

Jill Andrew- Soroptimist Foundation Grant Winner (2013)

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From:

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To:

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Ladies!!!

I want to say THANK YOU for all the kindness you all shared with me at your meeting last night. Although I was a bit nervous at first, I quickly felt right at home LITERALLY lol with the goodies and good conversation (not to mention the super generous ride home from Ingrid!!!)

I thank you for the hard work you all have dedicated your lives to within and outside of this organization. Women wear so many hats as it is...multi-tasking etc. and I want to say thank you for helping to inspire all of us women 'coming up' in our careers to recognize the invaluable contribution and qualities we all have in us to share with others who are in need.

I look forward to staying in contact with you all and I will always welcome any emails from you all too! THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU again. Not only will this grant help me pursue my educational goals with less of the financial worry associated with being an under-employed graduate student (I primarily work as a TA at York University currently) but it is also my intention to use my win to continue to spread the word about Soroptimist.

And as a student who is a majority straight A student (with the exception of 3 A-s earlier in my grad career) it is also an opportunity for me to demonstrate that despite challenges one can still strive for high academic results too if they can access a motivated network to help them keep their eyes on the prize! I will be looking into media opportunities to share about my win, my story and as such the great work of the foundation.

You all have a WONDERFUL day...take good care and do please please keep in touch! You'll note my Soroptimist win is in my signature line already lol. I include the awards (and rotate them with older ones) I am most proud of them and as such this win is at the top of the list! Should you have any questions about my academic work feel free to contact me. I was a tad nervous in my talk yesterday and I'm certain I missed something or the other lol!

Oh yes...and as/if my Body Image Film & Arts Festival actualizes this year I'll be sure to let you know www.BiteMeFilmFest.com. I am also scheduled to do a couple guest lectures as well as a keynote on body image/acceptance at Windsor U in Oct (it's my 2nd invite from them) and should we get any great pictures from the event, I'll be sure to share them. Later this month at the TIFFFG building I'll be doing a keynote on the power of media as a social empowerment tool (a little different message from the usual one about the media being the enemy. The media can certainly be problematic but used effectively it can also be a great ally!) Anyhow..I won't ramble off my every public speaking engagement... but I'm just excited and want you to know that as a Soroptimist winner I will certainly make you all proud! All the best and THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU!!!

Thanks for reading this looooooong email (whoever gets it) and please share it with your fellow members so they can receive my many thanks;)

Jill Andrew CYW, BA (Hons.), BEd, MA, PhD (c.)
Soroptimist Foundation of Canada Award Recipient
Michele Landsberg Media Activism Award Recipient
Patrick Solomon Memorial Award in Urban Diversity
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