I became the Senior Class President in Student Council, the President of National Honors Society, Girls Basketball Varsity Manager, and one of the captains on the Girls Tennis Team. I still am a student aid at Lincoln Elementary School. The clubs that I have been involved in have allowed me to give back to my community. For example, once a month the National Honors Society volunteers at Willow Tree nursing home. By bringing a small craft to do with a few members of the our club, we hope to show the residents how important their lives are. I believe that a community that has given me so much deserves something in return from me, that is why I have been so heavily involved in my school and community these past four years.

2. Briefly describe someone who has made a significant impact on your education and why they were influential.

Ms. Ranum makes an impact on all of her students lives because she genuinely cares, not only about their education, but about their personal lives as well. She's the first teacher that comes to my mind when asked about a person who has made a significant impact on my education. I had her as my teacher twice in high school, my freshman year and my junior year. My freshman year she taught me a valuable lesson; if you paid attention in class and did your school work you were going to get through just fine. My junior year she really transformed my whole perspective on AP education. She taught me how to write to get a qualifying score on the AP test, but she also taught me how to love non-fiction literature. The non-fiction books she had us read and discuss had an influence on the way I thought about all literature. It amazed me that these books were written based on real events that happened and all of these stories had very powerful real life advice rooted within them. Ms. Ranum has made a significant impact on my education.

3. Describe your performance in school in terms of grade point average or accomplishments.

I have participated in multiple honor, advanced placement, and college courses over the last four years. My freshman year I took advanced English, advanced Biology, and advanced Algebra 2. Sophomore year I participated in advanced English and AP European science. Junior year I took AP Language Arts and AP Calculus. As a Senior, I am currently taking College Algebra, AP Chemistry, AP Statistics, and AP Literature. Throughout my four years in high school I have received A's in all of my classes, except a B in AP chemistry this last semester. I have received an award for Academic Achievement three years in a row. I am now ranked 7th in my class with a 4.18 cumulative GPA. Last year I participated in Girls Varsity Tennis and as a team we received Academic All State First Team for having over a 3.7 cumulative GPA as a team.

4. What are your plans after your leave high school?

After high school I plan to attend Indiana University Southeast and study Elementary School. I have always wanted to be a teacher. I love little kids, everyday they bring laughter and joy into my life. They are the reason I want to become a teacher. After I finish my education I want to have a steady teaching job in a low income district. I prefer a low income district because I have volunteer experience in an underprivileged school. I have seen the need these students have to be loved. Once I have secured a steady job, I also see myself starting a family. I picture having the most perfect husband that is my best friend as well. I'm eager to start my family, love them more than anything, and give them the best home in which to grow up.

Write a short (one page) essay on the following issue. Keep in mind that we want to see your mind at work, your doubts, your questions—and not necessarily answers. That is, we want your writing to demonstrate your ability to be a critical thinker.

What are the ramifications to our country when citizens do not vote or when citizens who do vote are not informed?

Imagine this, one single room filled with representatives from all 13 colonies on the hottest summer ever recorded in Philadelphia, and a mission to shape a the future of their country. That was the summer of 1787, the constitutional convention. Our founding fathers during that convention created a system for choosing executive, legislative, and judicial representatives. The system involved the civic duty of voting. When citizens don't participate in this act, our country's system does not work like it's supposed to and our country can not function to its highest potential. Our country was made out of a desire for freedom and the right to have a voice; when citizens don't vote they are purposely silencing their voice. Those citizens are unintentionally abusing their rights as an American citizen, and they are creating errors in our country's system. There was a time in our country when citizens that were women or citizens of a different

race could not vote, but they saw the need for everyone to participate in the most influential part of our country's government. So they rightfully fought for their voice, and now they have earned the right and made our system so much more efficient. Although people in our country have fought for their right to vote, there are others who were given that right and don't even use it. They are making our system ineffective and the true voice of the people is not being able to be heard. Sometimes citizens don't vote because they are not informed or are informed wrongfully. The media has partially corrupted the information being sent out to U.S. citizens. They may only tell the people what they want to hear or only parts of the campaigns. These citizens are also making our voting system inefficient. A big ramification of this is we end up with people in office who are just as ill informed about our country's systems as they are. It saddens me that some leaders of our government have never been properly educated on the history of our country. It starts with our citizens however; if our citizens are properly informed on procedures presented in the constitution then they can more easily vote for leaders that they know will uphold the constitution. We, as U. S. citizens, need to honor the wishes of our Founding Fathers and VOTE.

Please type your essay double-spaced and return the completed application by **March 13, 2018** to:

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