

Grace Whitmire

Tyler Brown Scholarship Application

Why are you a good candidate for the scholarship?

I believe that I would be a good candidate for the Tyler Brown Scholarship because of my academic and service-based achievements. I came to Woodward in the eighth grade, unsure of how I would fit in to such a large community. Would I find my friends? Would I be able to get involved? Little did I know at the time, Woodward would be an environment where I would flourish and find my place with ease, making it an experience all my own. Coming from a school that did not challenge me academically, I was wary of the intense academic pressure that I might face. However, I ran with the pressure and used it to challenge myself instead of getting bogged down in the potential weight of the work. The vast options of classes that students at Woodward are able to choose from allow for a fostering of academic curiosity and bring opportunity for learning better time management. I have experienced this specifically by taking a variety of STEM classes that led me to realize that I want to pursue a STEM career in my future. Through classes such as physics, computer science, and chemistry, I have been able to explore my passions before I get to college: an opportunity I would not have had without Woodward. Without the challenging academic environment that I have pushed myself toward, I would not have developed such a love for learning or the ability to learn balance. I have maintained my good grades and continued to challenge myself in the classroom while also establishing myself as a leader in my community and school community. The balancing act that I have mastered is one that I am proud of and plan to use in my career at Georgia Tech and beyond.

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Service Involvement

I have maintained leadership and service involvement in my school and home community. As a part of the Peer Leadership program at Woodward, for example, I have met many students and cultivated new relationships that I otherwise would not have had while learning what it means to be a leader and putting those teachings into practice with the freshmen. I have also enjoyed lacrosse managing, and it is a program that I have participated in since freshman year. I became the head manager junior year and maintained that position through my senior year, ensuring that all runs smoothly for the lacrosse games and scheduling people as they need to be. By taking over the Bible Study program in my school community, I have been able to show my faith to my peers as well as cultivate my faith with other like-minded people. I have also worked alongside many wonderful students and faculty in serving on the Week of Understanding planning committee, in an attempt to serve my Woodward community as best as I can. Through these positions that I have held along with many more school activities, I have squeezed all out of Woodward that I can in terms of making a place for myself and leaving my mark. I have also taken the leadership qualities that I have cultivated over the years and applied them to my church youth group, through the leading of projects and activities to better my church community and faith. I have led and organized food pantry efforts at my church, making the project my own, and I have also helped in remodeling a home for the purpose of Bible classes at my church to help the spiritual growth of the young children involved. I have a passion for helping others, specifically when it involves my faith, and I believe that I have been able to show that through my involvement at Woodward and in my community.