

# Vancouver Olympics Proposal

February 12 - 28, 2010 HaroldABurton@gmail.com 541.521.9531

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Before taking up photography, I always struggled with the question, "What do you want to be when you grow up?"

A politician, an athlete, a doctor, a businessman, a social worker—all these professions sounded appealing. When I discovered photography, I realized I could explore all of them through my camera lens. It didn't take long for me to decide: I wanted to be a photojournalist.

Since then, photojournalism has become my passion. It allows me to explore the environments that surround me and teaches me about different cultures and lifestyles. Through my lens, I have access to historical movements, people's most intimate moments and the human condition. My goal is to use the frame to convey the emotions and struggles I see in people's private lives and the societies they inhabit.

In August 2008, I had one of the greatest experiences of my life when I worked as an assistant to the *Newsweek* photographers during the Beijing Olympics. That experience honed my skills and helped define my goals. What's more, the work I produced was honored with *College Photographer of the Year's Sports Image of the Year* and *Sports Portfolio of the Year*.

In February, I have the chance to continue my dream: I've been granted credentials for the 2010 Vancouver Olympics. *The Oregonian* has agreed to send me as a freelance photographer, though their freelance rates will not be able to cover all my costs. I will be the only photographer representing *The Oregonian*, considered by many to be one of the best large metropolitan dailies in the nation. Specifically, I hope to focus on the heightened emotions and concentration Olympic athletes must adopt during competition.

To make this dream a reality, I am seeking funding. I am approaching this through numerous angles, including pitching freelance assignments for other publications and petitioning for grants, scholarships and donations. Current budget estimates suggest it will cost approximately \$5,500 for me to continue to pursue my dream.

- \$1200 • **Food**  
(\$50/day)
- \$2000 • **Hotels**  
(23 nights)
- \$1000 • **Transportation**  
(Flights, Taxi, SYR - VAC, Feb 7 - March 1)
- \$1300 • **Supplies**  
(hard drives, gloves, boots, weather-proofing camera cases, etc)

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**\$5500 • TOTAL**

Helping fund my expenses in Vancouver will not only help me accomplish my goals, it will also better the Syracuse University name. At the age of 23, I believe my time here has been well spent putting together an outstanding photojournalism background that has led to many amazing opportunities. I now hope to take advantage of this current opportunity to attend the Vancouver Olympics, and I would appreciate any support you may be able to provide.

Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to your response.

Andrew Burton  
Photographer, Journalist

