

GIRLS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME DANIELA KAUFMANN

Full Names: Daniela Margarita Teresia Kaufmann

Date of Birth: 1990, 25th January

Place of Birth: Windhoek, Khomas Region

Field of Study: 1st Year B.Sc (pre-med)



Daniela is a most delightful young person, brimming with positivity, enthusiasm and energy for life! She has a bubbly personality that draws people to her immediately and displays a passion in everything that she does.

She is registered as a first-year student at UNAM and is doing a Bachelor of Science Pre-Med course this year with the intention of applying to the UNAM School of Medicine for the 2011 academic year. It is her desire to study medicine and specialise in dietetics. She ascribes this to her fascination with food and how it affects the human body as well as the belief that she will be able to make a difference in the Namibian community one day due to the limited number of dieticians practising in this country. She has expressed her sincere wish to help people and has indicated that this qualification can also be used to obtain employment in NGO's such as the UN, in order to help countries experiencing disease and famine. Indeed, Daniela has already conducted home experiments with different food types to assess their impact on the human body - a clear indication that this lady knows what she wants to do with the rest of her life!

Daniela is the second eldest child and has a younger sister currently in Grade 10 at school. She grew up in Windhoek under the care of her father as her parents are separated and her mother travels regularly between Namibia and Angola. Her mother is a beauty therapist and works mainly in Angola as business is better there and earnings are in US Dollars. Her father is an entrepreneur who was involved in various initiatives but is now retired due to having been medically boarded for ill health.

Daniela completed her primary schooling at Delta School and her secondary schooling at Delta Secondary School. During her school years, she has been actively involved in clubs, student leadership and various other projects and has been an excellent all-round achiever throughout her school career, having garnered numerous certificates and accolades for her academic performance, her social involvement and her art. Her great passion is her art, which concentrates on abstract, emotional and observational although the human form is

her favourite form since – in her own words – she enjoys the challenge of trying to capture human emotion on canvas.

Although already well-versed in English, German and Afrikaans, Daniela is also studying Portuguese this year in order to improve her skills in this particular language.

Her experience as a rookie student at UNAM has not been too intimidating given her natural confidence. What has overwhelmed her, she says is the “sheer volume of things at the institution that makes UNAM like a small village”. She has expressed some despondency at how long it takes to get anything done – long queues for services, some absenteeism of lecturers, lack of feedback on tests and assignments and lack of support from some lecturers have proven to be a challenge. However, she is positive that she has largely adapted to her new environment although she is adamant that she will become involved in something – anything! – at the University that will address the lack of moral values and good manners she perceives in her peers.