

Sophomore Scholarship Winner

Wolf Star Duran



Grade:	Sophomore
Major:	Native American and Indigenous Studies
Hometown:	Fort Washakie, Wyoming
Goal after College	To go back and take advantage of my education to aid my community.

Excerpt from Essay

I'm Northern Arapaho from the Wind River Reservation in Wyoming. For over four years beginning in 2013, I joined a program called Escape and Unity, which ESCAPE stands for Eastern Shoshone Cross-Education Age Peer and UNITY, United **National** Indian Tribal Youth. Escape is a peer mentoring program that aims to educate about prevention, leadership skills and keep youth in touch with tribal heritage. Unity is a Youth -led national network organization for **Native** American Youth. Although my

Parents' didn't go to college, they recognized that getting an education was very important and encouraged me to be active in my community. Thus, leading me to join and be involved with like programs Escape and Unity. **Before** joining, I was self-absorbed and shy; now I'm very open-minded and courageous in everything that I do. Along with my parents' support, both programs guided me, established my leadership role as a Native American youth and provided me with many opportunities. Eventually, with the leadership

skills I acquired, this led to myself being an activist for American/Alaskan Native rights and give back to my community.