

These letters were written by Malia's teachers, family and friends in support of her receiving an educational scholarship by ABC.

Dear ABC,

This letter is in support of Malia Rock's qualifications for a scholarship. I was Malia's history teacher in 2005-2006 at the Imagine Academy Charter School in Granada Hills, Ca.

Malia was consistently among the top performers in her class. Her work was detailed and thoughtful, and in our classroom discussions and analysis of issues in U. S. History she showed insight beyond her years. Malia's behavior, both in at out of class, was always respectful. She is a supportive person, a keen and intuitive listener, and a delightfully mature conversationalist.

Her native curiosity in all her school subjects was at a depth seldom encountered at any grade. Malia has a fundamental desire to know how the world works, from how atoms work in chemistry to how cultures work worldwide. A powerful intellect, an insatiable curiosity, and an ambitious will to know all combine in her to make a recipe for success and accomplishment that will make a real and needed difference in the world. She is every teacher's definition of a lifelong learner, and her peers unanimously agreed that she was also "most likely to succeed." In her shy way Malia is always making her life a work in progress, and that progress continues to amaze and delight all who know her.

At the Imagine Academy we knew our students well; our class sizes were small and our emphasis was on discovering each student's unique learning style and personality and maximizing their learning by using that knowledge in our teaching. I discovered Malia's maturity, intelligence, curiosity, and compassionate personality early on, as did her peers. She was a role model for everyone who knew her.

I cannot too strongly urge that Malia Rock be offered this or any other scholarship that helps to bring the astonishing and almost unlimited promise of her young life to fruition.

With Best Wishes,

Stephen Liddington
Teacher, Social Sciences
St. Anne School, Laguna Niguel
stephen_liddington@yahoo.com
(818) 983-3782

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Michael Oden and I am a Probation Officer for the County of Los Angeles. I have the opportunity to work with children and adults who made decisions that did not serve their lives in a life-serving manner. These individuals become wards of the County of Los Angeles for many months or even years.

I am inspired to support Malia in her quest for a scholarship to Sylvan Learning Center so she can be successful at Sierra Canyon College Prep High School. I have experienced many children who never get the support they need to thrive as adults from their parents. When I witness what Malia's parents are trying to accomplish for their child, I can only wonder what life would have been like for those children to receive support and stability from their caretaker.

To me all children are an investment. If we, the caretaker, are not willing to take the time and effort to invest in our children then our families, communities and their future in the world will be a more difficult place to connect with others in a compassionate manner. Trust me when I say that I have been witness to hundreds upon hundreds of children who will never receive any type investment from their primary caretaker and I know what will transpire 5, 10, 15 years down the road.

I've known Malia since she was 9 years old. I have seen her grow and develop into this responsible autonomous young person whose integrity and self-worth are beyond compare. I know this journey would be a great challenge for her and would bring out her best attributes. I need to preface the fact that her parents are an important part of her authenticity and self-empowerment. This opportunity would benefit her parent's need for growth and mastery for their child.

I know that by receiving a scholarship and reaching her academic goals, Malia will fulfill any and all obligations that would be set forth by the Prep School. I also know that she would be a wonderful asset and role model to those student's of African American decent and students from other ethnic backgrounds as well.

I want to wish her all the success on her journey to the next phase of her life.

Sincerely,

Michael Oden, Probation Officer II
(310) 612-7022

Dear Sir\Madam,

First, I would like to begin by thanking your organization for offering such a scholarship. I would like to write you in support of Malia Rock for the aforementioned scholarship.

I have known Malia and her family for over ten years and have watched her blossom since.

Malia is courageous, lovely, kind, inventive and dynamic - most important is her commitment to goals, when Malia sets her mind to pursuing an idea, she will follow-through, this was evident in her pursuit of dance classes - a journey she began at the age of 4 and still pursues very passionately. Investing in a child's dream who is this dedicated to her goals and passions and in particular for a school which streamlines her innate makeup would be extremely good news. Malia is very deserving of such a dream as are all children.

Quality education and the type being offered by Sierra Canyon would be immensely beneficial for Malia. Such education comes with a price and we feel that a scholarship for a dedicated individual such as Malia would be incredibly useful.

In a world rocked with hard lined news and as a friend, I would personally love to see this amazing 'can do', positive person benefit from your gift and the chance to be part of a wonderful program. In turn you will have an individual who has the make-up to contribute positively. A person who will make a difference for those she encounters.

Thank you,

Shyamal Leonard
Manager of Quality Assurance, Syncvoice Communications.
(310) 936-4527

ABC:

I got to know Malia while I was her English and History teacher during her fourth, fifth and sixth grade years. Malia is an excellent student and a charming and engaging person. She pursues her interests, both academic and social, with a zeal and enthusiasm that allow her to attain remarkable success. She has the confidence necessary to follow her own path, coupled with a winning personality that leads others to follow in her positive example. I've rarely seen a student with more promise and potential. I heartily believe that Malia will achieve great things, and that anything any of us can do to facilitate her in the pursuit of her dreams and the accomplishment of her goals, is well worth the effort.

Thank you for your consideration of Malia in regards to the scholarship being offered by ABC for tutoring at Sylvan Learning Center. Please contact me if you have any questions, or if I can be of any further assistance.

Joe Stanford
(310) 435-3477

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To Whom It May Concern,

There is no doubt in my mind that Malia Rock would not only benefit from your generous scholarship, but would deeply appreciate the opportunity that only this money could provide for her.

I have been fortunate enough to know Malia for the past 5 years and have seen her grow into a beautiful, compassionate, and mature young woman. She has all of the skill sets she needs to be successful, and her desire to improve in math is only further shows her commitment to succeed.

Should you choose Malia as your scholarship candidate, she will shine academically as well as personally as she embarks on this very important phase of her life. This can make all the difference in the world as to her collegiate opportunities and ultimately allowing her the choices she needs to fulfill her dreams of helping those less fortunate than her.

Thank you for your kind consideration of this very special young woman.

Sincerely,
Colleen Perry MFT, CEO
(310) 235-2844

Dear Sir/Madam:

We have known Bill Stierle (Malia's step-father) for ten years or so and his wife Suzanne Rock-Stierle (Malia's mom) for six or seven. What invariably comes across whenever we spend time with them is their commitment.

Suzanne is committed to mentoring young women at risk and otherwise serves the inner-city community. Bill is absolutely gifted in being able to gently guide people, couples and corporations from mis-understandings, confusion and less than ideal productivity to what could be called enlightenment or at least a lightening up of the burdens in working and being with other people. His work in Non-Violent Communication has inspired us to also take his courses as well as others in this groundbreaking approach to problem solving.

This is the environment in which Malia has been raised. This is the foundation from which her values have developed. This is why ABC can give to the Rock Family a scholarship for Malia to attend to Sylvan Learning Center because it is an investment in making our community healthy and vibrant.

We have seen Malia with her brothers Aidan and Tristan. She is a beautiful big sister. Aidan, of course, will try anyone's patience being an on-the-go and particularly energized five years old. Tristan is just six months. For both of them, Malia is patient, loving and generous with her time. Again, this speaks to how Bill and Suzanne have raised her. It also speaks to her inherent brilliance, not just intellectually which is apparent from her letter to you but also emotionally. She is an advanced person with wisdom befitting an adult.

By giving Malia a scholarship to Sylvan Learning Center, you are benefiting our entire community because you will be empowering a young woman who will make a significant difference in our lives as she becomes an adult.

Please do not hesitate to contact us for further information.

Kelila and Rob Heller
2630 Velarde Drive
Thousand Oaks, CA 91360
(805) 492-7337

To Whom It May Concern: (Re: Malia Rock's need for ABC scholarship for tutoring)

My granddaughter, Malia Rock, has many fine qualities, but chief among these, is her motivation. When Malia decides to set a goal, there is no stopping or diverting her from reaching it. While she was working with her school dance troupe, she went to the national finals in Florida. Leading up to the various trips for awards, she was required to spend hundreds of hours in preparation, including before and after school hours to ready herself. She never complained about all the extra work, but enthusiastically met all her commitments; and the awards followed. So she was able to realize her goal as a result of commitment to the team, hard work and personal sacrifice.

Malia is mature for her age and has shown this maturity by helping with her newborn brother. She is selfless and untiring in meeting school and family needs and goals. Malia is committed to raising her math scores, because she knows if she applies that same determination to the task, she will be successful. I believe she is highly motivated to achieve this, and I know she is deserving of consideration. I unequivocally recommend her for consideration.

Sincerely,
Kenneth Dickey, Grandfather
818 707-1860



Please consider Malia Rock for the Sylvan Scholarship. It will help position her for better success as she begins her high school education. Math is challenging for many people, but with the added coaching through this scholarship Malia will surely realize great success that carry with her into her future.

Malia will use all lessons and knowledge from this scholarship and apply them to all of her subjects in HS, future college and career life. Most likely, I believe she would also use what she learns to help peer students who may be having difficulty in similar classes. Her loving, supportive family is also committed to support her through all successes and challenges she may face through this experience.

Malia is bright, talented and committed to reaching her goals. She will not give up when faced with an obstacle or difficulty. Malia is a delightful girl with a bright effervescent personality. She leaves an impression on all who have the opportunity to meet and know her.

Connie Hopkins, I'm a friend of the family.
I can be reached at 503-977-6070

To Whom It May Concern:

I have known Malia since she was 5 years old. She is a very bright, well adjusted and mature young woman, with an inner sense of who she is in the world and what she wants to contribute. She has an unusually firm grasp of her life path, her abilities and her limitations. She is extremely committed, with integrity and wisdom beyond her years. She has a powerful sense of her place and obligations as a world citizen, which is rarely found in someone her age. Given adequate tools, Malia will accomplish precisely what she sets out to accomplish, and rise as an example of what is possible in the face of adversity. She is humble, intuitive, naturally intelligent and curious. She and her family are extremely committed to her success, and will do all they can to support her in leveraging the opportunity that your scholarship represents.

Barbara Anastasia
Technical Recruiter, Northrop Grumman Aerospace
858-546-1564



To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Steven Bennett I was Malia's English and Math teacher for 3 years. I honestly can't say enough about this wonderful young woman. In class, Malia consistently demonstrated motivation to be successful. She was engaged, attentive, and worked diligently in groups as well as in independent study. Malia enjoys accomplishing goals. Often when she completed basic assignments she will ask for new more challenging supplementary work.

Malia is a very bright student. Her potential for success is very high. Having observed Malia as a student for three years I can say she has always shown a pleasant nature and a maturity beyond her grade level.

Malia is a pleasure to have in class. Her character, willingness to participate, and eagerness to learn make her a role model student. She certainly receives my highest recommendation for the Sylvan Learning Center Scholarship. Please feel free to contact me if you need more information.

Sincerely,
Stephen Bennett
323-447-3375

To whom it may concern,

Malia Rock would really like to go to great high school. A tutoring scholarship would prepare her this summer in subjects she wants to improve in before entering the school she was accepted to. Everything she does she puts in a real effort. I think she will take a scholarship seriously and says she would like to do the same for someone else in need when she is able to later on in life. You must meet her in person and you will see what a smart and energetic girl she is. Her parents do everything they can to support her in all her endeavors. Please consider this candidate for a jumpstart into a wonderful life. As her uncle, I have seen her do amazing things and her energy is contagious.

Sincerely,

Douglas M Dickey
President, Aero Detail Incorporated
954 294-3696

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TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN (RE: Malia Rock)

This letter is to let you know how happy I am that Malia has been accepted to Sierra Canyon Upper School. As we all know, the education of our children is an investment in the future of this country.

Malia is committed to raising her academic skills in math so that she will be able to focus on getting ahead rather than playing catch-up when she starts at Sierra Canyon. To this end, ABC at Sylvan will benefit her greatly and get her off to a head start.

Malia is committed to her education and helping others. We hope you will accept her for a scholarship at ABC.

Thank you and please call me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Jean Dickey
Step-Grandmother

Dear ABC,

Malia has attended several of my workshops and empowerment circles and I have found her to be a very "old soul." She is wise beyond her years, more compassionate than most adults I know, and she has a wit and sense of humor that has made me double over with laughter on more than one occasion. Malia has always felt extraordinary to me and I KNOW that she has a vital purpose to play out in this world. She has a magnetic personality, such that as she is lifted, I know that many others who are fortunate enough to be around her will be uplifted, too.

If you choose to award Malia the scholarship to Sylvan Learning Center, I can guarantee that you will not be disappointed in her success and achievements. Feel free to call me if you have any questions about this matter.

Kelly Sullivan Walden
Author/Inspirational Speaker/Dream Coach
(323) 893-3028

To Whom it May Concern:

I have known Malia for 8 years as a family friend and community collaborator with her parents Suzanne and Bill Stierle. I have been honored to see Malia grow as the years have gone by into a wise, intuitive, and thoughtful young woman. Of anyone I know, she is the most deserving of this scholarship. I have the utmost confidence that anything she commits herself to, academically and otherwise, she will put forth with the best of her ability. Her poise, confidence, and self-reflection are things that I think are rare in a young person her age. An investment in her future such as a scholarship like this is nothing short of an investment in all of our futures. We need more Malia's in the world and when we support young people like herself we are encouraging her and all youth to keep striving for excellence. We are also sending the message that our youth are of value to us and worthy of our recognition for the particular characteristics that make each of them so special.

Please feel free to call me at: 562.234.9918 or email me at Julie@unitybridges.org should you have any questions or would like to talk with me further about Malia.

Sincerely yours,

Julia Chavez
Executive Director of Unity Bridges
A women connecting to women organization

To Whom It May Concern:

I am honored to write this letter regarding Malia Rock. Malia is my niece and is a very bright and exceptional young lady. This scholarship will afford her the opportunity to excel in Math, thus, being totally accepted into Sierra Canyon College Prep.

Malia is committed to Philanthropy and is eager to offer a Scholarship to other individuals once her career advances to the next level. I urge you to consider this young lady for the ABC Scholarship.

Regards,
Belinda Bakkar
Board Member, Boeing Employees Community Fund
310-416-9320