

Professor Schwalbenberg and Ms. Odra,

As a Coverdell Fellow with the Belmont Business Improvement District, Robert has consistently demonstrated a level of professionalism that has helped the BID successfully achieve its goals. For this reason I highly recommend Robert for a Language Immersion Scholarship Award in French.

Since joining the BID, Robert has demonstrated an analytical mind, an eagerness to learn, and an ability to easily articulate and explain complex processes. He works cooperatively and well with others, and he is always willing to put in the extra effort when needed. At our annual Pizza festival Robert helped us collect important data that will help the BID strategically market its future events.

At the BID Robert often talks about his experiences in Africa and how this experience has influenced him and his future career goals. When he speaks of Africa, one can see and hear his enthusiasm and passion for the continent and for its development. I know that Robert has made a great effort to begin the process of learning French over the past summer, and he has articulated his desire to build on that experience in our conversations at the BID.

Through his experiences in Africa and the Peace Corps, Robert has demonstrated cultural sensitivity and the ability to adapt to a foreign culture. His proficiency in Swahili is a testament to his language aptitude.

It is for these reasons that recommend Robert without hesitation and I believe that Robert would be a worthy recipient of the LISA scholarship in French.

Sincerely,



Phil Marino, Director of Belmont Business Improvement District

