

Sarah Kate Carpenter

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### Tyler Brown Scholarship

Passion is the most important characteristic for a person to have in life. Without passion there is no meaning behind what people do. People should truly care about and love whatever it is they may be doing if they truly want to lead a fulfilling life. Tyler Brown exemplified this passion to the fullest extent. In an article written after Tyler's death, Phil Gingrey stated that Tyler had a "passion for people and passion for life." Perhaps one of the most inspiring points to a fellow student body leader like myself is his "commitment to inclusion [that] inspired fellow students to become more involved on campus." I am SGA President at Woodward, so I am familiar with the attempt to increase student involvement. After working hard, I experienced the satisfaction of the student body connecting with the events we held and also connecting with each other. This satisfaction is why I am so dedicated to service and leadership; providing a way for students to make the most of their time in school and make memories with each other is a great feeling. As I read about Tyler, his accomplishments, and the values he upheld, I realized that Tyler Brown is exactly the kind of person and leader I want to be. All of those around Tyler benefited from his radiating positivity and could feel the love and devotion he had for them. I recently attended a 6 day backpacking NOLS course over spring break. This course made me realize how important it is to remain positive especially as a leader, even when you wake up with your feet outside the tent in the snow. Furthermore, I want to make the best of my time and impact others' time at Georgia Tech as I embark on my journey there this fall. This scholarship would be an incredibly useful stepping stone to help me further develop the similar values I share with Tyler and use them to positively affect the community at Georgia Tech.

## Service

I participate in many extracurricular activities and have several leadership and service positions at Woodward including Peer Leadership, SGA president, president of Students Against Destructive Decisions, and a volunteer with the Horizons Program during the summer. As a peer leader, I help lead a group of about 15 freshmen through their first year in high school, both an exciting and intimidating time. We often have discussions on Fridays about topics that freshmen confront in high school. In SGA, we plan activities for the Upper School students and help make various other decisions that impact the student body. A main goal of mine as SGA president this year was to increase student participation and revamp some of our events such as the winter dance, cookouts before football games, and senior fun in the sun day. SGA focused on making these events more appealing to the student body with the overall goal being to make the high school experience more enjoyable which I think we accomplished. As president of Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD club), we attempt to make students aware of certain dangers that we often face everyday that can easily be avoided by making informed decisions. For example, the week before exams, SADD club held a driving drowsy awareness week to inform students of the dangers of driving while tired. One of my favorite service activities is my volunteer work with a program Woodward hosts called Horizons. Horizons is a program in which Woodward partners with an underprivileged school during the summer. As a volunteer, I get to help teach the students. The bonds I have made with these students over the past three are incredible. I adore each and every one of them and getting to make even a small impact on their life greatly impacts my own. All of these leadership positions have help to prepare me for the leadership positions I hope to obtain at Georgia Tech.