

Space Center Rotary Scholarship



1. **Name-** Siddharth Arora
2. **GPA-** 4.2/5.0 weighted
3. **Extra Curricular Activities-**
 - Clear Lake Interact- Grade 11-12 (Public Relations Officer and took responsibilities of VP's positions)
 - Pine Brook Basketball- Grade 9-12 (President, held basketball tournaments/camps at Pine Brook park)
 - Clear Lake Student Council- Grade 10-12 (Representative, helped organize meetings, volunteer projects)
 - d. Pine Brook Basketball- Grade 9-12. (President, Help basketball tournaments/ camps. Organized pickup basketball)
 - e. Clear Lake Boys Basketball (CLBB) - Grade 9-12. (Basketball league, competed against other teams around Clear Lake)
 - f. Business Professionals Of America (BPA) - Grade 10-12. (Competed at State on Advanced Word Processing, helped organize meetings, became Secretary senior year)
 - g. Clear Lake Peer Tutor- Grade 12. (Math Tutor, tutored kids in Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2, Pre-Cal)
 - h. National Technical Honor Society- Grade 11-12. (Regular Member, Introduced kids into Technical field)
 - i. French National Honor Society- Grade 11-12. (Regular Member, learned about French cultures/language)
 - j. Clear Lake HOSA- Grade 12. (Community Head, Competed at district competitions, Helped organize talent show)

k. Clear Lake DECA- Grade 12. (Regular Member, Competed at district competitions) l. **Volunteer** at Clear Lake Freeman Library- Grade 11-12. (50 Hours, helped check out books and plan activated for young children during breaks) m. **Volunteer** For Clear Lake Interact- Grade 11-12. (Over 150 Hours, attended every volunteering opportunity. Ex. Shrimporee, Homes for Haiti, SPCA, The Terrace, George R Brown Convention Center, 3rd ward clean up (Generation One)) n. **Volunteer** For Clear Lake Student Council- Grade 10-12. (Over 100 Hours. Ex. Clean up around loop 610, Homes for Habitat, Hope Village, SPCA) o. **Volunteer** around the Pine Brook Community- Grade 9-12. (Over 50 Hours Babysitting/Pet Sitting/ House Sitting/ Lawn Mowing/Tutoring/Park Clean Up) p. **Volunteer** at Commanders Program- Grade 10. (20 Hours, Volunteer with 'Volunteer Houston' at the SPCA and Hope Village)

4. **What College do you plan to attend-** For the first year, I will be attending San Jacinto Central to cover the basic classes, then transferring to Texas A&M second year. I am planning on majoring in Mechanical Engineering.

5. **Responsibilities within CLHS Interact-**1 have been part of Clear Lake Interact since junior year (when it started), and I believe that Interact has really helped me become the giving and charitable person I am today. During my first year, I was just a regular member, but one of the few members who attended every meeting, and every event that was organized through Interact. As a senior, I was elected the position of Liaison, whose purpose of the groups was to find volunteer opportunities for Interact every month. Not only did I find and attend every volunteering opportunity for Interact and several for Space Center Rotary, I also took the role of an unofficial VP and helped the elected VP and President run the club and organize regular monthly meetings and emails. Some examples of the volunteer events I organized were Homes for Haiti, SPCA, The Terrace, George R Brown Convention Center Thanksgiving day feeding homeless, 3rd ward clean up (Generation One), Fight for Air Climb and Daisy Day.

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6. **Essay on "What Service Above Self Means To Me"**

When I was a little kid my parents always taught me to put other people in front of myself. I never really understood that as a child but growing up and seeing the world and how fortunate I am for what I have, I realize that putting people in front of your self is essential. The day I truly realized about service above self was through Interact when we volunteered at "Generation One" where Interact went and helped the rebuilding of the impoverished areas of the Third Ward of Houston, Texas.

I remember one of the citizens living in the Third Ward telling me "What you think you are doing is little, (we were lawn mowing and weeding the yards), is huge for us." I know that day I put a smile on that man's face and I realized that you can make such an impact on a person by doing the smallest act of kindness. I remember most of the citizens there were so excited and happy to

see us there trying to make a difference. Not only did we provide solidity and assist those citizens, we ourselves felt a sense of accomplishment and an urge to make a difference and to put others in front of us. We as humans always seem to find the best way or the best method to please our selves, and not think about the others around us. We all live on the same earth, and we need to take part in going out of our ways to help others because we are all part of the same family.

I think that a lot of people have a mindset that in order to make a difference, you have to do something big or make a big donation or make a bold statement. That I believe is not at all true. The smallest things such as allowing a young kid to cut in front of you at the popcorn line or missing the basketball game on TV to go pick your brother from soccer are both part of service above self. I think that service above self means that you are giving up a leisure or advantage to help someone else out and that you are putting yourself last instead of first.

There are several clubs and organizations that follow this saying "Service above self such as the Rotary, Red Cross, the soldiers fighting for our country and many more. The police men and the fire fighters lose their lives or put their lives in danger to help normal people like us every day. The soldiers fighting for our country live by this motto. Not only are those soldiers putting their country before themselves, they are putting other soldiers before themselves. If one soldier goes down, five other soldiers to come his/her help. Those people fighting violence or drug cartels or nuclear wars are taking service above self to a whole new level. We all can't do such bold moves as soldiers or fire fighters do, but we can still make a difference by doing the little things!

Now I would like to end by saying that Service above self means to me that we do the best we can to help or to provide for the people around us. Anything small from letting someone else get the first choice of candy to something bold such fight for your country makes a difference. I believe that anybody that takes part in Service above self is truly heroic.

7. Letter of Recommendations- Attached!