

April 2, 2003

University of Washington
Office of Minority Affairs
Schmitz Hall, Box 355845
Seattle, WA 98195

Dear High School Sophomore:

You are encouraged to apply to be considered for the 2003-2004 Encouraging Minority People to Overcome With Education and Respect (EMPOWER) outreach program at the University of Washington. This will be the fifth consecutive year that this student-based program has worked to improve the admissions numbers of historically underrepresented groups at UW. The University of Office Washington's President's and Board of Regents is in full support of our program as EMPOWER has become a central component of the UW's diversity initiative.

EMPOWER is intended to help prepare high school juniors for the rigors of college study through academic dialogue. Issues of social justice regarding race, class, gender, religion, and sexuality will be the primary topics of our discussions. There will also be opportunities to participate in special UW activities throughout the academic school year. EMPOWER students will become an integral part of the UW community.

This program is intended to boost critical thinking abilities as well as prepare students for the application and admission process. In our four years we have had a lot of success with the admissions process with over **90%** of our students who apply being accepted to the University of Washington. As a now established program, EMPOWER will have its first year of Alum that will be graduating from the University of Washington.

From the admissions process to the graduation process, EMPOWER has been the catapult that has made it possible for people of color and students of other underrepresented groups to achieve success in higher education.

Please take a moment to read the attached information. If you are interested in the program, complete the following program. If you have questions feel free to contact David Roberts by telephone at (206) 221-2831, (206) 226-5989 or may be reached by email at davrober@u.washington.edu

Sincerely,

David Roberts
EMPOWER Program Director

EMPOWER STUDENT APPLICATION 2002-2003

CRITERIA:

- **HIGH SCHOOL JUNIOR.**
- **CUMMULATIVE GPA 2.5 OR DEMONSTRATED ACADEMIC IMPROVEMENT.**
- **TIME COMMITMENT: ABLITIY TO ATTEND MEETINGS EVERY OTHER WEEK ON UW CAMPUS.**
- **DEDICATION TO SOCIAL JUSTICE AND COMMITMENT TO LEARN ABOUT ALL FORMS OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC OPPRESSION.**

ALL REQUIRED MATERIAL SHOULD BE SENT TO:

**EMPOWER Program
Box 355845
Seattle, WA
98195-5845**

ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY May 16, 2003.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, CONTACT DAVID ROBERTS AT (206) 221-2831, (206) 226-5989 or davrober@u.washington.edu.

CHECK LIST OF REQUIRED INFORMATION:

- PERSONAL INFO.
- OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT
- RESUME (SHOULD INCLUDE SCHOOL ACTIVIES, COMMUNITY SERVICE ETC.)
- TWO LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION: ONE PERSONAL, THE OTHER FROM SOMEONE (NON-RELATIVE) WITHIN YOUR COMMUNITY (i.e. ACADEMIC ADVISOR, PASTOR, ETC.)
- ESSAY RESPONSES

EMPOWER STUDENT APPLICATION 2002-2003

PERSONAL INFORMATION (TYPED OR NEATLY PRINTED):

NAME: _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE (DAY) _____ (EVENING) _____

EMAIL: _____

HIGH SCHOOL ATTEND: _____ **CITY:** _____

GRADE POINT AVERAGE: _____

GENDER (OPTIONAL): MALE ___ FEMALE ___

ETHNIC BACKGROUND (OPTIONAL): _____

STUDENT SIGNATURE _____

PARENT OR GUARDIAN SIGNATURE _____

DATE _____

EMPOWER STUDENT APPLICATION 2002-2003

PERSONAL RESPONSE CRITERIA:

Your responses do not need to follow a particular format, be creative. You may express yourself through an essay, poetry, drawing, song or any other creative method. Response to **one** of the following topics as well as the **required response**:

- Describe the attributes of an individual who has inspired you and outline the ways in which this individual has impacted your life, your goals and your actions.
- Present a social problem you see in your school or community and how you would solve it?
- What are your strengths and weaknesses? How do you utilize your strengths and overcome your weaknesses?

REQUIRED RESPONSE:

Define social justice, then describe how one or more of the following (race, class, gender, sexuality, religion) have impacted your life and beliefs?