

WILLIAM O. Mesa, AZ -age 26 Arizona State University Keep Your Chin Up Scholarship: \$3,000



My intended major is Community Advocacy and Social Policy. I hope to be considered for this scholarship because of my lifelong personal struggles with mental health, which have shaped my ability to persevere and advocate for others.

I was born in a small village in Vietnam. At the age of two years old, I was placed into the Da Dang Orphanage because my birth parents did not have the resources to take care of me. During that time at the orphanage, I struggled with not having basic needs such as food, water, and clean shelter. Further, I was given little emotional support.

At the age of nine, my twin brother and I were fortunate to be adopted from a family in Arizona, which significantly changed our lives for the better. My adoptive parents are incredibly generous and have adopted eleven children. They gave everyone in our family all their support and love."