

The College at Brockport: State University of New York
Digital Commons @Brockport

Interviews With Students Past & Present

Brockport Oral History Project

Spring 4-28-2021

Grace Pulcini, interviewed by Sara Cocca

Jacob Tynan
jtyna1@brockport.edu

Betul Duru
SUNY Brockport, bduru1@brockport.edu

Sara Cocca
SUNY Brockport, scocc3@brockport.edu

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.brockport.edu/student>



Part of the [Oral History Commons](#)

Repository Citation

Tynan, Jacob; Duru, Betul; and Cocca, Sara, "Grace Pulcini, interviewed by Sara Cocca" (2021). *Interviews With Students Past & Present*. 20.

<https://digitalcommons.brockport.edu/student/20>

This Interview is brought to you for free and open access by the Brockport Oral History Project at Digital Commons @Brockport. It has been accepted for inclusion in Interviews With Students Past & Present by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @Brockport. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@brockport.edu.

Sara C. interview of.wav

Sun, 9/29 8:30AM 46:15

SUMMARY KEYWORDS

brockport, college, people, laughter, high school, friends, classes, thinking, history, geneseo, masters, school, party, year, semester, speech pathology, dorm, good, feel, boyfriend

SPEAKERS

Cocca, Sara C (scocc3), Pulcini, Grace C (gpulc1), grace

-
- P** Pulcini, Grace C (gpulc1) 00:00
Can you hold it down?
- C** Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 00:01
Ok
- P** Pulcini, Grace C (gpulc1) 00:01
Now it's recording, now just make sure you put it... (muphled)
- C** Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 00:06
Is it supposed to mute me or not?
- P** Pulcini, Grace C (gpulc1) 00:10
No, that'd be a fun you're doing the transcript. I can use headphones I guess (laughter).
- C** Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 00:29
See like this actually want to do until next week, I realize I'm doing it really for no reason.

So. Okay, so the first question is, can you tell me about your family background regarding education? And then your follow up question will be after. Okay.

G grace 00:49
So my family background. Do you want me to start with my parents?

C Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 00:55
Yeah, just like other.

G grace 00:56
Okay,

C Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 00:57
There educational.

G grace 00:58
So my mom. She has a bachelor's degree from Oswego in elementary education. And she was going to go on to her masters. She was preschool teacher. But my parents ended up moving for my dad's job so much she was accepted to Geneseo for her masters, and she ended up not getting it. And then she lives in other states, where she didn't need it. So she taught without it for years. And then they moved back here, and she had me and so she stayed home when I was growing up. And my dad, he got his associates to MCC in criminal justice. And then he had, like a time where he really didn't know what he wanted to do. So he didn't go to school for a few years. And he realized like, he was going to have any type of valuable career that he needed to finish his bachelor's, which was like something that he instilled in me for a young age is like, don't make the mistakes I did don't like, because he just worked crappy, like part time jobs and had to basically learn the hard way because he didn't really have like a father figure at that point to show him what to do. And his mom, like, didn't go to school didn't go to college. I mean, so she wasn't like, encouraging it really. So then he ended up going to RIT to get his bachelor's in criminal justice. And then for two years, he was under employed, he was looking for a full time job in that field. He couldn't find anything because before that he had been with Rochester police department. But their vision requirements were different. So he couldn't work there full time. Eventually, he got into Homeland Security. So my parents moved to Texas from Chicago bunch of places and later on when I was little he got his master's in criminal

justice it keep going. Any taught some college classes. So for me, it was always going up here, go, you're going to go to college. There was never like, any question about it. And I was always a good student. And I never thought like, a different like a trad or cosmetology or anything like that. Some other people around me were thinking of. I went to a very small, rural High School. And they did college was encouraged. But there was also a lot of like, alternative options. They had BOCES, which is like kids can go they're part of the day and they can do trades. They can do cosmetology, they can do like, environmental science stuff, because we've got a lot of agriculture where I live, so there was always like that route, but it was always for me, just you're going to get your high school, then you're going to go to college, and then even now, yeah, I'm gonna get my master's degree. And that's always like, one of the things my mom says, I always my one regret was not getting my masters. So that's always the one thing that I think I want to do. I don't know if that answers your question.



Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 04:13

Yeah. yeah, basically, you answered the other one too. So I agree.



04:21

So kind of expanding on that, did, can you tell me about your high school experience?



grace 04:27

Okay. So I went to Byron virgin High School. It's about (pause) 15 ish minutes south of here in Genesee County. I had about 80 kids in my class, very small. Farming community. (Pause) Small town feel everyone knew everyone.



04:55

A lot of teachers were good. A lot of teachers sucked. (Laughter) You know, like, it was seem seem mostly for some reason. All the math and science teachers weren't that great. I was a really good student. I always tried my best. I wasn't as good at like math, but otherwise I did great. So academically, I was fine. Other parts I did, I just did not like because everyone was like, stuck up and a jerk. Basically. (Laughter). It was like, the sport was soccer. And all the girls and guys in the soccer team were the worst people people ever, I never understood, like, why was it the kids who are popular were also the ones that were really mean, and that no one liked. That never made sense to me. So I wasn't I wasn't into that crowd. I was a nerd. I was in band, which I loved. My band teacher, I love

him, I still visit him sometimes. And we did marching band is always fun. I was in the musicals, even though I'm not. I'm not a singer. But I did dance for like 10 years when I was little. So I was good at that part. And it's just like the nice group of kids that did those. I took a cop we didn't have a lot of options, like for AP or college credits. So I took like, I took two AP classes, it was AP literature and US history. And then there was like, took one community college class that was Spanish that could take at the High School. And they really didn't have a lot of opportunities. Like I think if I went to a bigger school or just somewhere maybe in Monroe County, I always hear people had like, took like five AP classes and had all these opportunities. And like we didn't really have that we just had like cows and a swamp next door. (Laughter). From we have like, we're surrounded by fields and then we have a swamp, which is like famous for snakes and like poisonous snakes can flowers that are only there are only there and like the entire world is kind of weird. And then like we have a canning factory. So like most people are like farmers work in a factory or drive into the city, but it's mostly like, a lot of like blue collar people around. So I mean, I grew up around that but I'm done. My family wasn't like that. So you have like both people that are you know, more like white collar education oriented when you have a lot of people that are like, farmers factory like you know, just that kind of working class feel. So that was just different and I guess compared to a lot of people I me at Brockport.

 Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 07:45
Okay. Yeah, that's good.

 grace 07:50
Ok, and expanding on that one, did you have any friend group there? Like the nerd friend group, or?

 07:56
So when I started out high school, my friend moved after eighth grade. So I like a friend group that was her, and then two other girls and one guy. And when she moved, we were still in that front group for like, probably like freshman year in the beginning of sophomore year, and then it kind of started to fizzle out. Because one of the girls was just wasn't a very nice person. And she was just like, say stuff about other people to each other. And then we'd like think the other person was it was just like stupid high school drama thinking other person said this or said something they really didn't. So I'm like, to this day, I feel bad for like, one friend that I didn't like, wasn't as close to because I believed this girl said about her. I was like, why didn't I believe that? Looking back, but you know, I was 14.

(Laughter) So. So yeah, they were more like nerdy or we were all like really smart, like really competitive, like with our grades that are more so than me because I try to stay out of it because they are even more competitive than me.

G

grace 09:01

So we're all like the top of the class, you know, getting picked for like all the honor societies and recognitions and awards and all those kind of things. And then they are also the one of them was in musicals with me. They were in band though. And then by like, sophomore, junior year, my friend group kind of change and it was more like people who were in band, and they were as like, academically competitive, but they were still like the band geeks, which I was fine with. Because those are the nice people on my High School. (Laughter). And we were just like, really goofy and weird. That's how I don't know how to describe it. I just joke around and like, get bored and study hall and walk around the hallway for like out for like the whole time just walk around and just like dance in the hallway and be stupid. I don't know why. (Laughter). I was just bored. High School was so boring. It wasn't challenging. I just did the work and then was just bored all day. So yeah, then I had that friend group for the last couple years and I'm still best friends with one of them now so.

C

Cocca, Sara C (socc3) 10:19

Okay, okay, that sounds good expanding on things.

o

10:24

Then kind of like branching off that can you tell me about your attitude was like before coming to college? Would you already have but did you feel like you were prepared? When you went to SUNY Geneseo. You said you want to first right?

G

grace 10:35

Right. So my senior year of high school, I was like, I, I'm not gonna swear I was, you know, I was like, I f*cking hate High School. This is like, so stupid. I hated everybody in my grade. Because I was like, so sick of them. By that point, you know, senior year, I was like, Oh, I need to get out of here. But at the same time, like, at the end of the year, I was like, I'm also kind of afraid. And like me, but I just want to stay here. (Laughter). Because I'm afraid to like, see what's ahead. But I was just saying, I just think I get through this here, get to college, and everything will be so much better. College will be everything because now you like see in the movies and like people tell you, oh, it's the best four years of your life.

You get all this social this and that. And academics are so much better and challenging and interesting. You'll learn blah, blah, blah, you know, all this stuff. That's really not true. (Laughter)



11:32

It's just like drilled into your head in High School. Like we have people come back and visit for like, I don't remember what it was called. But like we'd have all these people who are college come back and like just be day for the seniors and they'd sit on the in the auditorium tell us like what college is like, and everything they said was basically like, BS in my one, my friend, Maggie, her and I are like, we would never go to that day. But if we did, we would go just to give people the real deal. And not like lie to people like we were lied to basically? I don't know if that makes sense. But um, yeah. So I was like, I just need to get your senior year will be fine. And then I decided to go to Geneseo. I applied to like five schools I got involved them. And like I applied to like some of the private ones around here. I didn't want to go that far away. But I thought that time that I wanted to live at school, and I think in the back of my head, I was like, You know what, I really don't want to live in a dorm. That's like a cinder block prison. But I everyone like my mom, even my family, like my friends are like, Oh, no, you need the college experience. You need to go away, blah, blah, blah. And then we get the financial aid packages from the private schools and it's literally ridiculous, like, I'm not going to put my parents through that or put myself through that, you know, four years down the road getting out of school and most likely not having a decent job, which no one does right away and having like 200 grand in student loans or something like no, that's that's not worth it. Like I'm not going to do that. So then I narrowed it down to the SUNY schools, which were Brockport Fredonia and Geneseo and then in my mind, Geneseo was the most like prestigious school or whatever. So I decided to go there and it's like, 45 minutes away. So I decided, you know, I should I should live there because in the winter, like the road to get there, I think it's 63 is terrible. So it's like, yeah, I couldn't do that in the winter. So I decided I was going to live there. Even though I think about it whole summer I would, like, get really anxious and be like, Oh, my God, I'm gonna win the college. I don't think I should do that. But then I'm like, No, you'll be fine. You'll be fine. So I just like, made it in my head. All you know, it'll be hard, but I'll get used to it and I'll like it. So then, I went up to Geneseo. That was August of 2017. It was the worst. (Laughter). Like, academically it wasn't good. I didn't have great professors. I had like one professor that was in history. And then my advisor history was like, honestly, the weirdest individual ever encountered. And I could just tell the department was not good. Like, like, nothing was that great. All my classes were like, 100 level like easy, like stupid. So it wasn't like, wow, such High School. And then my dorm was quiet like no one talked to each other, which I thought it'd be the opposite. And then I just was not ready to leave home. I miss my family. I missed, you know, not having this disgusting bathroom

that it was two showers and two toilets for 22 girls. And the person that cleaned it was this old guy. I don't even know what he did. Because he didn't clean it was disgusting. People. People are disgusting. And never Yeah, that was that was like I'm paying like 10 grand to spend it was. Yeah.

C Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 15:07
Did you have a food plan?

G grace 15:08
Yeah, I'm paying like five grand a year to live in this cinderblock prison where I have like 10, like 10 feet to myself and have to use this disgusting bathroom. And I literally hate living here. So I gave it like, I think I gave it two months. I was like, I'm going to give it two months. And then I'll decide because I like I can't judge it too quickly. So after two months, I was like, Okay, I don't know how I feel about this school for all but I know that I cannot live in a dorm setting. Which I don't know if that's like stuck up like I'm not a not a stuck up person. Like I'm not trying to be like, Oh, I'm too good for dorm just like me personally, it was like a crushing was like thought I was being crushed in this tiny little room of all these people who are not, they were very much into partying like frats and sororities, which I didn't think would be the case. But that's what it ended up being like there. And sounds like this is not for me. And at that point, I was like, I don't have the history departments good. I hate with being here. I have like such a bad feeling. Such a negative feeling that was like this is just not going to work out. So when I started thinking about transferring, it goes like at two months in. And I was like, you know, I'm just gonna live at home because I get the Excelsior scholarship. So I'm basically going here for just fees and books, which is an abosoutley nothing compared to other people. I'm honestly so like lucky in that sense. I don't even know how I managed that because everyone else I know is like taking out loans and all this crazy stuff. So I'm like, I'm just going to commute, because I live 15 minutes on the road. Rockport is a good school, you know, I looked in the history department, it looks like it was really good. They have the combined masters and I'm gonna have my masters in four and a half or five years, which is like, nothing I ever thought would happen. So I love that. And so then that January that following spring semester, I got into Brockport, I started going here, it was like night and day. I was like I can handle this. This is awesome. And all my history professors were great. All my classes were fine like so I like my history classes. Other ones I just take for like general credits are kind of annoying, because I don't really care about them. But I still trying to do my best, and whatever. I've worked really hard and great getting good grades and gotten into like honor societies and I've had like two different jobs here. And like none of this stuff would have worked out if I was at Geneseo. So Brockport has given me all of these opportunities. So I think in that sense to

me, in my head, I was kind of meant to be that I go to Geneseo, and have that bad experience. And then I think I was just meant to end up coming home and coming here.

C Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 17:56
Did it help you like put things in perspective?

G grace 17:57
Right.

C Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 17:58
Kind of like, oh, could be worse.

G grace 17:59
Yeah. Okay, could be much worse than that also, like, was more of a reality check. Like college is not what people say it's not what's in the movies. And like after that first semester, I learned to accept that and just be like, you know, this is what it is. And here, the main reason I'm here is to get a degree. So I'm going to do my best I'm going to get my time and money as well. I'm not paying that much. But you know, time and money is worth out of this. So I'm just going to do my best. Get the grades that I can I know I'm able to do if I work hard and just try to enjoy the few years before I have like real responsibility. And that just kind of in my head that makes more sense than what I was thinking like, graduating High School.

C Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 18:45
Did that help you like that experience help you put High School in perspective to like, oh, maybe it wasn't that bad?

G grace 18:50
Yeah, definitely. Because I was thinking (pause)

C Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 18:54
It was the worst.

G

grace 18:55

You know, it got worse than high school. I was like, oh, it'll be so much better. And then it got worse, which was like, very hard. But then once I got to Brockport was like, yeah, this is much better than High School, because I have so much more free time and I do what I want. I can make my own decisions to a certain extent, and more, just more time and freedom. But I mean, so the amount of homework is a lot. And since I put it put a lot of pressure myself to do well. So that can be very stressful sometimes, but and other times and like, you know what schools know everything I need to value other things in my life. (Laughter).

C

Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 19:33

Yeah, what do you like? Just a question I'm making up now like, I feel like some people act kind of like fake in college, because they want to seem like they have it all together. And they really don't.

G

grace 19:42

Yeah my friend. just transferred schools. And she kind of been through a similar thing to what I went through. And I always say to her, as you look around me, you see these people like laughing that group of friends, or just be like, Oh, I got an A and all this and blah, blah, blah, I'm like, they might act like they have it all together. But they really don't. And most people don't, especially on their own. You're like 19-20 years old, they have no idea what they're doing. They're just they're feel just as insecure as you do. And they're just trying to get through the day. So like, I always just say, like, just take it one day at a time.

C

Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 20:16

Don't go, try not to compare yourself even though it's hard.

G

grace 20:18

right? Try not to compare yourself to others, because everyone's at a different place in their life. And that same person that you're looking at thinking all they got it all together, they're probably looking at you and thinking the same thing.

C

Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 20:29

So or they may not have it all together in the future.

G grace 20:31
Right.

C Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 20:32
Yeah. Okay, kind of went over this. So you don't have answer if you don't want but what were your biggest differences you felt from your first semester between High School and college? Do you feel like we went over that enough, or?

G grace 20:46
Yeah probably.

C Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 20:47
Okay. And what did you think you wanted to do? Like maybe even in High School, unless you just figured it out in college? And then why did you end up choosing? And then what are you going to choose me after that?

G grace 20:59
So I said, Before High School at eighth grade, I was like, I'm going to be an author. Because I was reading like Harry Potter, and I was just would read a million books. And I was always like, you know, I like to write poems, and I like to write stories. And I was, I was okay at it for that age. And I was like, Oh, it's when you do not say got to High School. And I started doing like, you know, like, sophomore, junior looking into schools, I started thinking like, what am I going to major? And I kind of went down like the speech pathology, occupational therapy route, because for a time I was like, really thinking I want to, I still think this I was like, I want a career that helps people in a very, like direct route. Like I made her very direct path to a career that can help people. Because I was very involved in like going on service trips, like I worked in homeless shelters and crisis pregnancy centers, like just we just like painted and built things. And I worked with people in that sense. I was like, I want to do something, or help people. And so I ended, I don't know why I got to that point, because I'm thinking that like, I would never want to do anything sciencey. But at that point, I was like, Oh, yeah, my like my Aunt went to school for speech pathology. (Laughter). And this is kind of me, but my parents were like, Oh, she can get through the program so can you. Not that she's not smart, but she wasn't the best student So I used to think that and then eventually, I was like, you know, that's not really what I want to do. And I always had in the back of my head, the only thing I like in school

is always been history. So it's always in the back of my head. But then always, like in the front of my mind, and from hearing from like other people was, oh, you can't major history. What the heck are you going to do with that? That's like a waste of time and money. That's like, majoring in going work at McDonald's or whatever. So I was like, thought that way. And then I was like, You know what, it's like, my senior year I was applying to colleges, I need to pick something I was like. But in the end, I don't want to do something in the miserable at. Because that's just going to, I'm not going to Well, I need to do what I'm good at. And when I'm what I enjoy. And then if you're good at what you do, you can make it work. So I say I'm just going to major in history, I'm still thinking could go on the law school could go I'm not getting my masters. So I could go on for masters even to like a PhD. I don't know that. I want to do that as of now. Because if I think about that many years of school, I'm like, no. (Laughter). So definitely going to get the Masters though. And then maybe after that, just see what I can do working and then later on, see if I want to go on. But once I decided, I want to do history, it was like, I was like, just calm down was like now I know it like everyone else was like freaking out what am I going to major in like going to undeclared? And like, No, I don't I was going to do that. So I don't need to do that. Because it's always been history. And I always knew that I just didn't want to accept it. Because it seems like it's easier to pick something like business or nursing, or, like speech pathology that has a career like a more of a trek career path of history, you really don't know what you're going to end up doing, necessarily. So I just accepted that. And then I got into that here. And it's been great.

C Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 24:24

That's good. Okay, (pause), how did your time management change from high school to Brockport, you briefly went over that? But like, was it harder to do more homework at Brockport?

G grace 24:35

Yeah, so in high school, I really didn't have a lot of homework. And the homework I had was not challenging. So I would just like get home and do it and take me like an hour or less and then just do this, like watch TV. (Laughter). I don't know, do a little bit on the weekends. And like my senior year one, senioritis is I would just do it like in senior launch the period beforehand, with everyone else who would just all sit there and like copy off each other, I probably shouldn't say that. But I wouldn't do that now. That was Senior High School, which I feel like everyone's just given up by then. So then once I got to college, yeah, I'm always I've always been extremely like organized like, very on top of things. So I just had to adjust it to the level that it needed to be which I do go overboard, sometimes, you know, I get very sometimes I get really ahead in my classes, I have an agenda, and I

keep everything really set out. And then also like my brain is very focused, I know in my head what I need to do each day. And I get that done. And I know I need like to check off in my brain to to like finish certain assignments, and then I'll allow myself to like, take a break and do what I want for the rest of the day. So I just had to like up my organization. So I think it was a little bit hard at first, but at this point, I'm very used to it. It's still can be like stressful and feel like oh my god, I have so much to do. But then I just sit down and get through it. And like, you know, that wasn't that bad. And I always thought I always thought upper level classes would be so much harder than lower level. But in reality, I've had upper level classes that are easier and have less work. And it's really not that big of a difference, I think. So. It's been fine.

 Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 26:33
So what do you say that college is more stressful than High School?

 26:36
Oh, definitely. (Laughter). Definitely more stressful. Like history majors, you don't have a lot of exams. So high school is more worrying about like my math and science test because I wasn't good at as good at math and science. My college is just more worried about having time to finish everything. And then still be able to go to work.

 Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 26:56
Social life, whatever

 grace 26:57
Right and still try to have somewhat of a social life. So it was...

 Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 27:02
So stressful like managing school and work?

 grace 27:04
Yeah

C Cocca, Sara C (scooc3) 27:04
That would be the two big ones.

G grace 27:06
Yeah, school and work and then just because like I get to a certain point where my brains just done I can't do any more homework.

C Cocca, Sara C (scooc3) 27:14
Like it's time for myself. (Muphled)

G grace 27:17
Have some time to myself. So trying to fit those things and can be difficult. But the semesters always go by really quick after like week five, and then I'm good. Usually, like the first five weeks are slow. And I'm like week five to week 10 or 12 goes by like the last few weeks. I'm just like, so done, I just want to get through it and you know, just go by really quickly for me. For sure, I'm not complaining.

C Cocca, Sara C (scooc3) 27:45
Yeah, yeah. Okay.

G grace 27:49
Then what was your financial situation like going into college? Um, so my, my dad, my mom stayed home when I was little. So we were one income family, but my dad worked for the government. He had a really, he had a good job. So he's able to support us pretty well. And my mom started working at a preschool when I was like, 15 My brother is probably he's eight years younger than me. So once he got into school, she started working at preschool so she I mean, she didn't make hardly any money but she loves what she does. And we didn't like need the second income. So when I was graduating, it was like my dad was going to retire the following year. So we apply for financial aid and everything and basically got none but we're we're like that awkward middle class family where you can't afford the sticker price. But you're givin no aid. So you're kind of stuck like the poor families get more financial aid and then like the rich people can afford it and where's the middle so that's more of why had to choose us SUNY school. I mean, my we could have done the loans, my parents could have scraped together, but I did not want to

put them through that. I was like, you know, I'm not I'm not gonna do that. It's not worth it. So yeah, we were good. My dad retired. Later, he has a pension and he saved a lot for retirement. So he's, he's fine. And he got a part time job and my mom works. The preschool. Yeah, we're totally fine financially. And now I have my own job. So it's all good.

 Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 29:28

That's good. So do you like pay for your books and stuff then?

 grace 29:31

I pay for books. My parents pay like this fees each semester, I think ends up being like two grand a year but they but they saved money for my college that we actually like aren't using now ironically. So they just use that money and then I'm going to have some of that go to my masters and then my give some of it to my brother if he ends up needing it. I I feel like this Excelsior scholarships, probably not going to last toward to when he gets to college. He'll need it.

 30:02

Yeah, you never know right. Things are always changing. So what do you do for fun outside of College, and I put napping also counts. So you if you nap, that counts.

 grace 30:14

Well, I'm still a nerd so I like to read. I like history movies. (Laughter). Um, I spend a lot of time with family. Like, yeah, I'm a very family oriented person. I see my cousins all the time, their all like my best friends. See my grandparents a lot. I'm always grew up around them. Hang out with my friends. We just, you know, like, go shopping go out to eat, go to the movies. I'm not into partying or anything. I hang out with my boyfriend. Yeah, we just like to go to parks walk around.

 Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 30:58

Oh, with your boyfriend?

 grace 31:00

He has a he's a 68 Firebird. So he likes to go for drives and stuff. Nothing got exciting. Just

average, I guess.

 Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 31:13
Sounds good. Yeah, I mean, average but. Still nice.

 grace 31:19
Yeah.

 Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 31:20
So then what was it easier for you to make friends in high school or college or the already answered that right? Right. And then how are your friendships at Brockport different than the ones you had it Geneseo than High School.

 grace 31:30
Yeah, that's a good question. So I think my friendships in High School were a little more shallow because it was just at the end of it was more like survival friends, like I see these people every day. We don't hang out outside of school as much except for one of them. And I'm still friends with now. It was just like to get through the end of High School and you hate everyone. You just get that survival group. You just stick together at school and you're like, waiting to graduation and you're like by see you never.

 32:02
Yeah, and then at Geneseo. I made friends in my classes, but I didn't see them outside of class, I'd say it's actually a similar concept. Because once I got through it, it was also like, I'm transferring that coming back. So I didn't really care to try to form deeper friendships. It was just friends, acquaintances and classes and we eat together, do our assignments together. And then I just go back to my dorm and watch movies. My roommate was a good friend though. She was very nice. And then here, I have a couple friends on campus. But then I'd say my best my my two best friends are from High School and I still see them frequently. And I know some people I want to get away from people from High School but I don't see anything wrong with that, because they've been my best friends for like six years, and they know me really well. And they're there for me, and I'm there for them. And then totally. They're still my life.

C Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 33:02
That's good.

G grace 33:03
Yeah, I don't see anything wrong with it. Even though I'm not supposed to tell you what I think okay. Now, this is a spicy question that I asked in class. So how does it make you feel knowing that Brockport College is the area with the highest amount of STD's? Like the highest college?

C Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 33:25
Yeah, it's like the area in general, the highest area with the highest STD rates.

G grace 33:29
I'm not surprised, honestly. There's certainly people that go here that are more into the party lifestyle, or I can see that sort of thing. More likely to happen to them.

C Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 33:50
For the next follow up. Do you think a lot of people just come here for beers and fooling around?

G grace 33:56
Brockport is known to be a party school, like even my one one of my cousins. It's like a cousin through marriage I don't really know them. But my aunt was like, Oh, yeah, she's gotta go to Brockport because it's the party school. And I'm just like, Oh, my goodness. Whoa. Sorry. I know there's a lot that Brock was a big party school do I participate in it? Personally no, because I don't want to. I just not into that. So no, not that it's the highest STD rates. So not surprising. To party?

C Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 34:14
So you think that partying is mainly just for hook ups?

G grace 34:32

Probably

 Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 34:33
Okay. So that's why I wrote here, get laid.

 34:35
Yeah, and they just want to go out and get drunk and ? and bars, aren't as academically motivated as people that all their colleges might be. But I mean, even at Geneseo, Geneseo is supposed to be a better school, but I think Geneseo was just as much of a party school as Brockport except they had like a million more fraternities and sororities like, almost everyone there was in Greek life was is that I mean, different kind of thing, but still a lot of partying.

 35:06
Yeah definatley. And then Have you got a boyfriend or crush your Brockport College?

 grace 35:14
My current boyfriend does not go here. He went to GCC music photographer. I did not have a boyfriend from here. Did I have a crush here?

 Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 35:28
Never dated at Brockport.

 35:29
No, I'm sure you had a crush before. Oh, yeah, I had a crush in like my first second semester. It was a history major, and then looking back on it and like, why he was not attractive. (Laughter).

 grace 35:45
Did he have a good personality? Yeah, he had a good personality. And I think I like texted him, like trying to like ask him out without asking him out. And then he totally ignored me.

Well, so I just and then I was like, you know, he's not... not cute so it's okay. I don't mean to be mean. But you know? You know?

C Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 36:06
And then also, um, where did you like meet your boyfriend then, before college?

G grace 36:12
I actually met him over the summer.

C Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 36:14
The summer, huh?

G grace 36:16
That's new. Oh, when you're doing that Dr Martin thing? No, I'm I just met him through family friends. My mom's best friend got remarried.

C Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 36:26
And summer of junior year?

G grace 36:29
Yes. Summer after sophomore year.

C Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 36:30
Oh, yeah. Your a senior now junior?

G grace 36:32
No, I'm a junior.

C Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 36:33
Oh, sorry. Boyfriend over summer of Sophomore year. Sophomore year.

G grace 36:39
After Sophomore year. Yep. Summer of 2019. Right. That's what year it is. (Laughter).

C Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 36:44
Yeah.

G grace 36:45
Yeah. So it's my family friend of my mom's friends. new husband. That's good. He lives like 15 minutes away, but

C Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 36:55
So do you see him as like a potential husband or you don't know?

G grace 37:00
You're already engaged? Going out for like, a few months? A couple of months. Um, I don't know.

C Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 37:10
Don't know about future question about the future?

G grace 37:12
I mean, I it's good. He's definitely the best guy they ever new.

C Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 37:20
Wow. Best guy. I'm going to draw an emoji with heart eyes, drooling. It looks weird but it's ok.

G grace 37:30
I like that.



Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 37:31

Thanks. Okay. So yeah, that's good. That's all I had about that one cuz they had another question instead is like dating life. Change it. So which college had harder work? Geneseo or Brockport? We already went through that though, right or no?



grace 37:45

Yeah, I'd say. I think Geneseo had more like an academically active some more academically motivated students than I see at Brockport. Yeah, but I don't think I was there long enough to like know what classes just taking like freshmen, gen-eds at that point.



Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 38:04

Well, here, I'll change the question. My question now is, do you feel like Brockport is an easier college than most others? Because there's rumor about that at Brockport.



grace 38:17

Yeah, sometimes I think that's, that could be the case. But I also think it depends on your major. I must say, college is easier for me than I thought it would be. Sometimes some classes are so so like, not just, I feel like I'm in kindergarten, some of the assignments I have to do. I'm like, I'm not going to complain about it. Because Hey, if this is going to be easy, I'll do it. But I'm like, am I a 20 year old junior in college or my back in Ninth grade?



Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 38:53

Are you not learning like that much? Like you have you already know?



grace 38:57

Yeah, either that or it's just so like, mindless easy, like, BS type stuff. Not as much in the history department. That's more like other classes.



Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 39:09

Oh, okay. But then at this point, which you probably don't know, what are you planning to do with your degree?

G

grace 39:16

So my master's track that I'm planning to do is the public history museum studies. So that would be more like an archives or in museums. Um, I'm not sure if that's the one I'm going to do for sure. But I'm thinking that and then just seeing what that's all about. And if I like that sort of thing, which I'm think I will because I like love looking at old artifacts. I love going to the art gallery and just looking at all the stuff that happened upstairs in Rochester. And I've just always I I think I would enjoy that. So I do hope that works out.

C

Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 39:55

How about the Genesee Country Muesam, ever thought about that?

G

grace 39:58

Yeah, actually, that's like one of my favorite places as I when I was little I was like obsessed with that I was obsessed with Laura ankles. I watched Little House on the Prairie and read a little Halston period, like every day, I was I loved going I still love going there. So I mean, yeah, working there. And like, like, one of the real I don't, they don't have a lot of like, full time jobs there. But like, if I did get one that would be amazing. Or somewhere like that, you know? They're like, Gettysburg. My grandpa is a history buff. He knows everything about Gettysburg, like, no offense to history professors that might listen to this. But he knows more American history than anyone I've ever known. It's insane walkie he, he just, he just reads, reads, reads. He was, he edidn't go to college. He was a welder. But he just reads and reads and writes and he just know so much. He goes up to Gettysburg. He doesn't know that he's older, but he like goes out and walks it. And just, he was a Civil War reinactor and after he got me into history, because he would always tell me stories when I was little like, in like about it, like historical events when you make it like a story, which I always love stories. That got me into history. And he just, yeah, he knows so much. Cool. Yeah.

C

Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 41:19

Yeah. And these two questions I do not make, just asking you them. Who has had the biggest influence on you in your college experience? And who you think will impact you in the future?

G

grace 41:36

So who has had the greatest influence on me? Definitely my parents, because they've

always encouraged me despite, when I had the hard time at Geneseo that you know, college is the right thing. I never thought about not going but it was like, you can do it, you can get through it. And then when I got here, I worked really hard. And I got all A's and I felt like nobody, like it didn't really matter. And then Dr. Actually, Dr. Martin like asked me to do a research thing. And I was like, hey, a professor finally noticed that I try hard. So I know she might listen to this. So thank you. Because that was semester I was actually like, considering not trying so hard and be like, oh, maybe I'll get a B, which in reality, I'm sure I would wouldn't be able to stand that I probably would have got the A's anyway, but that was the semester I was like, then maybe I won't try so hard. And then Dr. Mortin asked me to do a research thing. So I was like, Okay, I guess I'll keep doing my best.

C Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 42:42
That's awesome.

G grace 42:43
So yeah, it's definitely her my parents and I think that's a I can think of.

C Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 42:49
So would you say your hard work is going to pay off? Do you see yourself getting scholarships and like a full rie?

G grace 42:56
I hope that pays off inside of me for I don't know if they would give me scholarships for my master's. But I hope it pays off. It's paid off. And I've gotten into a few honor society as I've had the research thing of Dr. Martin and I got she nominated me to go on a trip to New York City. So it's paid off in that sense. And then I know I'll have a good transcript to show future employers and then even without all that I'm a person that want needs to get the good grades, I just have like that. Restless energy to be like, I want to get an A. So I would have done it anyway. But getting the things that I've seen come out of it and really nice.

C Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 43:11
And that's good. So like, do things like the C's get degrees, like a good moto or not?



grace 43:57

I mean, it's not wrong. I mean, like certain types of jobs, I'm sure I'm sure the employers look at the actual grades more than others. I don't think it works in all cases. But for some people, if you if you were fine with doing that, then I guess



Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 44:15

It depends on your situation



grace 44:16

Depends on your situation. I have friends at texts me and they're like, Oh, I'm so stressed out about this test in this class. And I'm like, you know, in the end, all you have to do is pass just pass the class. Like if you if it's that difficult for years and that much stress, just worry about passing. I don't know, I haven't taken classes that I've been in that situation, fortunately. Which I know like, you know, if I was trying to take like some anatomy or like, calculus class, I'm sure I would just be trying to pass because I suck at that. So I haven't been in that situation.



Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 44:51

Well that's good you haven't. Anything that you would do differently? There's anything you would want to tell your younger self at the begining of college?



grace 45:01

You know, I used to say, I wish the number one for Geneseo. But I think if I didn't, I would be thinking in the back of my head that I'm missing out on the college experience.



Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 45:10

Where you might not appreciate Brockport.



45:12

right, but now I know that I'm not missing out anything. It's just not for me. So I'm able to accept that. And then I would I might be thinking of that Brockport it's not the best choice for me but now I know it is. Despite Geneseo seeming better when I was graduating High School. And I probably would also tell my younger self High School is not that bad. Enjoy

it. It's not that bad. You don't have to do a crap ton of homework every night. Yeah, and...

 Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 45:42
Not as much stress.

 grace 45:43
You don't have as much responsibility or stress. You don't have to work like just enjoy that. I would I wouldn't say that to my younger self. But looking back, I really I wouldn't change anything that I did.

 Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 45:57
So you feel like it's like kind of like a learning lesson.

 45:59
Yeah. a learning experience, I guess.

 Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 46:08
Okay, that was last one.

 grace 46:09
Okay. Awesome.

 Cocca, Sara C (scocc3) 46:11
Thanks for answering those questions.

 grace 46:12
You're welcome.