

The
GOVERNOR'S
INSTITUTES
of VERMONT

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Expanding
for over 25
Horizons
Years

December 5, 2013

Susan Sgorbati
c/o Bennington College 1 College Drive
Bennington, VT 05201

Dear Susan,

Susan-Thanks for all your help w/
The 30th anniversary + for speaking
at GIV's final performance this year!
None of this would be possible without you!
Au My Best, Erika

"I come from a very small town in Vermont. Even though there are opportunities for expanding knowledge beyond the classroom, I find myself using up these resources fast. Academically, I push myself harder than anyone that I know, and in order to continue this trend, I knew that I had to look outside my community for more opportunities. The Governor's Institute on Environmental Science allowed me to grow personally with experiences that are quite rare to me. I was really able to learn about myself and start to piece together the puzzle of my future. This program really opened doors for me that I thought would always be shut and I truly appreciate that."

- A 2013 GIV graduate

This sounds like a familiar story to me. It turns out I'm not the only young person to find this kind of encouragement, peer support and empowerment at GIV. Growing up in a small town in Vermont, not many of my classmates shared my interests. I organized social justice groups no one came to. I made political posters that were torn down.

It wasn't until I attended the Governor's Institute on Current Issues & Youth Activism that I realized there were other young people like me, who cared about the same things I did. I met more than 50 other teenagers who also paid attention in class, read the news, wrote op-eds for their local newspapers, and wanted to change the world for the better. They understood my frustrations and ambitions, they shared them, and they made me believe in myself and that I had the power to make a difference.

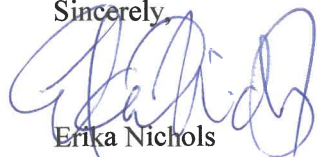
I was fortunate enough to have GIV available to me as a young person, but too many young Vermonters do not yet have these kinds of important resources. *You* can help change that. When you contribute to GIV, it opens up more opportunities for Vermont's young people, and ensures that enough financial aid is available so that every student searching for a purpose can find theirs at GIV.

Young Vermonters find their passions, along with the tools, support and self-confidence they need to pursue those passions, at GIV. You have the power to give a young person the gift of discovery, of possibility, of a bright and inspiring future.

Your last donation of \$50 made a huge difference. Would you consider increasing this year's gift to \$75? You have a choice how to give - donate online at www.giv.org, send a check in the enclosed envelope, or arrange a legacy gift. Call GIV at (802) 865-4448 to learn more.

Thank you for all you do for Vermont's future leaders.

Sincerely,



Erika Nichols
Development Associate

P.S. Tell a teen! GIV's two Winter Weekends are right around the corner. Visit www.giv.org to learn more. Applications will be online in December.