



Davidson Fellow Alexandra Morris

(\$10,000 Scholarship Recipient)



Personal Info

Alexandra Morris
Age: 10
Ventura, California

School, College and Career Plans

Alexandra will start Cabrillo Middle School this fall while taking some high school and college-level courses. She aspires to be a professional physicist, chemist and children's fantasy book novelist.

Davidson Fellows Submission (*Literature*)

Alexandra penned an impressive portfolio, *Into the Archway*, which was a compilation of six pieces that included a thought-provoking essay entitled *Biodiversity: A Metaphorical Silkworm*, a dramatic script published last year in an anthology of "twisted fairy tales" and a clever fantasy fiction novel excerpt entitled, *The Archway of Silver Flame*, set in a mythological world.

Biography

Alexandra has always loved to put words on paper. She wrote her first book, a 17-page non-fiction book on whales, when she was 5 years old. Since then, Alexandra has written several fiction and non-fiction books. With each new work, Alexandra has continued to improve her writing talent. Currently she is drafting two fantasy-fiction novels.

Alexandra is a dedicated Channel Island Fox activist through Roots and Shoots S.O.S. (Save Our Species). She has worked on several fundraising, outreach and grassroots efforts aimed at saving this endangered species found only on the Channel Islands. She has personally written and received three mini-grants in support of the organization's work and made a presentation to Dr. Jane Goodall about the accomplishments of S.O.S.

Second soprano in Ventura Master Chorale Children's Concert Choir, Alexandra will travel to England this summer for the International Children's Choir Festival.

In her spare time, Alexandra enjoys archery, hiking and kayaking.

Please see next page.

The Davidson Institute for Talent Development

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(Cont.)

Honors/Awards

- 2002 Davidson Fellow (September)
- 2002 Johns Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth Mathematics and Verbal Talent Search, State Award
- 2002 President's Award for Excellence
- 2001 California State Legislature Certificate of Recognition presented to Alexandra and the rest of the S.O.S. (Save Our Species) group
- 2001 Fulcrum Publishing Twisted Tales, 6-9 year old Category, Contest Winner
- 2001 U.S. Congress Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition presented to Alexandra and the rest of the S.O.S. (Save Our Species) group
- 1999 Ventura County Fair, First Place for "The Canine World" book

Community Activities

At age 6, Alexandra launched her volunteer work by putting together a group of fellow first grade students concerned about protecting the tropical rainforest and animals that live there. This group worked on posters and wrote reports on various plant and animal rainforest species.

The following year Alexandra initiated a beach clean-up project with the help of her second grade teacher and classmates. During the summer, Alexandra received training and worked for two months as a volunteer Dino Guide at the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History.

Alexandra has assisted her parents and greeted children who visited the Channel Islands National Park mammoth fossil display at the George S. Page Museum in Los Angeles during the museum's Mammoth Days Festival.

For the past three years, Alexandra has worked as one of the founders of S.O.S. (Save Our Species), a student group focused on saving the Channel Island Fox from extinction.

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