

Required Essays: Jennifer Leveye

A. Describe how your personal goals, challenges, or commitments exemplify or have been inspired by Michael Rothberg's legacy.

Reading about the many philanthropic causes that Michael Rothberg worked for, I realize that I share many of the same interests and causes. The list of charities to which he was a contributor were all medical foundations, and my strongest interests and passions lie in the medical field. I want to be able to help people by using the science that I have studied and become fascinated with. Medicine or a medical field will allow me to help people in ways that interest me, whether I become a physician, a researcher, or a public health official. By becoming involved in one of these fields, I believe my future career will be in line with Michael Rothberg's philanthropic interests.

Throughout high school, I have sought ways I can give back to my school community. I am a member of the National Honor Society, which has given me a vehicle to participate and plan a wide variety of community service projects, ranging from a school courtyard clean-up to planning a movie night to raise awareness about child soldiers in Northern Uganda. I have also tutored a biology student throughout this year, giving me a way to use one of my passions to help a classmate. I look forward to expanding the ways I can give back to my community as I get older and the opportunities increase. Michael Rothberg's ability to balance a career with many philanthropic causes has showed me how motivation and dedication to a cause can bring about results, and this is how his legacy has inspired me.

B. How have acts of terrorism around the world affected your own life and your outlook on the future?

When I first began to think of this question, I couldn't immediately come up with an answer. I have been extremely lucky in that my family has not been touched with the tragedy that comes from acts of terrorism and their aftermath. As I thought more, however, I have realized the subtle ways that global terrorism has influenced my perspective on the world.

Violence around the world has forced me to open my eyes and become more aware about the world and global politics. I have become increasingly involved in Model United Nations, which has given me a vehicle to learn about world events from other countries perspectives, even those I disagree with. By becoming more aware of world issues, I tried to understand some of the causes that create terrorism, and what I can do to help change those causes. One of my major goals is to join Doctors Without Borders and bring medical care to places that do not have the kind of infrastructure needed to keep their people healthy. Poverty, suffering, and lack of education are some of the strongest causes for breeding terrorism, and I want to be involved in an organization like Doctors Without Borders that helps alleviate this kind of suffering. Acts of terrorism around the world have shown me how imperative it is that I need to take action to fight suffering and ignorance.