

There are some processes in our lives that are often seen impossible at first but with handwork and discipline they are achievable. My degree has been one of these processes for me. A week before I was meant to start my student loan was declined as my mother didn't qualify for the amount. I remember feeling devastated and I had to face the reality that I might have to take a second gap year. However I was able to get a student loan, through my uncle that allowed me to start my degree. My student load did not cover the full tuition and at the end of second year my mother and I had outstanding fees.

I applied for the 18twenty8 funding to help alleviate the burden of my fees. 18twenty8 helped pay off my outstanding fees and paid for the tuition for my third year. The funding made third year a lot easier as there was not a raise in my monthly interest 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.

When I was told that I had received the bursary I felt very overwhelmed because I often do not feel deserving of blessings. However after attending the 18twenty8 workshop I felt inspired and one day hope to be able to sponsor young women's studies. The workshop experience gave me reassurance that I truly deserve and it motivated me to do really well for my final year. I am so grateful to 18twenty8 for their help and constant concern for our mental and physical health during the covid-19 lockdown.