Mr. John R. Hopkins  
Director of Admissions Grinnell College  
Grinnell, IA 50112

Dear Mr. Hopkins,

My name is Shandi Hopkins, and I am very interested in attending Grinnell College in the fall of 1988. After receiving your literature, I became fascinated at the program you offer, and at the tight knit community Grinnell seems to have.

I myself have attended alternative schools almost all my life, and find enormous value in having personal relationships with my teachers, as well as close contact and intimate discussions about values and ideas with other students. Grinnell seems to strive for these goals as well.

I would like to receive an application for admission to Grinnell, as well as a course catalogue if possible, and would like to set up a time for an interview and a visit to your school if there are times available.

I think one thing that indicates to me that your school is one of my top choices is the fact that only with Grinnell did I feel the need and desire to write a personal letter, discussing what I liked about your school, instead of the normal "To Whom it May Concern, blah blah blah" request for an application. One last thing, I was wondering where your family comes from, since we in fact share the same last name. My family is almost exclusively from Maine, and it seems that the oldest descendant we can trace, Stephen Hopkins, (a horse thief that came over on the Mayflower to escape from the British Police!) is from England. I've actually found a couple other Hopkins' that are related to me, but I've never met one from the Midwest.

Thank you for your time, and I hope to hear from you soon. (I really think I'm falling in love with your school. My mom keeps asking me why I haven't opened the rest of my college mail, and I keep telling her it's because I've already decided where I would like to go.)

Sincerely,

Shandi Hopkins