

Hello friends and family. I'm A.J. I have been at Karafin for 3 years. I have made great friends and amazing memories that I will carry with me throughout my life. Karafin has been a great school.

When I first came to Karafin I was scared. I was always a shy girl and I didn't think I would fit in. I started saying "hello" to anyone I could, but the first person I had a real conversation and clicked with immediately was Mary Lanza, a true and great friend. One day I said to her "I don't know where my class is, where do I go?" She responded with "Just follow the hallway. This school is one big circle." As I looked for my class I went around the whole school and she was right, and that's how I knew I would fit in because I still got lost the next period and had to make 3 laps before I realized it was a circle and only I would get lost in one.

The next two years seemed to fly by. Before I could even take another breath Korrin, Fran, Mary, and myself were inseparable. Karafin has taught me so much, it has made me a better person and friend. Everybody at Karafin is really nice, they make you feel like you belong and we are just one big family.

The teachers are excellent. They are there for you when you need them, and sometimes when you don't. They make you work hard and push you to your limits. The Directors of the school, Dr. Donow and Mrs. Donow, have kept Karafin going with their hard work and dedication. They are always busy from cleaning the bathrooms to giving you a cough drop. Mr. Richardson, the hall monitor, is an extraordinary mentor. He has been here for many years, he helps the students in every aspect, and I truly thank him not just for myself but for everyone he has helped.

Now I want to thank some people in my life that have been a tremendous help to get me where I am now. I want to thank Mrs. Rattiner for being a great support and for pushing me even though I never did anything she asked me to. Ms. Pagliarro for helping me find unique ways to decorate my art work and for letting me criticize hers when in fact her artwork was always flawless. Miss. McCray for using Star Wars to help me understand words in economics and for using her charming sarcasm to lift my spirits. To Miss. Bottone for always trying to help me, even if she didn't know how to. Lastly I want to thank my family. Thank you mom for driving me everywhere before I didn't have a car, and even after I had one. Thank you dad for being the best father there is and although I am not a little girl anymore I will always be your little girl. Thank you for allowing me to grow up. Thank you Kristina my little sister for looking up to me, I'm here if you need me.

I will miss all of you at Karafin and hope to see you all again sometime. Congratulations classmates, class of 2013. We are out!