

Gratitude

Mica, 16

If you have gratitude, it's safe to say
You help others in a positive way.
They will see that you are loving, and care a lot.
When they are around they won't want you to stop.



being thankful for all that is given to you,
being unselfish, knowing that nothing is deserved,
but everything is earned -
This is all about gratitude!

Gratitude, An Essay

Nashona, 15

Gratitude is a very important virtue, and it means being thankful for what you do have and not always worrying about what you don't have.



Put your gratitude on the outside, let it show,
For no one wants to be around someone who is negative, you know...
If you're going to be nice and you're going to care
Make sure you have enough gratitude to share.

Most of us who are at Turning Winds Academic Institute right now didn't have gratitude at home and were always taking things for granted. You never truly realize what you have until it is lost and I know that since I have been here I have become more thankful for my family, friendship, my own well being, and genuine happiness.

Jesse, 15

Be thankful for everything
For feelings, tastes, and sounds
Be thankful for those you love
In case they aren't always around.



Being thankful is important because when you are happy with what you've got, it's easier to stay positive and help others with struggles.

Be thankful for your best friend
Who can always make you smile
Even if you disagree
Every little once-in-a-while.

Having gratitude is able to achieve a state of genuine happiness that few come to know. When you are grateful, things seem to come easier and you are able to become more at peace with yourself and others. It's a very good feeling to be thankful, and I notice myself becoming more thankful for what I have each and every day.

Because that's what life's about:
It's of the things we appreciate.
Gratitude is not a virtue
It's just everyone's fate.

Max, 16

We must remember
Through every struggle
That each day is a gift
And not a given right.

Guest Speaker Miles Friend, "A Friend of a Friend"

CJ, 15

Several weeks ago, we had a guest speaker at Turning Winds

Lauren, 16

Giving love, respect, and appreciation,



Academic Institute—Miles Friend, who I was glad to meet.

Miles came to share his knowledge about our surrounding environment, and he also came to tell us about what his job entails. For those working for the Forest Service, there is a great variety of things to do. If you like action, there is fire fighting for fire fighters. If you like being in the woods, there is surveying to be done by forest rangers, and paths to be maintained. If you like computers, there are signs to design, and bridges to be drawn.

Miles shared his own experience, and explained us what he has done and is doing now, which included all the named above options, and even more. He shared with us new knowledge about the environment in the forest that surrounds us here.

Miles is a great guy and a great speaker. It was greatly appreciated that he would take time out of his personal life to come up here to teach and speak with us.



*Sean and Kincaid,
14*

We learned a lot about the wildlife and outdoor facts from Miles Friend. It was pretty cool to

find out how many wild animals we have in Montana, to know about wolf population in Troy, and Yaak Valley. Miles also explained how he worked with the fire district and fought fires. My dad did that, too: he would go up in the helicopter and see how the fires started. Miles also explained how he worked with the government, and for the U.S. Forest Service.

Graduate Students Outing,

Connor, 17

It was a beautiful March day with all the snow falling. Jake Francom decided it was a perfect day to ride some mountain bikes down the forest road.

All the graduates hopped on mountain bikes and waived to our local deer—and we were off.

We all drove to a clearing in the woods. We made a campfire, cooked hot chocolate and ate snacks! We all had great time and it was an unforgettable day, to be grateful for!

Book Review: Les Miserables

Aaron, 15

I read Les Miserables, by Victor Hugo. It is about a man named Jean Valjean who was a former convict during the French Revolution. Soon after being released from jail, he committed another crime and was pursued by the police. It is an amazing story, one of the best books I have ever read.



Les Miserables is a story that speaks about many virtues that we learn to value at our Turning Winds Academic Institute. The main character, Jean Valjean was once a convict, but he turned over a new leaf and became a better person.

Anyone can take this story and APPLY it to their life! Anyone can change!

Weather Report

Cody, 17

You can be grateful when the weather outside has some snow on the ground, while showing also the sunny side.

Kim, 16

Well, if anyone is grateful, I am! March has been the warmest month of the year so far! We could wear shorts outside in the warm sunny weather just about all of the March! It changed the last week when hail began falling, but the sun has managed still to make its way through.

Stephanie, 16

It seems like there is a fierce battle between winter and spring. It looks like winter is still winning, but thankfully, not for long.