

Moldovan Student Sponsorship Newsletter



Congratulations, College Graduate! Now Tell Us: What Did You Learn?

by Angela Arhip

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Congratulations,
College Graduate! 1-2

"Dear Sponsors, we profusely thank you for your aid and cooperation and wish you a Happy Summer!"



Based on this, we offered the chance to each graduate to answer this initial question and some others, to speak about their emotional states and to share their thoughts with us. We were very glad to hear that some of them were satisfied with their degrees and were ready and able to begin working (such as Oxana and Mihai). For others, graduation from school was not the achievement of their dreams, often because they had gone to their respective school because of lack of alternatives and being imposed by their fate as an orphan.



Some weeks ago, I read an article about graduates. It drew my attention due to a very smart title and question: *Congratulations, College Graduate. Now Tell Us: What Did You Learn?* The graduates are now older than when they went off to college. They're probably smarter than some years ago when they were admitted, and they're more mature than when they left school and can surely contemplate on what they spent on college and what they are able to get in return. I consider that this is an actual question and consideration for almost each country, including Moldova. That is why I thought that this topic might be ideal and appropriate for this meeting which is a special one for those who are graduating and in some weeks and will step into a new world - that of a job.

I'd love to hear ideas for future newsletters. Do you have a story about your student that you'd both be willing to share with other sponsors?

Congratulations, College Graduate! , continued

So, focusing on this idea, they needed to answer various questions which subsequently helped them to understand how useful their education was. There were some students who were not able to advise us of their plans, and who were also struggling with whether to continue on to another program, and if so, which one? If their first school was a “**random**” choice, as some of them consider, they can’t decide on a second without knowing how efficient the consequences will be. In fact, this is probably my ongoing advice to those who decide to continue their education. I know that many of them are hungry to learn more, but some of them are simply afraid of entering the unknown world – that of independence. They worry about losing this sponsorship stipend and the other minor state support they have, and they continue going from school to school. I usually tell them that everything has an end, but each end is the beginning of something new. If they see their 2nd or 3rd school as really necessary and with a future promising job, they **MUST** go on. If they do it for the sake of doing, they need to stop and meditate on *what they can do, what they want and what can assure them a decent future*. Only in answering these questions, can they make the best decision. I hope that this was not a discouragement, but on the contrary - good advice at a proper time.

Another topic we focused on was employment. We discussed how to persuade the employer that you are the best candidate. We underlined the most important 10 steps that each person needs to know when applying for a job. Within this context we emphasized the key principles of getting employed: be convincing, eye contact, dress code, be on time for the interview, research for your prospects, ask effective questions, follow up, never give up, etc. These are some of the best points that assure the success of being employed.

We ended up with agreeing: ***You’ll see the road to progress only when you are well motivated.***

This year our Sponsorship Program congratulates 11 students and their sponsors for having energy, forces and willingness to work hard, to contribute generously, and to succeed.

1. **Alina Baltag** – sponsored by the McOmber family and Sponsorship Fund
2. **Natalia Berejnaia** - sponsored by the Anderson – Raciti family
3. **Oxana Gutu** - sponsored by Anderson – Raciti family
4. **Mihai Pascal** - sponsored by the Muhlbauer family
5. **Radu Petreanu** - sponsored by the Roos family
6. **Olga Rusnac** - sponsored by the Burkly family
7. **Denis Sanin** - sponsored by Sponsorship Fund
8. **Vadim Carp** - sponsored by Sponsorship Fund
9. **Ana Gratii** – sponsored by the Grant family
10. **Mircea Pascal** – sponsored by the Kreimer family
11. **Jazgul Orozova** - sponsored by the Ford family

Some of our graduates will continue their education; others will apply for a job. Our autumn newsletter will have more details about these students and their plans. By that time, we’ll know which of our students was admitted to another school, who was employed and who is still looking for a job.

A note from Marcy: I will do my best to keep each sponsor individually updated as to the status of their respective student(s) as we get information on them. It is a challenging job for Angela, as you can well imagine, to keep up with over thirty young students as they change plans and move around, especially during the summer. As always, I appreciate her efforts and thank the sponsors for their patience and understanding!

Wishing everyone a relaxing summer!