

Since a young age I have been presented with challenges in my life; challenges that have transformed into opportunities; opportunities that I have worked hard and given my best to translate into success stories... I am Mexican-Canadian and lived most of my life in Mexico, until the summer of 2013 when my family decided to leave all behind and move to Toronto so my brother and I could continue our education in Canada. I have always strived to make a positive impact on my community, and with this in mind, I got involved right away in many initiatives I deeply believe in.

A true believer of youth being agents of change, I became a leader in my school's 'Me to We' Club, helping to raise funds to build a school in rural India and started raising funds to build a hospital in rural China. I also joined Victim Services Toronto "Teens Ending Abusive Relationships" program as a Youth Leader. Through this program we raised awareness about different community issues surrounding youth through a weekly Twitter Chat, videos, and school presentations.

At my school I co-founded 'Colour Me Truth Equity Club' to create a society of inclusion, abolishing barriers of discrimination and stereotypes so that everyone can have equal opportunities. Having a deep interest for business, I co-founded my school's first 'Entrepreneurial Club' in partnership with SAGE Canada. I was elected Vice-President of the Student Association and constantly volunteered outside of school to give back to my community.

Academic excellence is very important to me. I was a member of the Academic Honours Society every year during my high school. By becoming an engineer, and dreaming to be a successful entrepreneur someday, I am convinced I could make important contributions to society and make a positive social impact for Canada.

Receiving the Nahom Berhane Scholarship fills me with joy and is truly an honour, not only because of the much needed financial support it offers me, but also because of what the award stands for and the qualities its awardees portray. I belong to a strong and loving family, but we have limited financial resources, so this scholarship means a lot to all of us in order to achieve my university dreams. I want to thank the Selection Committee for believing in me and giving me this opportunity. I am really grateful, and will continue to work hard to honour your generosity.