



Hart County Comprehensive High School

Dennis K. Brown, Principal

Assistant Principals
Dr. Veronica Johnson
Dr. David Miller
Mr. Derrick Jones
Graduation Specialist
Mr. Sam Gray

MEMORANDUM FOR: Samuel Elbert Chapter,
Sons of the American Revolution

March 9, 2007

SUBJECT: Recommendation for Georgia Outstanding JROTC Cadet

Dear Chapter President,

It is my pleasure to endorse the nomination of Cadet Adrienne Hastings for selection as the Georgia Outstanding Cadet. Miss Hastings won the Sons of the American Revolution Award last year, and is most deserving of favorable consideration as the most outstanding JROTC cadet in Georgia based on her continued excellence this year.

Cadet Hastings is integral to many successful activities at Hart County High School and in the Hartwell community. She is a valued member of the fine arts program; over the last three years Adrienne has participated in five school plays, earning the lead role in two of them. She was a member of SKILLS USA as a freshman and sophomore. This endeavor allows outstanding students to compete at the state level in various disciplines. Miss Hastings won fifth place in Georgia as a freshman for her Community Service project. The next year she earned third place honors in the state in the area of Customer Service. Her freshman project was particularly noteworthy: she facilitated the difficult transition of middle-school students to the high school environment. This achievement earned her the appreciation of the school faculty as well as SKILLS USA recognition!

Cadet Hastings is a gifted athlete, earning letters in girl's soccer as a freshman and sophomore. Most importantly, Adrienne is a fine student. She has a grade point average of 88.1 out of 100, ranking as number 79 out of a class of 282. Adrienne accomplishes all this in addition to her part-time employment and commitment to her church and family.

I am sure that Cadet Hastings' Senior Army Instructor will comment on her leadership potential and accomplishments in Junior ROTC. I close by strongly endorsing her for this singular honor. There is no student at Hart County Comprehensive High School more deserving of this award!

Sincerely,

Dennis K. Brown
Principal

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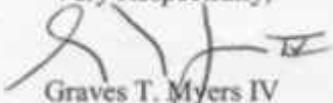
It is a privilege to recommend my most outstanding junior, Cadet Command Sergeant Major Adrienne Hastings, for selection as the Sons of the American Revolution Outstanding Cadet for the State of Georgia. Cadet Hastings received your organization's award last year based on her outstanding performance as a company first sergeant. She continued to excel this year as the Battalion Command Sergeant Major, and is most deserving of recognition with your prestigious state-level award.

Cadet Command Sergeant Major Hastings is a true leader, not a cheerleader. Bright, thoughtful, energetic and charismatic, Adrienne embodies the goal of Army Junior ROTC: *"to motivate young people to be better citizens."* She came into the JROTC program as a freshman, and quickly made her mark as a rising leader. Cadet Hastings' leadership potential was recognized and rewarded by her selection as a unit first sergeant in only her second year. This position normally goes to a cadet in their junior year; Adrienne was literally "head and shoulders" above most upperclassmen, resulting in her appointment as the senior noncommissioned officer in a two-class company. She performed these duties with distinction. Adrienne attended Junior Cadet Leadership Challenge (JCLC) last summer with fourteen of her most-outstanding classmates. She excelled in this physically and mentally demanding environment, and was subsequently selected as the battalion command sergeant major for the 2006-2007 academic year. Cadet Command Sergeant Major Hastings continues to lead the way in this position.

Adrienne's awards and decorations, in addition to the Sons of the American Revolution Award, include the personal appearance ribbon, the varsity sports ribbon, the physical fitness ribbon and national level achievement during the Cadet Challenge competition. Her academic work is exceptional as well; Cadet Hastings has always received an "A" in her JROTC classes.

I am sure that the school principal focused on Cadet Hastings' accomplishments outside Junior ROTC. I hope that this letter adequately describes her work in this program, and puts her leadership potential into perspective. Simply put, Cadet Command Sergeant Major Adrienne Hastings is the most outstanding junior in this battalion. She will brilliantly represent the State of Georgia upon her selection as the Georgia Outstanding JROTC Cadet!

Very Respectfully,



Graves T. Myers IV
Colonel, U.S. Army (retired)
Senior Army Instructor

Nomination for Outstanding JROTC Cadet for Academic Year: 2006 to 2007

Sponsoring SAR Chapter and State Society: SAMUEL ELBERT CHAPTER, ELBERTON, GEORGIA

High School Name and City, State Address: HART COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL, HARTWELL, GEORGIA
JROTC Unit: HART COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL BULLDOG BATTALION **Program:** 1yr. 3yr. (4yr.) (circle one)
Senior JROTC Instructor: COL (Ret) GRAVES T. MYERS IV
Recommended Cadet: CICSM ADRIENNE D. HASTINGS **Cadet's Soc. Sec. Number:** 254-75-4005
Cadet's Residence Address: 394 CHEROKEE RIDGE ROAD, CANON, GEORGIA 30525

High School Grade Level: 9th 10th (11th) (circle one) **JROTC Grade Level:** 1 2 (3) (circle one)
Scholastic Standing: 79th OF 282 (example: 1st of 350) **Academic Grade Point Average (GPA):** 88.1

NOTE: Use additional paper as required to reply to the following (put cadet's name at top of each page).

JROTC Leadership Position (Please show advancement history and potential for next year):

Example: Year 1: Recruit, Private, Private 1st Class, and Corporal

Year 1: CADET PRIVATE
Year 2: CADET FIRST SERGEANT
Year 3: CADET COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR

Year 4 potential: CADET BATTALION COMMANDER

JROTC Command Organizations & Position in each (Please show history and potential for next year):

Example: Year 1: Cadet, Assistant Squad Leader, Squad Leader, Assistant Platoon Leader

Year 1: CADET, TEAM MEMBER
Year 2: COMPANY FIRST SERGEANT
Year 3: BATTALION COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR

Year 4 potential: BATTALION COMMANDER

Academic Extra Curricular Activities & Position, as applicable in each:

Example: 9th Grade: Science Club, Computer Club, Freshman Class Secretary

9th Grade: DRAMA CLUB; THESPIAN; SKILLS USA; SCHOOL INTERNET SITE WEBMASTER
10th Grade: DRAMA CLUB; THESPIAN; SKILLS USA
11th Grade: DRAMA CLUB; THESPIAN; OCTAGON CLUB (OPTIMIST CLUB EQUIVALENT)

Non-Scholastic/Non-JROTC Activities & Position, as applicable in each:

Example: 9th Grade: employment, church, Scouting (rank), FFA, Volunteer, etc.

9th Grade: RELAY FOR LIFE COMMITTEE (COUNTY-WIDE); GIRLS' SOCCER TEAM; GIRLS' SOFTBALL TEAM
10th Grade: RELAY FOR LIFE COMMITTEE (COUNTY-WIDE); GIRLS' SOCCER TEAM; EMPLOYEE; SONIC DRIVE-IN; CHURCH YOUTH LDR
11th Grade: RELAY FOR LIFE COMMITTEE (COUNTY-WIDE); ASST MGR, SONIC DRIVE-IN; CHURCH YOUTH LEADER; COMMUNITY THEATER

Please provide the following documents as attachments to this nomination (Required for SAR State and National Competition):

1. Recommendation by Principal with verification of GPA.
2. Recommendation by Senior JROTC Instructor with comments about the Cadet's leadership potential.
3. Original Essay by the Cadet, of 500 to 700 words, the topic is:
 "How has JROTC prepared me to be a better citizen of the United States of America".

The completed application with attachments should be forwarded to your local SAR contact for entry in any or all competitions.

How the JROTC Program Has Prepared Me to be a Better Citizen

Cadet Adrienne Hastings

A dream dances before me of golden shades of sunlight creeping across the football field as everyone scurries into place; painting a picture I'd never forget. The picture consists of girls worrying about their hair, boys worrying about their smile, mothers fighting for pictures, and fathers fighting back their tears. I softly grin as the world begins to spin faster and faster beneath me. Names of lifelong friends float gracefully past my ears. I close my eyes as my heart tingles uncontrollably. "Adrienne Hastings," my name pours out of Principal Brown's lips and almost in the blink of an eye, time stops. Every cough, every snuffle, and every breath stops. My eyes open, everything standing still, I stand up. Every step made to the podium ahead made with purpose and composed of confidence. I lift my hand to give a shake of gratitude and farewell. Slowly, I'm handed a scroll that stood for thirteen years of accomplishment I'd never forget. Out of those thirteen years, the ones I'd remember the most are the ones I'd spent in Hart County High School's JROTC program and how this program changed me forever; changing me into a better citizen.

In all my days of being a young cadet, I've learned you could call JROTC more of a journey than a program. I began my journey to becoming the ideal citizen as a delicate LET 1. I was a mere block of clay, yearning to be molded into a reflection of integrity and leadership. Little did I know, in my short three-year period in JROTC, I would discover more about myself than what I believe people ever saw in me. I quickly discovered I was a natural born leader. Each day I worked to improve my leadership skills, and found it dramatically improved my performance academically, socially, and

physically. Overwhelmed by the feeling of accomplishment, I found myself addicted to success. My leadership carried into the classroom where I'd lead in exercises and activities. Socially, I became more confident and strived to place that confidence in others. Physically, I began to push myself harder and harder until I finally achieved my goals, no matter how long it took.

My preparation for becoming a better citizen continued with the understanding of honor. I expect others and myself to maintain an honest character at all times. This honesty should carry beyond eyes, and exist even when no other eyes are present. I understand that I represent the Hart County JROTC program and this country in and out of the classroom. Thanks to the character shaping motivation of the program I am prepared to meet the standards our country needs to survive.

"Never give up;" something you've always been told growing up, that eventually became a cliché image of perseverance. It never meant more to me than when my instructors said it. This simple phrase I'd always been told finally sank deep inside and took root, piercing my heart and forcing me to believe it. It wasn't just a cliché, it was truth. They never said that you would never fail, but if you never try, you'll never have a chance. If anything, that's something I can hold on to: perseverance.

Before my journey through the JROTC program, I was an average girl who never thought I'd be leading a group of peers or making clear, concise decisions on a spur-of-the-moment basis. I pictured myself going into high school caring about academics during the day and living a night life with friends. I didn't have a straight or set direction and lived by the, "you only live once" saying. I figured that eventually I would figure out my life, but I didn't have to prepare for it until I was older. I never realized how wrong I

could be. JROTC made me realized that yes, I only live once, but while I'm living, live with a purpose. Don't just live to live, live for a higher expectation of yourself.

This journey has more than just made me a better citizen, it has molded me into something that can burst and bloom for this country. A great man once told me, "The final test of a leader is that he leaves behind him in other men the conviction and the will to carry on". I could easily graduate and say that I have completed my journey, but I have only begun. I hope to leave behind greatness that reflects the JROTC program, wherever I may go.