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Donor # 4645 Interview Notes

It is easy to talk to Donor 4645. He has a nice, deep voice, a welcoming, easy smile and dimples. He came to his appointment in a dark blue button up and a black hoodie, a neat mop of curly hair and his laptop, ready to give whatever information was needed. Our conversation was fun and interesting. Donor 4645 strikes me as a confident, yet humble and kind young man.

Donor 4645 grew up with one younger sister and his mom and dad. His parents are still together and the whole family is very close. His younger sister is a college student and the Donor describes her as *very academic*. When she was in Ecuador for a year of study, he and his parents met her and traveled together as a family, replete with back packs, buses, local hotels and inns and local food. He said they had a great time. Donor 4645 loves to travel and looks forward to doing more of it throughout his life. In addition to South America recently, in high school he traveled to India and while there he heard the Dalai Lama speak and met the Karmapa. When I asked him why he liked traveling he said it is humbling - *I think I should try and see as much of the world I was born into as I can*. He said it is important for all of us to see how the majority of the world lives, that *it's eye opening and teaches you more about life than college*.

Donor 4645 was raised in private schools where among many things, he learned to knit and crochet. He lived without television his entire childhood and says that life without TV meant that all his play centered on his imagination. Because of it he says that he is better able to teach himself how to do things and that his critical thinking skills are honed and have been since a very young age. Although the majority of his father's family, cousins, uncles etc., are big into sports like playing football and volleyball, Donor 4645 has always chosen music and the arts over everything. Much like his mom, who is a puppeteer, he loves creating. In addition to drawing and painting, which he wants to do more of, the donor has spent time hand dying silks, making dolls and puppets wood working and felting and even knit a gnome and stuffed it with wool. He's pretty sure his mom still has it somewhere.

Currently Donor 4645 is student and a drummer in a progressive indie band. He co-writes all of the music and says that the style is all over the place. He loves playing all kinds of music, funk, jazz, hip hop rock and says that he has a good ear even though he is not formally trained. Donor 4645 comes across as a great guy. I enjoyed him, his stories and his demeanor. My favorite part was hearing about the gnome he knit and him telling me that his mom filled out the family health history for him.

Interviewer: J. Vest

Date: October 2011