Dear Reference Writer:

Before you begin this form, we think it is important for you to know what type of students we are looking for in the Birmingham-Southern College Harrison Honors Program.

Ideal Harrison Scholars are not preoccupied with grades. They are eager to explore knowledge for knowledge’s sake, not knowledge in pursuit of an end goal. Thus, ideal Harrison Scholars may not be on the Honor roll every semester. They are interested in other disciplines and how they affect the goings on of their own fields. They embrace the liberal arts philosophy and seek out the thinkers in the community, eager to discuss new ideas and philosophies with their peers, both within and outside of their major fields of study. Ideal Harrison Scholars have a concept of the world as larger than the town they grew up in or the high school they will graduate from. Such students are global thinkers, concerned with the goings on of the world outside as well as active in the community in which they live. These are students who, if they can’t see the whole picture just yet, are continually eager to see more of it. Honors students are open to new ideas, aware of expanding horizons, and willing to change their own ideas to make room for the knowledge that they gain. They incorporate, embrace, and encourage differences. “Honors” is not synonymous with straight A’s and valedictorians. Ideal Harrison Scholars would participate in the program even if it did not appear on their transcripts.

Thus, your evaluation of this student is most important to our selection process and will become a permanent part of his/her application.

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<th>Excellent</th>
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<td>Displays intellectual curiosity</td>
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<td>Displays motivation or initiative</td>
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<td>Displays diligence or perseverance</td>
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<td>Possesses writing skills</td>
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<td>Fulfills assignments on time</td>
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<td>Presents ideas orally with confidence and clarity</td>
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<td>Displays evidence of scholarship</td>
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OVER >
How long and in what capacity have you known this student?
___________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Please tell us what you think is relevant or significant regarding this individual’s ability to:

1. Critically read and analyze detailed articles.
____________________________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________________________

2. Participate actively in the discussion of intellectual ideas.
____________________________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________________________

3. Pursue independent research.
____________________________________________________________________________________________________________
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Please include any additional comments that you believe would assist us in the evaluation of this candidate.
____________________________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Print Name ______________________________________ Date __________________________
Signature ______________________________________ Title/Position _______________________
Address ______________________________________ City/State/ZIP _______________________

The Harrison Honors Program Committee thanks you for your time and thoughtful consideration of this student's application to our program.

SUBMIT TO:
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