

HII Scholarship Fund Video - Post-Secondary Education

Mike Petters

My dad said to us when we were growing up as kids, he said, “You were really lucky to be born in this country.” I think we actually have a lot of people, all they want is opportunity. And if there are ways that we can continue to create access for those folks, expand the access, then the extent that we can do that, we have a chance to build a better society.

(And, here I am, I wouldn’t be standing here with you all today, if I hadn’t had those two scholarships. My hope is that ...)

This is not about me, this is about the stories that these kids are going to have. As in a way we can foster and encourage and fertilize and grow their own love of learning.

William Ballard (Thomas Nelson Community College)

I have to say my parents inspired my curiosity for learning. They pushed me along the way. They taught me the importance and value of learning. I cannot thank Mr. Petters and Huntington Ingalls Industries enough for this amazing, wonderful award that I’ve received from them.

Mike Petters

Well we have various scholarship programs for our employees. We do scholarships to four-year colleges. We do scholarships to junior colleges or community colleges. But it’s all an investment in our future as a society, and the future of these kids and the future of our company.

Lily Nguyen (University of Mississippi)

Being a child of immigrants it means a lot to me to have this scholarship, because my parents came over to America at a very, very young age. They came over here to give us better opportunities. Their whole lives they’ve known struggle. So, just being able to get the scholarship and not having to struggle as much as them, it means they are getting what they came over here to do. And I’m taking a little bit of a burden off their shoulders.

Mike Petters

Meeting their parents and hearing the things that they want to go off and do. You know, it’s just exciting, it’s energizing to be around. Frankly, I’m envious

Yvette Gamor (University of Virginia)

So, my dream for the future is to become a doctor. I would like to thank Mike Petters and Huntington Ingalls Industries so much for this scholarship, because paying for college truly is a financial burden and any help that we can get is so important. So, thank you so much.



Video Transcript

Anna Ford (Roanoke College)

Once you have a love for learning, it doesn't go away. Thank you so much for providing this opportunity. Education has really been an opportunity for me to fulfil the things that I want to do here.

Mike Petters

These kids, they already have a love of learning and they have some direction in where they're going to go and to be able to have even a minor impact into the trajectory of their lives is just incredibly rewarding.