

May 21, 2017

Ms. Lezette Parks
4 Vanderbilt Park Drive
Asheville, NC 28803

Dear Ms. Lezette Parks and the Crowell and Fletcher family,

Thank you for your continued support of my education through the Nelle Crowell Fletcher and G. L. Crowell Fund. This scholarship has helped me attend Warren Wilson College and take part in the many opportunities available to me there. Your generous support has given me opportunities I never saw coming my way.

This year is my third year as a mentor with Big Brothers Big Sisters through the weekly Kids on Campus afterschool program. It was special to have a second year with my little brother from last year. I plan to return to the program next semester to be there for my little brother as he transitions to middle school.

I continue to coordinate Ecoteam, an 8 week experiential environmental education program for third grade classes. This year we taught the third graders at Fairview, Bell, Art Space, and Oakley elementary schools. I recruit and train Wilson student volunteer teachers, prepare lesson plans and materials, and teach in the classroom weekly as a part of my job in the Center for Community Engagement. A student volunteer and I were fortunate enough to be accepted as workshop presenters about the program at the regional Association for Experiential Education. I also developed and presented a workshop at the N.C. Campus Compact CSNAP Conference about the dynamics of privilege in higher education community engagement relationships.

Academically, I have had the opportunity to do research on the eastern spotted skunk in a partnership with the North Carolina Wildlife Resource Commission this year, funded in part by a grant from the North Carolina Trappers Association. The Wildlife Society accepted my abstract for presentation at the annual national conference in Albuquerque, NM in September. I have enjoyed playing in the Warren Wilson Jazz ensemble. It has been fun playing gigs at the Phoenix in Brevard and at the Veteran's Hospital. This summer I will be in Charleston doing a NSF funded Research Experience for Undergraduates on the toxicology of a common compound on the health of dolphins and humans in Hollings Marine lab under the supervision of MUSC faculty. Thank you very much for your very generous support that has made these opportunities possible!

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Brian Wuertz in blue ink.

Brian Wuertz