“My father (Rich) had only recently lost his job, and I remember my mother (Liz), who didn’t finish college, telling me, ‘No matter what you do, you’re not giving up,’” said Siporin, who served as a Team Operations Student Assistant at Madison Square Garden during her spring internship. “I went into college understanding money doesn’t grow on trees and that I’d need student loans, but this money helped reduce that.

“I can’t thank Mr. Korman enough.”

Temple didn’t seek out Korman, an alumnus of Pennsylvania State University, a past board member at Drexel University and a previous chairman of the library at Duke University. Instead, Temple and STHM, Korman said, “was where I wanted to be.”

Korman said he relates well to the Temple student, those who not only understand their parents’ struggles to put them through college, but who often have to work and study simultaneously to get ahead.

“Work ethic and reputation matters to them,” Korman said. “And I didn’t have their maturity when I was that age.”

On an unseasonably cold morning, even by January’s standards, Korman retreated to the warmth of a plush, fourth-floor corner suite at AKA Rittenhouse overlooking Philadelphia’s Rittenhouse Square. There, he recalled reading the original letters of the Korman Scholars, and those follow-up correspondences in the subsequent months. At the mere memory, he smiled widely.

“Can I tell you about another moment that shaped me?” Korman asked, rhetorically.

Korman started into a story about his first day of work for a debt-collecting service. It was 1963, and he had tracked down a man in Willow Grove, Pa., whose payments were well past due. Korman knocked on the front door, which was answered by a man who was far too lean for his 6-foot, 2-inch frame. The man held a baby in his arms and, in the distance, Korman saw a second infant lying in a crib in an otherwise-bare room. Rather than collect money, Korman handed money

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