

“The people at Marshall are some of the friendliest and most welcoming that I have ever met. Getting to talk to them has led to so many fun opportunities,” said Austin Bailey of Franklin Furnace, Ohio.

The history major is a transfer student who came to Marshall after his former college’s history department suffered budget cuts. A customer overheard him expressing his frustration and recommended Marshall and their outstanding program.

“I received the Shank Scholarship for history students and it means the world to me. I was nervous that I had made the wrong choice to transfer, but knowing that I was good enough to get a scholarship really changed my perspective,” said Austin. “I remember when I found out, I tossed my hands in the air and couldn’t stop grinning.”

Austin believes that his greatest challenge has been keeping his motivation up, but has a stellar support system in his family and girlfriend that keeps encouraging him. He is most looking forward to learning how to interpret history. While he is minoring in anthropology, he is “obsessed” with archaeology. His goal is to pursue many opportunities to broaden his career.

Austin serves as the vice president of Phi Alpha Theta, the history honor society. He enjoys attending Marshall football and basketball games and enjoys spending time at the library.

“The Morrow Stacks are my home away from home. The peace and quiet you can get in the nooks of that old library are second to none. There are many cool research resources there,” he explained.

Thankful for the people who have encouraged and hoped for his success, Austin recalls a professor at his former school who watched him fail an exam and bring his grade up by the end of the semester. Her note of praise is one that Austin will always remember.

“She was proud of my final grade after my abysmal start. It’s moments like that, that make me want to be the best student I can be,” said Austin.

“I believe giving back to Marshall is important because of all the opportunities that Marshall gives us as students. Funding the school allows the next generation to get the same, if not more, opportunities.”



Fun Facts

Name: Austin Bailey

Class of 2021

Hometown: Franklin Furnace, Ohio

Major: History

Favorite color: Gray, despite being a pretty colorful person, about half of my shirts are gray.

Textbooks or eBooks: Textbooks. Despite the weight of carrying them, nothing beats being able to physically hold a book.

Favorite place off campus: Huntington as a city has been fascinating to explore. My favorite place is Heritage Farm Museum where I interned and then got hired.