

IN THE WORDS OF

our students



Natalie Sacket, '16
English major/mass
communications minor

Growing up, Natalie Sacket, '16, was a bit of a dreamer. Like any child, her imagination was far from bashful. With the full support of her parents, she was encouraged to believe she could be anything she put her mind to as long as she put in the foundations of hard work and dedication.

"I grew up on a farm and doing a lot of yard work," Sacket said. "Spending hours in the Oklahoma heat definitely instilled work-ethic in me."

Those hours gave her time to explore her dreams. She found she could express her imagination best in words, both written and verbal.

"I've always loved writing. I love the ability to create this different world in your head and then make it come to life on paper," said Sacket.

Beyond written communication, Sacket found her love for speech and debate during high school and knew she had to pursue communications in college. The process of choosing a college is different for all students, but for Sacket, it was almost an instinct.

"Pretty much my whole family has graduated from Northwestern," said Sacket. "I realized I could come here and graduate college debt-free. I knew my parents didn't have the finances to help me and I would have to do it by myself."

Today, as a senior English major/mass communications minor at Northwestern, Sacket understands how fortunate she is for receiving scholarships because she knows not every student gets the same opportunity.

"I've always been one who feels grades are important," said Sacket, "Being allowed to focus on grades because of my scholarships is really beneficial to me because I'm not worried about paying off thousands of dollars of debt."

Sacket views scholarships as more than just helping her get through college at a low cost. She believes her scholarships are motivating her to reach greater heights.

"A scholarship is an investment in me and my future," said Sacket. **"The fact that there are people in the community or university who believe in me, really inspires me to reach my full potential. I don't want to let people down, especially those who have made that investment in me."**

Sacket plans to use the opportunities she is receiving at Northwestern to work in the field of strategic communication after graduation in May 2016. She continues to dream and think of ways she will be able to impact others in the future, and what better way than through her own passions for communication.

"It's always been a dream of mine to start a non-profit that focuses on literacy endeavors, whether in developing countries or impoverished areas in America," Sacket said. "It would focus on helping individuals gain those skills so they can enter professional fields as well."

