

Dear American Association of University Women Scholarship donors,

I am incredibly grateful to be a recipient of this award.

As a freshman at The University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa, I still have a long way to go in my academic career and receiving this award helps me so much. I plan on graduating from Alabama with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science with two minors in Philosophy and Communications before continuing on to law school.

I want to study constitutional law so I can help other people with my knowledge and resources. I have always been fascinated by the legal system and the way that it works to protect the rights of individuals and ensure justice. Lawyers can advocate for those who might not otherwise have a voice and work towards a more fair and just society. I want to be a part of that and use my skills and knowledge to influence and make a difference in the lives of others. Specifically, by helping people who have been disadvantaged by the justice system or who do not have access to legal assistance. I am taking a daring path forward in life by pursuing law and/or politics, two professions with a disproportionate underrepresentation of women. I am remaining on a similar path as the great women before me, like Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Jeannette Rankin, who allowed this to even be possible.

At some point in my life, I also want to create a nonprofit that funds girls' sports programs to address disproportionate participation and unequal treatment. As someone who has played sports her entire life, I understand how important the community these opportunities create is and I have also seen how they are not well supported by schools, districts, and legislative bodies.

Outside of my classes, I am a proud member of the Alpha Omega Epsilon sorority, the Women in Pre-Law Society, the Pre-Law Students Association and the UA Honors College. As a member of the Alpha Omega Epsilon sorority, I have found a community of like-minded individuals driven by a shared commitment to academic excellence and service. The Women in Pre-Law Society and the Pre-Law Students Association have provided me with invaluable insights into the legal profession. My affiliation with the UA Honors College has afforded me the opportunity to engage in smaller class sizes with more discussion and to not be just a name/number to my professors.

One of the highlights of my collegiate experience thus far has been my participation in the Alabama Club Tennis Travel Team. As a long time player of the sport, I am grateful for the opportunity to represent my university on the tennis court, competing against teams from across the nation. Beyond the thrill of competition, it has afforded me the opportunity to forge friendships and provided lessons in teamwork. Our travels have also allowed me to visit a Buc-ee's for the first time.

Next year, I am excited to get to those upper-level classes that focus on what I am interested in. I am planning to continue my involvement with all the above extracurricular activities, and I hope to take on leadership or executive board positions. I also plan on getting a job next year as well.

This scholarship is important in so many ways because over the past two years, my family has been impacted by unexpected financial troubles. My dad was injured in Jan 2022 with a complete rotator cuff

tear and ultimately resulting in shoulder surgery. He was unable to do his job for almost ten months which involved a lot of physical therapy, decreased job duties and a severe cut in his wages through August 2022. He was then injured again in Aug 2023 with more physical therapy, decreased job duties and another round of reduction in income. This January, he decided to terminate his employment to avoid future health issues.

In my service and jobs, I promote selflessness and cooperation, which I want to continue throughout my life. I believe no force alone is as strong as people working together. I am incredibly passionate about my dreams and pursuing them, motivated mainly by a strong core value of helping others in any way that I can. I plan to achieve my goals through discipline and determination, which is my way of tackling all my challenges.

I am truly honored and deeply appreciative to be the recipient of this scholarship.

Thank you and Roll Tide!

Lucy J Rothe