

Samantha Bressler is a senior who is attending College of the Ozarks in Point Lookout, Missouri.

Q) How did you first get interested in the graphic arts, or decide to major in graphic communications in school? *In high school, I took a couple of design classes and I helped my dad out with design projects. I just grew to love working with Adobe Products, and through that I started into a Graphic Art major in College and have been pursuing it ever since.*

Q) Did you take any courses in high school that were related to graphic communications, or that prepared you for your planned career? *I went to a vocational-technical school in high school and took two years of Graphic Art classes as well as a Photoshop class at my main high school.*

Q) What course of studies are you taking now, or planning on taking, during the path of your school education? *I am taking Print Estimating at the moment. Last semester, I completed the Computer Graphics class, Production Management class, and Color Management class.*

Looking to The Future

Q) Is there a particular area of the graphic communications field that is of special interest to you as you consider where you want to focus your future career on? *My main focus is on Photography. I love taking pictures and bringing the beauty of our surroundings to life, so this will be my main focus after graduation, but with my major I will be able to manipulate that talent for jobs like advertising or design jobs for weddings or what not.*

Q) What type of company would you like to work for after you graduate? *I will probably look for a photography studio near here to get started, but later on I really hope to go out into the field on my own and design and photograph for my own clients.*

Q) What do you think employers are looking for in today's workforce and current industry environment? *I think that they want fresh new ideas and hard workers that are motivated to make the best designs possible.*

Q) Is there anything that you have found to be particularly different from what you initially expected now that you've progressed through your education process? *I have found that some courses are more challenging than others, but that is the great thing about college. The harder the classes, the more I am able to push myself to be better and learn about what I am capable of. It is all a great experience and an awesome challenge.*

Q) Have you changed your plans or ideas about what area or type of job you might like to have since you first considered the graphic communications field and began studying for a career in it? *I changed my mind multiple times at first. I came in wanting to be an automotive designer, but then I changed to a design focus. Since then my passion for photography has grown, and now that is my main focus.*

Q) Has being a recipient of a PGSF scholarship made a difference in your education, and if so, how? *Being a recipient has made such a huge difference. With the help of PGSF, I have been able to focus so much better on my school work without the stress of having to pay for books or other fees that would usually be constantly on my mind.*

Q) Anything else that you would like to add? *All I would like to add is, just thank you so much for giving me this scholarship. It really has made a huge difference for me this year. I have been able to save money*

and will be able to do two internships this summer. Hopefully I will get help again next year when I am having to pay my room and board. It is such an honor to be able to be a recipient and I definitely count this as one of my many blessings.