

Kyanna Claro

“Strength and growth come only through continuous effort and struggle” best describes my tertiary education.

When I applied for the 18twenty8 funding I was under immense pressure from university work and my part time job as a restaurant hostess. The funding I received made my third year a lot easier as there was not a raise in my monthly payments for my existing loan (1st and 2nd year). With the help of 18twenty8 I completed my BA in Graphic Design degree at Vega in 2020 and I did not have to constantly worry about my fees.

At the beginning of 2021 I applied to do my Honours at the University of Johannesburg as I wanted to further my education and expand on my knowledge in graphic design. My uncle helped pay for my deposit and my mom and I were going to try pay off my fees throughout the year. I tried to look for an au pair job to help pay my fees as I could not apply for another student loan.

One Saturday morning I received a message from 18twenty8 that there was a donor who was going to pay for my Honours fees. My mom and I were so relieved as this news alleviated the burden of my 2021 fees. I blossomed in my Honours year and I realised my potential with design. Although I completed the year online, I feel that the extra year enriched my knowledge in design theory.

I am so thankful for 18twenty8’s support and care over the last two years.