Cassandra (Cassy) Hite never caught a case of “senior-itis”—or any kind of “itis”—during her high school career. Having maintained a 4.1 GPA throughout her time at Broomfield High School (BHS), achieving a 30 ACT score and staying active in student organizations, Hite was awarded a Susie Ross Berry Scholarship for first-year students enrolled in Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences.

“Berry Scholars” are selected by the dean on the basis of academic merit, academic interest in a liberal arts education and need for financial aid.

“I'm very excited and honored to have received the Susie Ross Berry Scholarship,” said Hite. “I'm glad that it can be a part of the way that I get to start the road to my dreams.”

The Broomfield, CO native had a simple criterion for potential colleges, which included size, location, and inclusivity.

“I had originally chosen to apply to DU because of the smaller size, proximity to home, and pre-med program,” Hite said. “But overall, I find that what ended up interesting me the most about the school was their focus on diversity in all aspects of life.”

Hite’s interest in diversity stems in part from the BHS student organization, The Alliance, which is aimed at teaching tolerance to students in her community that she has been a part of since her sophomore year.

“Our goal was to spread the word of acceptance and just overall to open up people's eyes to other things that are taking place in the world around them that we may not recognize,” she said. “In the last two years I got to go to some incredible seminars and events hosted by various organizations in the Boulder and Denver area, and I think I am definitely interested in joining a similar group as I transition into college.”

Hite also encountered diversity not only through The Alliance, but through student theater and her electives as well. Participating in theater all four years of high school exposed Hite to new forms of expression, experiences and people. During her junior year, she was also able to take a variety of classes that allowed her to learn more about herself.

“I got to take electives during my junior year that were more personal to who I am, such as creative writing and film literature,” said Hite. “Those classes taught me how important it is to pursue something that you're passionate about.”

One of Hite’s passions is caring for others. Stemming from a dream of being a veterinarian, and later changing to social worker, Hite finally settled on psychology after taking a sociology class with a section on individual psychology her sophomore year.
“I'm majoring in psychology in hopes of becoming a family psychiatrist,” she said. “From square one I wanted a job in which I could be selfless and help those around me.”

Hite has her sights set on going to medical school and opening up her own practice after completing her undergraduate career. But for right now? The possibilities for Hite are endless.

“I'm excited to gain experience inside and out of the classroom for the next four years, and to hopefully come out of my undergrad a person one step closer to the kind of person that I aspire to be.”

*The Susie Ross Berry Scholarship Fund was established in 2000 through a bequest from Richard D. Berry, BA ’51 in honor of his mother, Susie Ross Berry.*