

To the West Bay Athletic League,

I would like to express my gratitude and thank you for granting me the 2015 WBAL Debbie Mathews Memorial Scholarship. My family and I are grateful for this honor and words cannot express how immensely the WBAL has helped us financially.

This honor hits home to me in that it is dedicated to a personal leader who created the student-athlete the league knows me by to this day. The day I met Ms. Debbie Matthews as my freshman Physical Education teacher was the day I took the first step towards a life as a serious athlete. Ms. Matthews took the time to notice the skills and abilities I had and remained as a friend and a teammate by my side so that I attended my first track practice with confidence. Today, I value the level of acceptance and determination I learned from Ms. Matthews. I always admired her character, and I believe accepting others and having strong willpower are two strengths that can get anyone far in life.

Thank you to the West Bay Athletic League for not only recognizing my abilities, but for keeping the spirit of my hero alive.

All the best,

Quynh Tran  
Class of 2016  
Mercy High School