



My summer internship experience was one of the best summers of my life. I loved this experience because during my experience at JEA, I didn't only focus on biology but I also received information specific to other fields such as metals, sampling, waste transformation, and more. I was also able to take a lab tour and I saw all the steps of turning waste in to reuse water (water that goes into some yards and into the river) and actual drinking water. I learned the difference between influent (waste that has not been treated) and effluent (waste that is almost done with the process.). I also loved this experience because I made valuable connections with my mentors at JEA; they were kind and understanding, and they were honestly the best part of the experience. It also is great to know that they want me back next year. To end my statement, I am so grateful to the AnnieRuth Foundation for this unforgettable experience.

Paul Webber, Manager of the Biology department was one of Lauren's mentors. When to describe what Lauren was exposed to during her internship experience, he responded, "We exposed Lauren to several area of Lab life during her all too brief stay with us. She was of most help to our Support area where our samples are received into the lab. We gave her some hands on (pH, Settleable solids) in our Analytical area where some of our daily analytical work occurs and where samples are aliquoted out for other analyses. She shadowed in Metals and Nutrients. I demonstrated a photo spectrometer method for performing Orthophosphate analysis. On July 9, I took Lauren on a field trip to our Arlington East wastewater facility for an in-depth tour of how the wastewater process works (and also see where some of our samples actually come from). On July 16, Lauren accompanied one of our Lab Technicians into the field to do some drinking water sampling. Lauren consistently demonstrated an eagerness to learn. Bringing us doughnuts on her last day was very thoughtful and most appreciated."