

Queen LeTriece

Known by her friends as LeTriece, Dana Calhoun is a small town Carolina girl captivated by all things literature. A college senior with aspirations of graduate school and a thirst for knowledge, the Wentworth scholarship is an opportunity to sharpen her already impressive resume, which currently includes a book review and a novel in the making.

LeTriece decided upon the relatively unknown art of “Queer Hip-Hop” for her study. She says, “Any art is literature and it should be studied as such.” She demonstrates a passion for her subject that is apparent from even the most brief of conversations. The Wentworth funding has allowed her to take a five-day trip to New York City, which she will use to not only fulfill the requirements of the program, but also contribute to her honors thesis.

For LeTriece, the Wentworth scholarship is not only a chance to educate herself, but enlighten her peers and the general public to the mystery that is Queer Hip-Hop. LeTriece herself admits that the subject is incredibly difficult to define. Not only an art form but also a way of life, “the act of growing up and living is queer. The lifestyle defines an identity for these people.”

Although an avid writer, her real passion is reading and absorbing new information. Through her trip to New York City she wishes to uncover in greater detail what she describes as, “the queer scene,” through drag shows and scene clubs. When reciting her itinerary aloud a smile never leaves her face. She has felt a deep connection to the topic for some time ever since her brief interaction with it in London.

LeTriece recognizes this trip as very personal. She finds much in common with her self and the people in which she intends to meet. “I have discovered myself through the experience.”

She is remarkably humbled by the entire experience. LeTriece admits that without the Wentworth contribution the trip would not be possible and she plans to make the most of her chance to interact with her topic. She is relishing the chance to apply the information gained on her travels to scholarly work.