

Fear Not for the Future
By: Rosemary Williams

When I first researched exchange programs, I was in dismay,
Twenty-thousand a semester, no way I could pay!
With college 'round the corner, dollar signs in my head,
I could never walk the distance, now the idea's dead.
When what to my wondering eyes should appear?
Not Santa, nor presents, nor eight tiny reindeer.
But a scholarship! A scholarship! Ah, the light is in sight!
I may go to Chile after all! This may not be a plight!
A sigh of relief, I start getting on track,
I contact the director, mind as sharp as a tack.
I need this experience, so you can see.
A high schoolers life, is not biscuits and tea.
My schedule is packed, seven thirty to four,
I see only see my friends one day out of four.
Student government, Calculus, Physics, and Spanish,
my plate is so full, that it won't fit on one dish!
This experience will help me push through this whole year,
I will study harder, work harder, let go of the fear.
Rainy days will not bug me, I'll have my own little sun,
Saturdays I will not sleep in, I will hit the ground and run!
The incentive I need to study hard for SATs,
my mother won't need to tell me to do chores with a "please?"!
With this money I could afford to have a better year,
not to mention the fun I would have in Chile, so near!
Another language, another culture, another life with new friends,
The experience of a lifetime, with limitless ends.
Job opportunities involving my best subject,
(that's language, of course! My highest grade? Well, you bet.)
I love learning languages, for the opportunities they sow,
Spanish, Chinese, a little French, I do know.
I would love to learn Italian and German, but can't,
as I said, my schedule's full, and my free time is scant.
Not only would this trip lower my blood pressure and stress,
but would also let me learn my conjugations (Well, they're a mess).
I would learn the language so well in that time,
it would be almost as easy as writing in rhyme.
Finally, the most important thing to me is,
the making of friends, that is all that life is.
People who support you, good to have one more hand,
be it here, be it there, or a whole 'nother land.
The connections I'd make, the places I'd go,
the things I would learn, the things I would know.
Please consider me as an option, it would really change my life,

it would relieve my parents, getting money, less a strife.
I could go to a better college, maybe buy a new bike,
I dislike cars, as the ozone, they strike.
I have a positive outlook already, but this opportunity would give make it more steady