



STUDENTSPEAK

SCHOLASTIC HONOUR



Ritika Sharma

Ritika Sharma, recipient of the 'MasterCard MBA Scholarships for Women 2013,' on how the scholarship will help her achieve her goals

Coming from a family with defence background, I had the good fortune of studying across the country. I did my schooling in eight different schools in India, which gave me an opportunity to interact with people from different cultural backgrounds. Post high school, I completed my Bachelor's in biomedical engineering from Manipal University. Prior to studying in Singapore Management University, I worked with Accenture, Bangalore for three years where I was exposed to the IT industry — its demands and work culture.

When I got to know that I have been selected as one of the recipients of the MasterCard MBA Scholarships for Women 2013, I couldn't believe it.

The scholarship essentially selects candidates with strong leadership and entrepreneurship skills, outstanding academic achievements and active participation in community service and CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) related work. Under the scholarship, I will be given financial aid worth \$20,000. In addition to this, I will be joining MasterCard for a summer internship at their Singapore office.

This award empowers me to meet my career aspirations and to realise my dream of building a barrier-free,

integrated society. In addition to striving towards becoming a good business leader, this will motivate me to continue to work for the cause of women empowerment and inclusive education.

I think that my consistent grades along with a rich work experience played a vital role in my selection, but I feel what impressed the panel more was my work with NGOs in India. I was fortunate

enough to get an opportunity to volunteer as an English teacher in Leh-Ladakh for a few months where I taught visually-challenged students. Sharing these experiences gave the selection committee an idea about my passion for community service, which helped me secure this scholarship.

I want to tell students that there is more to life than textbooks and grades. Explore, get involved and play your part in society — a small step from you can make a significant difference in someone else's life. Dare to dream, believe in yourself and never say, never.

- As told to Aaditi Isaac



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along with a rich work experience played a vital role in my selection, but I feel what impressed the panel more was my work with NGOs in India. My mantra is dare to dream, believe in yourself and never say, never