

Sophia Heaning
St. Joseph Hill Academy
Writers' Workshop - Mr. O'Keefe
11/6/2024

What I am Thankful for this year:

Every Thanksgiving, I gather around with my family and we talk about the things we are thankful for. Usually, I am thankful for just a couple of things but this year I am thankful for so much more. I am thankful for my family, my old and new friends, I am thankful for my school St. Joseph Hill Academy and my old school, Visitation Academy, I am thankful for my grandparents for how much they help and support me and yet they have a little trouble with their health, I am thankful for my idol which is my mom since she is so strong and does everything on her own, I am thankful for Kosta which is a huge father figure in my life, and lastly, I am thankful for everything I have.

To begin with, I am thankful for my family. I am thankful for my family because without them I don't know what I would do. They are the biggest influence and part of my life because of their passion and courage for my sister and I through this tough journey. They have always been on my side no matter what even if I'm in the right or wrong. Words can not describe how much they mean to me and how I am immensely grateful that they are a part of my life. Additionally, my grandparents' health isn't the best right now so I am grateful that they have the proper doctor and medical help that will guide him through this journey of healing them. To continue on, my mother is probably one of my biggest role models I could ever ask for. Usually when adults ask you who your idol is, most kids will probably reply that it's a celebrity like LeBron James or Taylor Swift. But mine? Mine is always going to be my mom. My mom always does what's best for my sister and I and helps me through tough times. Even though my mother and I do fight once and a while, we both know deep down inside that we both love each other with all of our hearts. Furthermore, she has the best boyfriend that I love like he's my own. His name is Kosta and he is probably one of the biggest father figures in my life. He makes my mom so happy which always makes me happy to see both of them together. He loves me like his daughter and I love him like a father. We never fail to make each other laugh or put a smile on each other's faces. Overall, this is why I am grateful for my family.

Furthermore, I am thankful for my friends, which are my friends from the past and my new friends now. To clarify, I have friends from 10 years ago in the past and friends that I just met 2 months ago and I am tremendously grateful that I have them. To show that, I went to a preschool called Stepping Stones and one of the girls there is my best friend till this day and her name is Francesca. Francesca and I have the best memories together even when we were 2 years

old. So one of my best friends I am thankful for is her and also many more. I am thankful for my new friends at my new school because they helped me through so much on this journey and it seems as if my group of friends just keeps growing bigger and bigger. Because of these two amazing schools, I have the most amazing friends. Finally, this is why I am thankful for my friends.

To finish off, the last thing I am thankful for is everything that I have such as an amazing and caring family and friends, good food, water, I get to do dance and volleyball, and I have a roof under my head. I am thankful for all of these things because everyday, the community and population of homeless people or people that can barely afford to put food on the table is growing and growing unfortunately. That way, they don't have the money to have opportunities like I do because they don't have the money to do these things. Therefore, I am thankful that my family is able to let me do these things financially.

In conclusion, these are all the things that I am thankful for this Thanksgiving of 2024. It seems though that every year, I have a new thing to be grateful for because I learn new things everyday about life, our government, economy, and the way that things work. It also means that before I can turn around, things have changed and I have to learn to be grateful for those small things before they vanish.