

Dear Independent Arts Foundation,

Thank you for your generosity which has enabled me to undertake my first year of study at the New York Studio School.

Growing up in Adelaide, I never thought I would have the opportunity to live and study in New York. In 2015 I took part in a New York Studio School Fall Drawing Marathon and after the first day, I knew I needed to study at the school. Thanks to a scholarship from the school and the IAF grant I am a student here now.

I am one Semester into the two year Master of Fine Arts and I can already see the impact of this experience. The school provides an encouraging and rigorous environment to develop and consolidate my practice. I have made some good progress with my painting and I feel like I have a real direction now. This institution and community has made me feel very welcome. My new friends here are very important to me and I know these connections will continue after graduation in 2018.

New York is an ideal city for an artist, with many extensive museums and galleries and easy access to major works from across history and contemporary artists. A recent highlight was the a school trip to Washington D.C. to see Rembrandt drawings at the National Art Gallery, it was the most inspiring gallery and a real privilege to see the works of Picasso, Matisse, Cezanne, Van Gogh and Morandi, to name just a few.

Thank you again for your contribution to my education. This is truly a wonderful experience on both a professional and personal level.

I have attached a few photos - a picture of my space and a large drawing that I made on the last afternoon of the drawing marathon (16/09/2016), a more recent drawing and also a new painting. Let me know if you would like me to send anything else.

		
<i>Figure on Chair</i> , 2016, charcoal on paper, 24x18"	<i>Large Marathon Drawing</i> , 2016, charcoal on paper, 80 x 60"	<i>Figure resting on Bed</i> , 2016, oil on canvas, 16x20"

Sincerely,

Lucy Turnbull