



**Meredith Karle**

University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, Honors Carolina  
Carolina Scholars - Full Merit Scholarship for \$50,000

To Whom It May Concern:

I am Marshall Bailly II, Executive Director of Leadership Initiatives. I am writing this letter to endorse Meredith Karle. Meredith is a driven, hardworking and incredibly intelligent young woman who has worked tirelessly to not only create a better life for herself and her fellow students but also change the lives of others around the world.

Meredith has many qualities that set her apart for students her age that I am astonished by including her creativity, dedication, thoughtfulness, foresight and most importantly her honesty and work ethic. I work with thousands of students a year and only a handful of times have I met someone driven and committed as Meredith.

I have known Meredith for the past two years as a leader in our Global Young Innovators Initiative taught at Emory University, The International Leadership and Business Summit at Georgetown University, the Leadership Initiatives' International Business Alliance Program and as an intern with our global development team.

Leadership Initiatives creates future leaders by transforming their ideas for social and economic change into self-sustaining businesses. Meredith is the Program Director of the Ridgefield High School: Community Renovation Project. The projects goal is to provide key technical assistance to business owners in the developing world, working with them to develop solutions to problems their business is facing.

Meredith's team has been partnered with Maria Yakubu a salon owner in Northern Nigeria. Her team has developed new advertising techniques, created business cards and helped her be the first female business owner to have an online presence to attract new customers to her salon. This has dramatically transforming the lives of the Maria owner, her employees and their families.

Because of Meredith and her team women in Bauchi state are becoming empowered in areas that have torn apart by terrorist groups such as Boko Haram. Through her leadership, Meredith and her team will help Maria showcase how woman can make a difference and push back against the lives these terrorist organizations are trying to push upon them.

Over the past two years Meredith has surpassed my expectations time and time again, working with our board members from the Pentagon, State Department, Georgetown, Harvard and Exxon. She is currently leading our mentorship program to empower high school students across the United States.

The program she is leading will be featured on Voice of America for front millions of listeners and is currently working with our board and corporate sponsors from Microsoft, Starbucks, GlobalGiving and the International Youth Foundation to select which nation Leadership Initiatives will expand to next.

I work with most interns a few days a week but there is seldom a day I do not hear from Meredith with questions about development, a completed project or a new idea on how to transform lives.

**Leadership**  
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**Directors**

Chip Kunde  
Blushel Ocbina  
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Most letters of recommendation I write are about students who I hope will change the world someday. Meredith's is different because she already has.

I cannot recommend Meredith more for your University, she will push her peers to grow, she will encourage her professors to delve deeper into their lessons and will shine as an example of what any University aspires to give to the world, a brighter future with the leaders they produce.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marshall J. Bailly II".

Marshall James Bailly II  
Executive Director  
Leadership Initiatives  
202-422-3234

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### Directors

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