

The Friends of the Library of West St. Tammany "Lisabeth Millard Scholarship" Question Essay:
How you have used the public library in the past as well as how this knowledge will assist you during your college education and subsequently in your chosen profession?

Home is where the heart is they say. For me, reading is where the library is. I am a second generation avid public library patron. My mother read to me all the time when I was young and took me to the public library on a regular basis. I couldn't wait to have my own library card. The public library provided me with the opportunity to learn and discover whatever I wanted, book by book. The public library provided activities for fun and educational learning with other kids who enjoyed the same thing. I cannot even count how many books I have checked out of the library to read, whether for pleasure or for school assignments.

The public library is a place I go to study. It is the perfect environment to study and if one needs to do research or look up something, they are already at the right place. I started inviting friends to study with me and eventually it turned into a Saturday activity. I called it the Saturday Study Club. When I go to Tulane University for college, I intend to continue study and research activities at the public library as well as the university's, and invite new friends to join me.

I am a volunteer on the St. Tammany Library's Teen Council assisting the librarians with activities for teens. We meet to discuss ideas on how to improve the teen section of the library and hold fun and educational events. I am also a St. Tammany Parish Library Summer Reading volunteer. I believe in the benefits of the public library and the importance of having reading in your life. I enjoy helping others, young and old, see how a good book can take your mind on an adventure, and how the library is a great place to go to discover that next adventure. I have earned several reading and academic awards in school and know that reading is a huge reason why.

Even when I am a practicing Veterinarian, I know that I will use the public library to continue to find books needed for work, whether for research or for reference. I will also be bringing my children, the third generation of readers and avid public library patrons, who may want to read about animals too. Whatever the topic choice for the book, we know that we can find it at the public library.

Thank you for the opportunity for this scholarship and for letting me share my experiences with the public library. It's always a joyful place to go.

Sincerely,



Veronica Ise