Zanehya Rayshaun George

Not many people recognize your internal persona when your exterior displays something different. My name is Zanehya Rayshaun George and I am a quarter African American, a quarter Italian, and half Navajo. I am ambitious and creative, but my past and present environment seems to hinder expectations of me. Although I may not have a glamorous background, I will have an inspirationally prosperous future.

My environment growing up did not affect me as bad as some others. From birth to age six I was an only child. As I grew older I became one of four children and as the oldest the pressure has always been difficult to endure. Being that my dad left when I was three and without the help of my step dad, at times, I often had to babysit because my mom had to work long hours to provide for her family; not only did I miss out on a childhood, but my stepdad abused us physically, mentally, verbally, and emotionally. After about ten years of abuse, we finally kicked him out of our lives and began to move forward. Unfortunately our economy in this country is not doing so well and my mom has been unemployed for a year. I have been through many trials and tribulations, but I have goals and a future to look forward to fulfilling so that I may overcome my past and present.

My future and my goals have been shaped by the environment I grew up in. My ambitious and artistic nature has made me want to act, film produce, and fashion design. At some point even being an aerial photographer for the United States Air Force will preoccupy me and help pay for college; my goal is to make each career a successful one. I have goals that, when fulfilled, will enable me to take care of my family and even help other people around the world, but most importantly my mother. My future will be bright and I am sure of, but I am also doing things now that will benefit my future.

As of right now, I have been blessed to have the ability to take necessary steps toward making my dreams come true. In middle school I went to modeling and acting school for JohnCasablancas Inc. on a scholarship. In high school I have been a member of club style and participated in the club style fashion show each year. I have been in the ACE Plus Program since my junior year and which allows me to earn college credit while I am in high school. I have a collection of clothing, jewelry, and other creations that I will use in a portfolio to enhance and emphasize my talents. I have also gotten a scholarship from the Robert Tate Foundation to help with my education. Currently I am the Club Style President who will graduate with twenty-four college credits and I will have worked with two different internships; overall, I am working hard towards getting myself prepared for my future careers.

Although where you come from seems to define you, I have been through many things that would discourage many people from becoming someone of importance. In all actuality, trials and tribulations only push me to further my experiences in life. Despite that many people may think life seems pretty short, life is actually pretty long and I have a lifetime ahead of me. Although I may not have a glamorous background, I will have an inspirationally prosperous future.