Hy Truong

**SAN DIEGO CONTINUING EDUCATION 2015 Scholarship**

To Live Is to Fight for Life

Life in a new country is challenging. After finishing high school in Vietnam, I came to the U.S over a year ago. My parents moved to the U.S because they believed it would give me a better life in the future. Everyone in Vietnam believes that America is the best country in the world and wants to come to the U.S. So did my family. We soon realized, however, that the reality is more complex. Before coming to the U.S, my parents closed their business and sold all their possessions. It took a lot of money and effort to start a new life in this country without credit and experience. My parents know little English so they couldn’t find a job and most daily things turned out to be difficult. There were lots of things I had never done before and now I had to learn to do them. My father had a driver license in Vietnam but couldn’t learn to drive well here, so I became the only driver in my family. All of this put a lot of weight on me, and quickly turned me from the last-born child who never minded what happened around him to a young man who had to handle all the responsibilities for the family. But since there was no way back, we tried hard to survive. In order to continue my education, I enrolled in San Diego Continuing Education. I have been an ESL student for more than one year trying to get ready for college. My plan is go to Mesa College in Fall 2015. I have already applied, taken the online orientation, and talked to the counselor about my plan to transfer to SDSU to get a bachelor’s degree in Information Systems, and eventually become an IT professional officer.