

## 1999 HS Scholarship Winner

### Joseph Amoroso

“As the moon camouflages itself by the dawn’s early mist, we awake to a new day, or shall I say a new beginning where obstacles, awards and disappointments are expected, but can never be predicted...”

The personal statement is a saying that I had written and etched on the memory of my mind and heart, when Chronic Fatigue Syndrome plagued my body with sickness. In life we all have expectations and dreams. Sometimes, due to an evil influence those dreams remain dreams and assurance is forever lost, but in my visions I do not see Chronic Fatigue Syndrome as a threat, but as a memory, for when you get knocked down you get back up and fight for your life.

It seems that Chronic Fatigue Syndrome, thrives on the weakness of the body, but remember that it also feeds on the loss of faith and hope. In relation to my sickness, I got knocked down for a year, and it seemed that all faith in dreams were lost in a world where nothing thrived, but I conquered this. You must band together and never lose faith in God or family, for diseases prey on the vulnerable soul. For me, family and God were my only remedy. However, since Chronic Fatigue Syndrome has left its mark on my body, I will never forget the tears and pain that my family and I went through; but for now nothing will stop me from achieving my goals as a Biology major and for a higher education.

To conclude, the sickness that sleeps in my body will forever be there, dormant, till the next time it is awakened by a week moment in my body. As for now, I will work diligently, for one day when I become a Biologist, and specialize in certain a certain field, the torch of enlightenment will be passed on to me, and I will be added to the vast teams of doctors and scientists that will hopefully find cures and vaccines to stop these deadly diseases in their tracks of destruction.

