

My Gymnastics Dreams

By Cameron Miller

My name is Cameron Miller and I am a 14-year-old level 10 gymnast at Cascade Elite Gymnastics. As many of you know, I received this scholarship last year and was very grateful for it. I have been studying gymnastics for seven years now, and have been enjoying every day of it. Gymnastics has taught me more than just how to do a handstand or a back flip. It has helped me realize how to demonstrate great sportsmanship, enabled me to meet new friends, and stay healthy.

Gymnastics has taught me many important life skills too. I realize I will use these abilities in all areas of my life. I have become skilled at dedication to my sport, as well as my school work; being self sufficient, how to manage my time effectively, discipline to get the job done, good character, leadership, self-awareness, and responsibility. One of the ways I have shown self-sufficiency as well as responsibility comes from leaving school early and getting on the city bus to get to gym on time. My self-awareness is taking care of my body and knowing what helps me succeed. Excelling in gymnastics has shown me that as long as I put my mind to a task I can be successful. I have also learned that I can succeed as long as I am willing to work hard and never give up.

Last year my goals were “to become a level 9 and train for level 10”. This will allow me to compete at the college level. My dream is to continue towards the Olympics, and qualify to Nationals. I am starting my training as a level ten but I did not qualify to nationals this year. Even though I did not make it to the Nationals that only motivated me to work even harder next year. My goals for this

year and many years to come, is to become one of the first African American male gymnasts to represent our country in the Olympics. This will not only permit me the rare opportunity to represent the United States, but will allow me to coach other young gymnasts and show them that their dreams are obtainable if they are willing to work hard and dream big; and if they are willing to endure what is necessary to become the best in this sport.

Some of the accomplishments I have made this past year are the new skills I have learned, increasing my core strength and endurance, and almost qualifying to Nationals, however I was held back by an injury but I never gave up. I have been able to focus even harder on my goals. In addition, I learned the complicated scoring system and the code of points (fig-book) to help me understand how to put together my routines.

The Iron Cross Foundation has done numerous things for my family and me. We were able to travel to meets and bring the whole family together because of my competing. This has brought us closer together and allowed us to meet new friends because of our travels. This scholarship will enable me to get one step closer to my goals. I hope you will allow me to represent the Iron Cross Foundation again. Thank you for your consideration, I appreciate it very much.