My name is Jessica Brown and I was selected to receive the Wendy Rice Memorial Endowed Scholarship for the 2015-2016 school year. I want to sincerely thank you for helping to make this scholarship possible.

I was born in St. Paul, Minnesota, and have spent my entire life in the cities. As one can imagine, coming to MSUM was quite the change for me. Moving to a smaller community than the Twin Cities has opened up my eyes to a new perspective of living and I love it! When I was younger, I was always dabbling in art projects around the house; from finger painting, to clay sculptures, to decorative play dough shapes. Art and design have been my passion for as long as I can remember. In high school, my art teacher recognized my talent and talked to me about pursuing my dream of art and design by furthering my education. He started me on my path and helped me get where I am today.

Presently, I am in my third year at MSUM and am working towards a degree in Art and Design. The program here is both challenging and rewarding. I am blessed to be taught by professors that truly care about their students and invest a lot of time into our learning. Furthermore, I have a great start on my portfolio of projects. One of my accomplishments is having one of my artworks displayed in the Center for Arts building. I currently work at Studio 9 in Fargo, where I help edit pictures for printing. It is a great learning experience, but I am thriving for more. I hope to go on to graduate school and pursue a Masters in Art.

I am so grateful to have received the Wendy Rice Memorial Endowed Scholarship. While I work off campus at a local arts & crafts supply store, the money that I make is not sufficient to pay for necessities like books, tuition, and art supplies. This scholarship has created so many opportunities for me that I would have not otherwise had and I cannot thank you enough. It has given me the opportunity to not only get a degree from MSUM, but also pursue a graduate degree in the future. The Wendy Rice Memorial Endowed Scholarship has made a substantial difference in my life.

Thank you again,

Jessica Brown