

I've never had a place to call home, not really. When you've lived in 14 cities, 8 states, and 4 countries it's hard to know which to choose. Houston, Texas. The Woodlands. Detroit, Michigan. Minneapolis, Minnesota. Santa Barbara, California. The boondocks of Oklahoma. Austin, Texas. Frankfurt, Germany. Nicosia, Cyprus. Székesfehérvár, Hungary. Charlottesville, Virginia. San Antonio, Texas. Pompano Beach, Florida. Delray Beach, Florida. And finally, Shaker Heights, Ohio.

Because of Daddy's profession in the basketball industry, my family and I have experienced the world. Nicosia, Cyprus which filled my sister, Bryn, and me with nothing but adventure. I'll never forget watching her eat a snail. Or the time our rebel friend, Nika, who spoke little English, artfully made us paint her garage 5 different colors. Székesfehérvár, Hungary: the ice cream parlor across the street, the fast paced language, the fashion, brick streets, incredible bread bakeries, freezing climate, and of course watching Daddy win a championship. Austin, Texas where I distinctly remember witnessing my two 2nd grade friends getting married under our playground willow tree. I'm almost

sure that was fake. And there was Santa Barbara, California, one of my most favorite places in the world- where ocean meets mountain. The gorgeous blue water, the pierre, the hippies, and Fiesta. I remember the times my mom would dance with my sister and me in the kitchen when we were only kids, not caring when Bryn turned the vacuum on, putting the attachment in her mouth, letting the suction pull her cheeks in so she looked

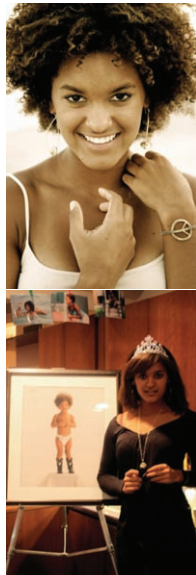


like a fish. And of course I remember hot, tropical Florida. How could I forget living walking distance from the beach, or training (for tennis) 5 hours a day. But then of course there were the hurricanes, the muscle heads, and my own lot of worries. The pains of online high school, the literal pains of injury, the long hours, the defeat, the tragic occurrences- and the growth and satisfaction.

And then, I moved here, to Shaker Heights, Ohio. When I first told people I was moving here, from Florida, they looked at me as if I were wearing white pants after Labor Day. And then I looked at them as if they were wearing wool in the summer! People complain about the weather here or the fact that there's nothing to do. But I say both are irrelevant. I came here over the summer to take a creative writing class with Mr. Verbos. And I met some of the most amazing girls with strong convictions and solid writing skills. And then I came here officially, 2 weeks into the year and I couldn't believe how genuinely friendly and welcoming everyone was. Somehow, peo-

# Hathaway Brown is my home

By: Riley Blanks



much from those experiences, broadening my perspective and my person as a whole; I know who I am. But what it's taught me most is that it doesn't matter what my surrounding background is, it never has. I can confirm to the weather: I can put on a jacket, I can get used to the city life: I can learn the bus schedule, I can adapt to the culture: I can throw some boots on and yell out "how ya doin darlin".

Because it isn't where I am or where I reside that makes me. It's who I'm with. And I especially have this city and this incredible school to prove that. With where I am right now in my life, these months here so far have come at the right time. Throughout my 18 years, I've learned how to adapt to new and foreign places but in coming to this school I have never met a more powerful, supportive collaboration of people. It may be hard for some of you to see but I'm telling you to consider yourselves so entirely lucky. Because the feeling of this environment is unlike any other. When I come here, and I see all of your faces I feel as if I'm home. And that's saying something.

ple knew my name. And then the times just kept on rolling. I went to my first homecoming dance, I played states with the tennis team, I laid in a field for hours, and everywhere I go I run into someone special. It's quite a sensation, to feel as if you're surrounded by such unbelievable beings. I mean, I am grateful for living and traveling so abundantly, for being given the opportunity to experience things most don't. And yes, I believe I've taken

new and foreign places but in coming to this school I have never met a more powerful, supportive collaboration of people. It may be hard for some of you to see but I'm telling you to consider yourselves so entirely lucky. Because the feeling of this environment is unlike any other. When I come here, and I see all of your faces I feel as if I'm home. And that's saying something.



Riley's  
祝你  
生日  
快樂!

Riley:

十八歲,面臨的是人生的一個新的轉折,你一定能夠掌握自己的命運,過去你經歷了別人沒有經歷過的生活,而你還是對生活充滿著希望!雖然你我只相差三歲,但你時刻在追求,在適應著環境的變化,在為自己的理想而努力,你的永不停息的精神鼓舞著我,你是我的榜樣。在今天你特別的日子里,我祝福你,希望你能記得在你的身後有一位永遠祝福你的朋友!我永遠不會忘記你生日的日子,因為那天也是我的生日!

Dianna



在 HB 女子學校,這裡有

1000 條  
通向成功的  
道路

哪一條路將屬於你?



## 探索之日

女生早期童年教育和女童幼稚園

# 學校開放日

一月二十四日,星期六  
上午十點到中午十二點

當家長與學校教師見面和參觀課堂的時候,孩子們可以加入我們的學習活動,聽故事和玩遊戲。

登記參加學校開放日活動的家長或者您計劃親自參觀 HB 女子學校,請致電:216-320 8098



SHAKER HEIGHTS, OHIO

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