Congratulations on your academic achievements, and thank you for your interest in Northwestern University. As you think about your next stage in life, I urge you to consider what sort of world you hope to live in and, more immediately, what sort of university community you would like to join.

Those two questions are deeply intertwined. The world you create in college often shapes your larger world after graduation. Northwestern is a place of great beginnings, regardless of your chosen field. The spirit of inclusion and the celebration of diversity I see and encourage on our campus are truly hopeful signs.

I am confident that we—Northwestern and society at large—are in the process of making history. We have a ways to go before all our institutions can be considered truly inclusive, but the students I meet here care more about inclusion, sustainability, and social justice than did my own or other generations. I can’t wait to see what all of you will do with your lives and how you will change the world.

I hope you will consider joining us at Northwestern.

Morton Schapiro
President and professor
Northwestern University
A great university is a laboratory for the future: a model of what tomorrow will look like. At Northwestern we believe that diversity—of interest, of expertise, of background, of belief—is essential to a healthy society, on campus and beyond, and a key to our future. Our students and faculty come from every state and dozens of nations to open minds, challenge preconceptions, and change the world.

At Northwestern the future is an open book: one that you will write.

**IDEALISTIC ORIGINS**

Northwestern was founded in 1850 by a group of Methodist businessmen who shared their church’s abolitionist stance. The University first admitted women in 1869, making it one of the first US coeducational universities. No longer religiously affiliated, Northwestern has fulfilled its founders’ goal of becoming a center of learning open to all. Students from minority backgrounds and international students make up almost 45 percent of the class of 2016.
“I chose Northwestern because I thought it was the best place for me to grow—a place offering a diversity of experiences, majors, courses, and people. My peers are engineers who play flute in the marching band and musicians who play soccer in the annual International Students Association World Cup. I have served in the community with social policy majors and done projects with some of the most intelligent and multitalented left-brained individuals I have ever met. I have never regretted my decision.”

Nana Kwaku Ohene-Adu of Akropong, Ghana, is majoring in civil engineering. As a Murphy Scholar, he is researching technologies and practices for sustainable homes in Ghana.
André Sguerra is a theater and computer science major from Edgemont, New York. He is a member of the multicultural fraternity Omega Delta Phi, plays trumpet in the Northwestern University Marching Band, performs in the commedia dell’arte troupe the Panini Players, and rows for Northwestern's crew team. He has performed in and worked on Spinning into Butter, Labor Rites, and various other theater and film productions.

*Why did you choose Northwestern?*
In addition to a fantastic theater program and terrific academics, I wanted an environment filled with great minds. Not only does Northwestern help develop excellent people, it also surrounds you with intelligent, talented, and motivated people who will have a huge impact on your life.

*What is the best thing about being a student here?*
Northwestern excels in all categories, so when students come here they not only get an excellent education in their chosen subjects, they also are exposed to a world of opportunities academically, athletically, artistically, and professionally.
Open campus

Everyone at Northwestern contributes to the lively and open spirit of inquiry and engagement on campus. Our excellence in the liberal arts, engineering, the social and natural sciences, communication, and the performing arts attracts students, faculty, and visitors from around the world. Our students learn from award-winning authors, directors, and musicians; do pioneering research in nanotechnology, sustainability, and materials science; and intern with corporations and agencies across the globe.

We make sure that, no matter what their backgrounds or interests, all students feel welcome, supported, and able to achieve what they set out to do. Each undergraduate school makes one-on-one academic advising a top priority. From Wildcat Welcome week and tutoring programs to the guidance offered by University Career Services, Northwestern is committed to equipping you with tools for success every step of the way.

LOWERING DEBT

Northwestern will award more than $118 million in need-based scholarships to undergraduate students in 2012–13, with 50 percent of our students receiving such aid. Of our undergraduate population, 60 percent receive financial aid through a combination of grants, loans, and work-study.

In 2008 Northwestern initiated a No-Loan Pledge Scholarship program for students. The program allows qualifying students to graduate from Northwestern with no need-based loan debt.
Help at hand

Wherever you turn at Northwestern, the University offers support and counsel to students—ranging from individual advising and mentoring by our faculty and staff to the formal offices and programs highlighted on these pages.

GETTING INVOLVED

The Center for Student Involvement promotes engagement with the campus and surrounding communities, with a focus on community service and social justice issues. It provides support and advice to students and their organizations by developing leadership potential in both. The center’s educational and social programming focuses on such areas as leadership, organizational development, community service, social justice, and lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender concerns.

www.norris.northwestern.edu/csi

PLANNING YOUR FUTURE

The University Academic Advising Center helps students develop meaningful educational plans compatible with their life goals. The center’s staff provides information about academic programs and resources, aids students in refining goals and objectives, and offers guidance in choosing a major or minor, planning a double major, and transferring from one school to another. The center also assists students seeking to improve study and test-taking skills.

www.northwestern.edu/advising-center
“I love Northwestern for its collegial, relaxed environment and its very bright students. I enjoy challenging them to think for themselves and to do research via student-directed learning in my courses.”

Guillermo Ameer, associate professor of biomedical engineering and of surgery, was born in Panama. His research focuses on biomaterials and tissue engineering.

“What makes Northwestern special is the collaborative research that defines our culture. Faculty work together and with their students across disciplinary boundaries to find the most effective solutions for difficult problems. It’s a really exciting place to be and to think.”

Susie Phillips is an associate professor of English. She is an award-winning teacher and author of Transforming Talk: The Problem with Gossip in Late Medieval England.

“Northwestern students are smart, talented, well-rounded, and self-motivated. I have a talented and positive group of colleagues—not to mention a beautiful and inspiring setting.”

Henry Godinez is an associate professor of theater. Born in Havana, Cuba, he is the resident artistic associate at Chicago’s Goodman Theatre and director of its Latino Theatre Festival.

CELEBRATING OUR DIVERSITY

The Office of Multicultural Student Affairs is committed to fostering an inclusive environment that promotes identity development, intercultural exchange, academic excellence, and leadership. Its departments—including African American Student Affairs, Asian/Asian American Student Affairs, and Hispanic/Latino Student Affairs—provide individual and group advising as well as social and educational programming.

www.northwestern.edu/msa

A WELCOMING PLACE

Thanks in part to the efforts of our LGBT Resource Center, Northwestern was named one of the nation’s “100 Best Campuses” for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people by The Advocate College Guide for LGBT Students. A branch of the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs, this center works to provide a safe space and acts as a hub for organizations, resources, services, and programs of interest to the LGBT and allied communities at Northwestern.

www.northwestern.edu/msa

/our-departments/lgbt

ENSURING ACCESS FOR ALL

Services for Students with Disabilities supports a diverse student body by removing barriers to education that students with disabilities often experience. The office aims to foster a learning environment that encourages and challenges students with disabilities and affords them full participation, equal access, and reasonable accommodation.

www.northwestern.edu/disability
Join in!

For many students, the experiences they gain from their participation in student-run groups rival their achievements in the classroom. In addition to more than 25 cultural groups, here is a small sampling of the opportunities for involvement on campus.

**Academic and preprofessional groups**
- Korean Scientists and Engineers Association
- Minority Business Association
- National Association of Hispanic Journalists
- National Society of Black Engineers
- One Step Before (minority premed)

**Media, publications**
- Daily Northwestern
- Flicker Film Festival
- Mustardseed magazine
- Northwestern Art Review
- Northwestern Sketch Television
- Studio 22 (film production)
- WNUR (radio)

**Performing arts**
- African American Theatre Ensemble
- Bhangra Dance Team
- Brown Sugar (South Asian coed a cappella group)
- Griffin’s Tale (children’s theater)
- Jewish Theatre Ensemble
- NAYO Dance Ensemble
- Purple Haze (a cappella)
- Typhoon Dance Troupe

**Philanthropy and service groups**
- Alternative Student Breaks
- China Care
- Global Engagement Summit
- Habitat for Humanity
- Northwestern Community Development Corps

**Political groups**
- Americans for an Informed Democracy
- Amnesty International
- Campus Greens
- Campus Kitchens
- College Republicans
- Design for America
- HIV/AIDS Literacy Organization
- Liberation in North Korea
- Northwestern Students for Life
- Peace Project
- Race Alliance at Northwestern

Northwestern to Benefit Special Olympics
Peer Health Exchange
Student Blood Services
Suitcase Party
In many ways, the world comes to Northwestern. Distinguished visitors and newsmakers visit campus regularly to share their perspectives with the University community. Barack Obama delivered the 2006 Commencement address, saying: “Challenge yourself. Take some risks; one of the great things about graduating from Northwestern is that you can now punch your own ticket.”

Jasmine Atwell of Boynton Beach, Florida, is a QuestBridge College Match Scholarship recipient and a coordinator for NU Ambassadors, Northwestern’s African American recruitment organization. A sociology and legal studies double major, she is a codirector of the Women’s Caucus and has been involved with the University’s chapter of the National Association of Black Journalists and the Muslim Cultural Student Association. She has interned with an Evanston alderman and at Northwestern’s Center on Wrongful Convictions.

**Why did you choose Northwestern?**
The wealth of opportunity available on campus, thanks to the incredible internship and networking experiences here. I have developed amazing relationships with people who are everything I wish to become professionally. For these reasons I can see myself achieving my dreams in a way that I probably could not anywhere else.

**What distinguishes the University community?**
Since I have been on campus, I have heard so many people say, “Everyone here is going somewhere in life.” That is the reality about Northwestern students: They care about something and are on the fast track to realizing their goals. I have been most involved in the black community and found that there is a great deal of respect for and openness to our issues. That is the approach our administration has taken to any matters of diversity, and it has made all the difference, in my experience.
Open community

In a recent survey Northwestern freshmen said that one of their most important goals was helping others. Our students want to change the world, and they don’t wait for their diplomas to do so. In fact, it is difficult to find a Northwestern student who is not involved in a civic engagement project—whether as part of a course, through a campus organization, or as a volunteer. This commitment and understanding of responsibility define the spirit of our community. In fact, no other major university makes outreach so central to life on campus—as the examples at right show.

The same survey revealed that Northwestern freshmen socialize frequently with members of other racial and ethnic groups and that they see improving their understanding of other cultures as a key goal of their education.

Ours is a community open to new ideas, new experiences, and new challenges.

ALTERNATIVE STUDENT BREAKS

Alternative Student Breaks has sent teams of students to battle poverty in Cleveland, build low-cost housing in Indiana, and help with refugee resettlement in Kentucky, among other projects in a variety of locations. ASB partners with nonprofit organizations to offer service-learning opportunities that give students the chance to contribute to and learn from local communities.

www.asbnu.org

CENTER FOR CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Northwestern's reputation for innovative service learning was confirmed with the creation of the Center for Civic Engagement. This office develops and enhances connections between the classroom and the community. It helps students access the many service programs throughout the University, including the Undergraduate Leadership Program, the Civic Engagement Certificate Program, and student-led initiatives such as the Northwestern Public Interest Program, the Center for Global Engagement, Engage Uganda, and GlobeMed (which provides supplies and promotes health care in developing countries and regions suffering from natural disasters).

www.engage.northwestern.edu

DANCE MARATHON

This annual event features 30 hours of dancing by hundreds of students to raise money—more than $4.7 million in the last four years—for local and national charities. In recent years beneficiaries of the event have included the Children's Heart Foundation, Citizens United for Research in Epilepsy, the Pediatric AIDS Chicago Prevention Initiative, the Juvenile Diabetes
Research Foundation, and Have Dreams, an organization dedicated to improving the lives of autistic children. Dance Marathon is one of the largest college philanthropic events in the country.

www.nudm.org

FRESHMAN URBAN PROGRAM

This preorientation program offers a hands-on introduction to neighborhoods in Chicago and Evanston. Participants stay in a youth hostel and examine the issues that face communities, the organizations that serve them, and ways Northwestern students can effect change.

groups.northwestern.edu/fup

GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT SUMMER INSTITUTE

This program prepares students to create global social change by empowering them to learn directly from communities experiencing poverty and injustice. The institute has sent students to such places as Argentina, Bolivia, India, and Uganda to work on collaborative community projects.

www.mycge.org

SEEKING JUSTICE

The renowned Institute for Policy Research focuses the scholarship of Northwestern faculty on matters of poverty, race, inequality, social disparities and health, and other pressing policy issues. Spurred by the landmark investigative work of journalism faculty and students, the Medill Innocence Project and the Center on Wrongful Convictions aim to improve the fairness of the criminal justice system.

www.ipr.northwestern.edu
mip.medill.northwestern.edu
www.law.northwestern.edu/wrongfulconvictions

TEACH FOR AMERICA

Members of the Teach for America corps spend two years teaching in underserved urban and rural public schools across the nation and become lifelong leaders in expanding educational opportunity, regardless of the fields they ultimately choose to enter. Over the past three years more graduating seniors from Northwestern than from any other medium-size university have committed to Teach for America (the graph below combines 2010–12 totals).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>University</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Northwestern</td>
<td>167</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgetown</td>
<td>151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harvard</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duke</td>
<td>134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yale</td>
<td>117</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

www.teachforamerica.org
“People here genuinely want to do well yet are humble enough to help you along the way. As a freshman, you sometimes worry about meeting new people and making new friends. People here are down to earth and a pleasure to be around. I feel confident that someone will help me with any assignment, as long as I ask. You don’t see that at most top-notch universities, where competition is the only thing that breeds success. The collaboration I’ve seen here is something I truly admire.”

Purav Brahmbhatt is a human communication sciences major from Jackson, Mississippi. He is a member of the Dean’s Advisory Council in the School of Communication and of the Northwestern South Asian Student Alliance and vice president of public relations for Project RISHI (Rural India Social and Health Improvement).
“The diversity that exists on campus is constantly growing. I couldn’t pass up a school that offered compelling academic and social experiences and an athletic department that participates in the Big Ten Conference. Northwestern is truly special.”

La’Terria Taylor, an engineering student from Chicago, is a guard on the Wildcats women’s varsity basketball team and was ranked 21st in the country at her position by ESPN’s HoopGurlz.

“Northwestern is unmatched in its financial aid programs and scholarships. I’m the first in my family to attend college, so financing my education was my main priority, and Northwestern made sure that money was not an issue. Its acceptance of and outreach to lower-income and first-generation students assured me there would be many other students like myself.”

Daniel Flores of San Antonio, Texas, is a QuestBridge Scholar. He is majoring in statistics and Latina and Latino studies.
Amanda Lapid of Palatine, Illinois, is a communication studies major. She created spoken word poetry for The State(s) of America: The Regina Taylor Project.

What attracted you to Northwestern?
I love how well-rounded Northwestern students are. Not only are they smart, they’re smart across the board on a huge range of topics. Moreover, almost everyone I know is involved in clubs and other activities.

How has Northwestern shaped you?
Whatever their passion—performing, sports, or even just spending time with friends—students forge their identities and come into their own here. That’s expected in college, but at Northwestern you get to do it surrounded by incredible, hardworking, talented people. Figuring out what you want to do can be hard, but it’s so easy to explore and try new things at Northwestern. And once you do find something, you realize opportunities are everywhere.
“I am impressed by the attention paid to undergraduates. The connections I formed with my freshman advisers really helped me transition into college life. I’m given freedom to become a more independent and responsible person, but I know that Northwestern always has my back.”

Sofia Porter-Castro is an anthropology major from Ann Arbor, Michigan. She has been publicity chair for Alianza, Northwestern’s largest Hispanic/Latino student organization.

“I like how driven my peers are—yet a lot of them are able to balance this competitive thirst for achievement with a friendly willingness to help their peers. Here you have sociable and supportive friends who work really, really hard and want to do really, really well.”

Joshua Hiew is from Singapore. He is a member of Northwestern’s top-ranked Speech Team and is majoring in communication studies.

“Northwestern is both intelligent and diverse. This school stands out because I rarely find anybody who is unhappy with their experience here. I chose to enroll because it is an academic institution that I knew would challenge me and help me grow as both a student and an individual.”

Anjli Lodhavia is a human communication sciences major from Wheeling, Illinois.
Open city

Life in Chicago is a study in rich and revealing contrasts: Tel Aviv Kosher Bakery does a thriving business just down the street from the Hyderabad House and other South Asian eateries on Devon Avenue in the West Rogers Park neighborhood. Enjoy a dinner of Vietnamese cuisine in Little Saigon followed by an evening of jazz at the Prohibition-era Green Mill Lounge nearby. Take in some punk at the Metro, some reggae at Exedus II, or a meal at Andalous Moroccan Restaurant after a baseball game in Wrigleyville. Explore the bodegas and art galleries of Pilsen and Little Village (areas that inspired the *New York Times* to note that “the Latino spirit seems to be energizing all of Chicago”). Dig into some Korean barbecue or a meal of hummus and kishki in Albany Park and then head over to the Old Town School of Folk Music for a lesson or a concert.

Chicago is diversity itself: home to Oprah, Obama, and a patchwork of vital, culturally distinct neighborhoods; the cradle of modern architecture and improv comedy. One of the great urban centers of the world is just a few miles and a short train ride away from Northwestern’s main campus. For our students Chicago is a classroom, a playground, and a proving ground.

**GLOBAL CAPITAL**

In 2012 Chicago was seventh on the Global Cities Index, a study conducted by A. T. Kearney and the Chicago Council on Global Affairs ranking the world’s most influential cities based on factors such as business activity and cultural experience. The study concluded that Chicago’s geopolitical importance is increasing more rapidly than the nation’s as a whole.

**Chicago population (2010 US Census):**

- 2,695,598
- African American 33%
- White 32%
- Hispanic 29%
- Asian 5%
- Other 1%
“I chose Northwestern because I felt very welcomed by the community. Everyone I have met here is so enthusiastic about so many different things. It’s a great environment for driven and successful young people. And I love the wide selection of courses. I was surprised I could take Macroeconomics, Italian, Patternmaking, The Business of Fashion, and Archaeology at one university! Here I can learn another language, take amazing history classes, and get involved with the community in addition to learning about fashion and business.”

Zoë Damacela is from Chicago. As the founder of Zoë Damacela Apparel (her fifth business venture), she has appeared on ABC, CBS, BBC News, PBS, and The Tyra Banks Show and met with President Obama. She is a history major.
What we love about Chicago: “The incredible wealth of culture. A great weekend for me is getting away from my desk and exploring one of the city’s many ethnic enclaves.” Bradley Akubuo (journalism) “Shopping on Michigan Avenue.” Sunitha Suresh (biomedical engineering) “The lawn of the Adler Planetarium. From this spot you can see the amazing skyline of the city, along with Navy Pier.” Brittany Mason (learning and organizational change) “The top of the John Hancock Center.” Cate Brinson, professor of mechanical engineering and materials science and engineering “The Art Institute of Chicago. Imagine O’Keeffe, Matisse, Kandinsky, and Dali all under one roof.” Shanika Gunaratna (journalism, international studies) “The Shedd Aquarium. It’s impossible to look at those otters without being happy.” Tim Cycyota (communication studies, environmental policy and culture)
“Anywhere that has Chicago deep-dish pizza.” Lindsey Kundel (secondary education, English literature)

“The Bean. It’s so fun to take pictures there.” Hannah Points (mechanical engineering)

“Greektown. I love gyros!” Anthony Iglesias (history)

“Hot Chocolate restaurant: homemade cinnamon donuts with fresh raspberry jam and chocolate sauce. Oh. My. Gosh.” Hannah Greene (theater)

“The Museum of Science and Industry. Every time I go I spend like four hours and leave only because the museum closes.” Jonathan Cook (mechanical engineering)

“The Pritzker Pavilion at Millennium Park during one of its many free concerts.” Casey Fuess (choral music education, voice)

“The bike path along the lake. It’s special to have the energy of a city and the peace of natural beauty all in one place.” Sarah B. Thomas (human development and psychological services)
Zul Kapadia is a political science major from Chicago. He has taught a course on immigration trends and helped establish the Student Immigration Initiative, a group focused on helping immigrants around Chicago.

**Why did you choose Northwestern?**
The University allows me to explore my various interests—among them film, law, physics, and language. The strength of all of Northwestern’s programs was definitely the most attractive feature for me when applying.

**What do you like best about the University?**
I love Northwestern because of the diversity of my peers and professors. It’s truly something special to be surrounded by so many different, motivated people with a wide array of interests. We are blessed with wonderful programs in everything from theater to international studies to engineering. And because of the strength of each program, I am constantly humbled by those around me.
Learn more

The best way to learn more about Northwestern is to visit campus. See www.ugadm.northwestern.edu/visit for information.

In the meantime, you can see what’s happening at Northwestern on the University’s YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/user/NorthwesternU. It features hours of video of musical performances, lectures by faculty and visiting scholars, campus news, and more. You can also check out www.itunes.northwestern.edu, www.facebook.com/NorthwesternU, twitter.com/northwesternu, and northwesternu.tumblr.com.

Find answers to your questions about financial aid at www.ug-finaid.northwestern.edu.

If you have questions about Northwestern, our programs, or the application procedure, please visit our website, write, or call us. Please include your complete home address when you write.

Office of Undergraduate Admission
Northwestern University
P.O. Box 3060
Evanston, Illinois 60204-3060
Phone: 847-491-7271
Email: ug-admission@northwestern.edu
www.ugadm.northwestern.edu
Photography by Stephen J. Anzaldi, Peter Barreras, Andrew Campbell, Steve Drey, FJ Gaylor Photography, Mary Hanlon, Emily Harris, David Joel, Peter Kiar, Tom Maday, Antonio Perez/Chicago Tribune, Jim Prisching, Sally Ryan.

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