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Student Loan News Flash!

In case you missed it, on July 1st, 2013 the interest rate for Stafford federal loans increased from 3.4% to 6.8%. Does this impact you? What do you need to know? Read the truth about the increase on [Washington Post](#).



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CollegeNET.com Student News

Information, ideas and resources for the CollegeNET.com community

"Learning is not attained by chance, it must be sought for with ardor and attended to with diligence." - Abigail Adams (1744-1818)

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Lissette Hall: WINNER PROFILE

Lissette (LissNefertiti) is currently a student at Columbia College Chicago. She has won a total of \$8,400 from CollegeNET.com.

CollegeNET: What do you study and what is your ideal profession?

Lissette Hall: I am currently in the Comedy Studies & Television program in Production and Writing. I want to continue to play and teach improv, work on developing an improv and mental health program. Most improvisers have their sights set on SNL, and that would be great. I am open to the opportunities I create and encounter on my journey as a performer.



CN: What are you using the CollegeNET.com scholarships for?

LH: Tuition. I am approaching my cap for my undergrad loans and must use scholarship money to supplement my tuition. CollegeNET is affording me the opportunity to complete my Bachelor's degree. I would not have been able to go to school this semester without these scholarships I have won.

CN: Any advice for others on CollegeNET.com?

LH: Dedication, a thick skin, and courage to share your opinion regardless of whether you think people will like it or not are important. Also, be willing to write about and do research on topics that challenge you. I look for inspiration everywhere: reading the news, social media, conversations throughout the day, anything. I have quoted friends' Facebook statuses, referenced top news stories, or just written about something in which I am interested.

CN: What concerns you most about being a student in today's economic and educational environment?

LH: I know I am not the only student who jumped into college because I thought that was what you did after high school. I think more students need to be properly educated about the financial climate, the impact of student loan debt, and choices after high school graduation. I am concerned that, particularly in a country with such financial issues, that students do not have examples at the systems level of how to live a fiscally responsible life.

Topics Introduced on www.CollegeNET.com

Colonizing Mars: "Our planet is becoming overpopulated. Missions for colonizing Mars have already started and we even have people who signed contracts to be sent to Mars in 10 years for a relatively cheap amount of money for certain colonization missions. My question to you guys is, would you sign up for such a thing, and why?" — Austin (Common Denominator)

Bucket Lists: "We all have a running bucket list of must-do things in our lives. For example, I know, I have to see Garth Brooks sing Baton Rouge in person, or my life won't be complete. We all have things that we need to do, some more reasonable than others. What's your most outlandish, ridiculous or impossible bucket list item?" — Diana (Dianab108)