

Student Spotlight: Eric Miller



"Every child deserves a champion: an adult who will never give up on them, who understands the power of connection and insists they become the best they can possibly be." -Rita Pierson

Eric Russell Miller is an Early Childhood Special Education major. The Rochelle, GA native is scheduled to graduate in May 2017.

1. Why did you choose to attend MGA?

Middle Georgia was close to my hometown, so I decided to tour the campus. I fell in love with the atmosphere on the Cochran campus. I graduated from a small high school, and the size of Middle Georgia was not overwhelming to me.

2. Who is your favorite professor/staff member? Why?

My favorite professor is Dr. Rhonda Amerson. Dr. Amerson makes learning the content fun and exciting and is always willing to help. She has clear expectations, which reduces my stress level.

3. Tell us about your experience in an internship, research project and how has it impacted you.

During my time in the education program, I've had numerous experiences that help me in the classroom. One in particular is the Junior Knights Summer Camp, which was a great experience. Camp allowed me to practice all of the skills I have been taught in the program. This experience made it easier for me when I started my student teaching in August.

4. When you are not at the MGA, how do you like to spend your time?

I like spending time with my friends and family, eating sushi, and spending too much money shopping.

5. What's your plans after graduation?

I plan on starting my career as a special education teacher and furthering my education. My goal is to start working on my master's degree in special education after graduating from MGA. My career goal is to become a special education administrator.

6. Tell us something about yourself that otherwise we wouldn't know or guess.

I can play two musical instruments. I started taking piano lessons when I was in the third grade and still take lessons today. I play the piano and the organ, and I am the pianist for Kramer Baptist Church.

7. What inspires you?

The idea that my career will allow me to have an impact on a child inspires me. Students need someone to believe in them, and I want to be that person.

8. If you had to sit next to someone on a plane for the next 8 hours, who would it be and why?

I would like to sit with Melissa McCarthy. She is a great actress, and I am positive that she would keep me laughing the entire flight.

9. Give one experience that changed your life forever?

When I was in elementary school, I struggled with reading. During reading instruction, I was sent to an interventionist. Mrs. Holloway helped me become a better reader. By the end of the year, I had made tremendous progress, but I still struggled with reading. My parents decided to have me repeat second grade, and I went from a struggling student to an honor roll student. I would not be in my senior year of college without the help of Mrs. Holloway and my parents. As an educator, I hope that I can make a difference in the life of a child like Mrs. Holloway made in mine. My struggles as a student make me want to be the best teacher possible!

10. Finish this sentence: Greatness means (to you)changing the world one student at a time!

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