

# **This I Believe**

Tyler-Buffalo, NY

Entered April 30, 2014

I believe in opportunity and the things that can be done when a child receives one. Growing up in a suburb of Buffalo, my younger brother and I were given every opportunity possible to succeed. My parents went out of their way to ensure everything was in place for us to do well. Whether it was driving us to little league practice, taking us to camps, teaching us life lessons, or just being there for us when we needed them, they did it. Looking back on it now, the things I am most grateful for are these opportunities that my parents presented for us. It was up to my brother and me to make the most of them.

As a future educator, I firmly believe that a child can do incredible things if just given opportunities. In the world of Adapted Physical Education, I believe that great strides are being made to give these students the opportunities they deserve. It has been proven throughout history that people with disabilities have broken down the stereotypical barriers that society had placed on them and have done incredible things that have opened the eyes of many. Today, we have Olympic runners with prosthetic legs, we have professional athletes who are visually and hearing impaired, and we have marathon races being completed by people in wheelchairs. None of these things would have been possible if it wasn't for someone giving the individuals the opportunity to do these things. With this opportunity, a person can choose to do what they want with it. History proves that many take that

opportunity and change their lives and the lives of others with it. That is why I believe in opportunity and that if people are given a chance in life, the things they will do with that chance are far beyond what anyone would have ever expected from them. Life is about opportunity and taking advantage of the one's that you are given.