

## A Leap of Faith Pays Off

"I had the unexplainable misfortune of growing up with an abusive father; he was responsible for innumerable verbal and physical atrocities. He abandoned us and I never missed his presence, but the seeds of unworthiness and self-doubt were planted and matured later into self-hate and depression.

"I allowed fear to rule my life and worked 10 years in a customer service environment, assisting my family with the costs of a monthly mortgage and Ivy League tuitions for my younger brother, sister, and cousin. Constantly denied promotions because I lacked a college education, I eventually grew weary of the burden of unfulfilled potential. Frustration caused me to push past fear and I took a leap of faith and returned to school to study nursing, a balance for my natural nurturing instincts and intellectual capabilities.

"Life has taught me to accept defeat without being defeated. I have learned that continued hard work in the face of constant obstacles requires strength of character, resilience, and humor. It is easy to be friendly and gracious in the midst of accolades and victory, but picking up the shattered remnants of one's self-esteem from the depths of despair takes determination and integrity. Experience has led me to conclude that friends, family, and environment have the ability to impact the lives of many. Upon graduation, I will use this knowledge and work in a community-based hospital, like Hopkins, and address the emotional and physical needs of families. I plan to continue my education, attaining a graduate degree as a family nurse practitioner while examining the relationship between family violence and physical and mental health.

"The Arlene Butz/Maureen Maguire scholarship has brought my dream of a life-altering future one step closer to reality. I hope to establish a career that reflects joy and peace, serving others, sharing beauty, and contributing to life in a positive manner. Scholarship has made me part of the Hopkins legacy, not to be defined by mistakes but by perseverance, hard work, and integrity."

— **Patrice Pantin**  
Class of 2007



The Arlene Butz and Maureen Maguire Scholarship was established in 2000 through the estate of Wealtha McGurn in honor of Hopkins Nursing faculty members Arlene Butz and Maureen Maguire. McGurn, a professor at the University of Maryland Nursing School, was a mentor to Butz, who served on the faculty of Hopkins School of Nursing in the early 1990s. It was Butz's expertise as a researcher and Maguire's ability as a teacher that inspired McGurn to honor them with this scholarship.

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