

**Sarah Rashed**  
**Student of the Year**  
**Freestyle Academy**  
**April 2021**



<https://freestyleacademy.rocks/~SarahR>

Sarah Rashed is one of those rare students who leads by maintaining an uncompromising level of excellence. Last year, she distinguished herself as one of the most passionate and diligent students in our English class. Sarah's unparalleled love of literature and dedication to high quality work have significantly enhanced our learning environment and made her a sought-after collaborator. When we transitioned to distance learning, she didn't let up; in fact, she took it as an opportunity to work harder and take new risks. Throughout this school year, she voluntarily stayed after class to ask questions, discuss reading assignments at greater length, and share her new ideas for upcoming writing assignments. I could certainly go on about Sarah's inspiring character and impressive achievements, but I will conclude by stating simply that she is an absolute joy to teach and has truly earned this award.

~Jason Greco, Freestyle Academy English Teacher

Sarah is one of the most reliable students I have ever had. Her work ethic and her ability to plan ahead are skills that have not only helped her succeed, but are also excellent examples to her classmates. Despite the difficulties of distance learning, Sarah doubled her efforts to make the most of this challenging new educational format. Her analysis of films and of student work is rich and thoughtful, and she grasps cinematic concepts quickly. Despite challenging and out of the ordinary circumstances, Sarah has made the most of her opportunities and integrated herself into our community of filmmakers. She has an earnest desire to learn, grow, and improve, and pushes herself to extend her abilities. Most of all, I have appreciated her character. She has been a positive influence to others around her, myself included. She has been truly supportive to many, and a good friend.

~Matt Taylor, Freestyle Academy Film Teacher

Sarah is the embodiment of passion leading to success which is what we believe to be true at Freestyle. And we are incredibly lucky to have had her contributions to our small community of digital artists for the past two years. I am so excited to see what Sarah will accomplish beyond Freestyle because she will no doubt have a very strong influence on a much larger community and we will all be better off because of her tremendous combination of talent, skill, and passion. Thank you Sarah for your passion!

~Leo Florendo, Freestyle Academy Program Coordinator and Digital Media Teacher