

Nick Ciletti
Age: 18
Grade: 12
Parent: Donna Ciletti
Home Address: 10 Meadowcroft Lane Lincoln University, PA 19352-8936
Telephone: (610) 724-8354
Email: NC1610@comcast.net
Avon Grove High School
Mrs. Janet Worrell

Ben Franklin with a Modern Twist

In a world that is teeming with profound individuals who sacrifice themselves to make the lives of regular citizens better, none has as much gusto, strength, drive, or heart as Oprah Winfrey. With her courage and rare sense of selfless grace, Winfrey has forever changed the meaning of “giving back.” From her Angel Network Charity to the way she motivates others to make changes in their lives everyday, Winfrey is a true humanitarian, who like Benjamin Franklin, strives to make the world a better place.

Like Franklin, Winfrey has the interests of the rest of the world at heart. She selflessly gives a great deal of her time and money in order to move others forward. From financially supporting an all-girls school in South Africa to devoting shows to finding serial pedophiles, Winfrey desperately wants to see the world become a more vibrant, successful, and safe place for everyone.

A victim of abuse, poverty, and discrimination herself, Winfrey has an uncanny ability to relate to anyone she comes into contact with. She is all too familiar with hardship, and she therefore appreciates the struggles and sacrifices that people make everyday. Through her daily television program, she has helped thousands, perhaps even millions overcome adversity.

Benjamin Franklin's legacy is fresh in the minds of every American citizen --- three hundred years after his birth. Similar to Franklin, Oprah Winfrey's legacy will stand the test of time. Others will continue to look at Winfrey and Franklin as two prime sources of motivation to become better people and effect great change in the world. With open hearts and open minds, everyone is capable of being as miraculous and inspiring as Benjamin Franklin and Oprah Winfrey, at least that is what they instill and mold into all of us.