



Newsletter 7 • invent your life

CAREER & LIFE COACHING PROGRAMS FOR STUDENTS & YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

A Mother and Daughter's Story

Featuring The Highlands Ability Battery



Sharon's Story

My daughter Beth took The Highlands Ability Battery, during her junior year of high school. She is very intelligent, but couldn't figure out what to do about college.

Beth and I learned some very useful information. What helped most was learning that Beth's natural time frame was very short. What I thought was stubbornness was her natural way of looking at the world. Later, I took the assessment myself and learned that my time frame was very long—no wonder we were always frustrated with each other! I realized that Beth would naturally focus on one semester at a time; this was her *natural way* and wasn't short-sidedness.

We learned that Beth was a "specialist/introvert." She liked working from a specialized perspective. This convinced us that a small school would be best.

Through her Highlands report we also learned that she had a strong artistic profile, yet, Beth hadn't thought about art. She worked on the school yearbook and took an art class her senior year and loved it. That experience and a class visit from an illustrator, helped Beth decide to look at an art career. We heard about Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD). Beth liked what she saw, applied and was accepted.

Beth is now a sophomore at SCAD where she enjoys the specialized, small classes and the personal attention of the professors. She has become interested in graphic design and is looking toward a career in that area. In addition, the school added an equestrian team, and she's able to keep up with her love of horses!



Beth's Story

I am the youngest of four siblings and my mom had us all take Highlands. The others seemed to know where they

were heading in life, but not me. I wasn't sure what I wanted to do or even how to think about it. All I knew was that I loved working with horses. Somehow, though, I felt I needed to get some sort of college degree, no matter what I did. I was planning to go to the University of South Carolina to study business, even though I thought I would probably hate it.

When I took Highlands, some of it was fun and some was frustrating. I'm a perfectionist and wanted to do well on everything. I had no idea what the assessment would tell me. The feedback consultant really opened my eyes. I thought, "How does she know me so well?" Her comments hit home and really opened my eyes. I realized things about myself that were true, but I had never been able to put into words.

I'm a specialist and need to find something unique to me. I scored high in areas relating to creativity. As a result, I started taking art classes and loved them. I am now attending Savannah College of Art and Design and love it. I'm majoring in graphic design and I hope to go into advertising or design. I still love horses and I'm on the equestrian team. My dream job would be to find a field that lets me combine what I love—perhaps advertising in the equestrian world.

Turn over for more ► ► ►

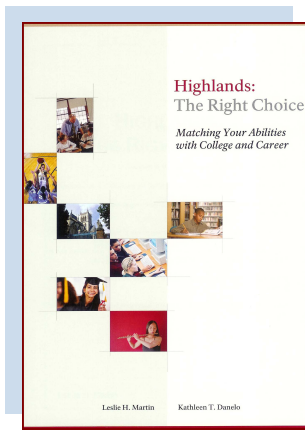
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With out the Highlands Ability Battery, I never would have supported Beth's decision to look at Savannah College of Art. We both agree that if she had gone to the University of South Carolina as a business major, she wouldn't have enjoyed her studies.

(Cont'd from the front)

Highlands gave me a strong sense of who I am and the field I would enjoy. Now I'm studying what I love with the encouragement of those who care about me. Highlands is a great way to figure out what you want to do and be happy with it. I can make future decisions based on real information about me.

A Book Written for Students



Highlands: The Right Choice has been written for students who want to discover or confirm a career direction that matches their innate abilities and interests with specific career areas. When students know their innate abilities, they have better direction in their studies, work habits, career choices, and selection of college and curriculum. This book offers practical advice and steps to direct students and parents on how to save money, time, and energy as students prepare for careers.

This book is also designed to further assist the student who has taken The Highlands Ability Battery and completed the feedback session. The battery is valuable for any high school or college student looking for instruction on how to make the most of their time and energy to prepare for college or the next stage of training.

What are natural abilities?

Natural abilities are the innate abilities you have when you are born. These abilities mature at, or close to, age fifteen. For many people talents lie dormant until discovered. They become most useful after they are developed through education and experience. Michael Jordan certainly was born with natural athletic abilities, but he did not reach his full potential as a competitor until he had matured physically and had enhanced his natural abilities through hours of practice on the basketball court. **Everyone has some natural ability for something.**

The trick is to discover your gifts and strengths. You are different from your siblings and your parents. You are uniquely designed with certain abilities and personality that make you – well, YOU. Just like the sprinter who outlasts a miler at the short distances, and the miler who outlasts the sprinter over the longer distances, you have natural abilities that make you different from everyone else in the world. Research by career development experts shows, and experience validates, that there is a foundational aspect to success on which everyone agrees: **People are happier and more fulfilled when they are using their natural abilities in their lives and work.**

Contact Cindy about purchasing this book, [Highlands: The Right Choice](#) by Leslie H. Martin and Kathleen T. Danelo.

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The Highlands Company Newsletter—Modified


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