

Libby Durbin: The flavor, the smell, everything about it; it's just enjoyable.

Lindsay Stone: Libby Durbin is a coffee connoisseur who fell in love with the drink at an early age.

Libby: I started drinking coffee when I was seven. My dad always drank it, and he loved it, and when I learned how to drink coffee he told me that I couldn't have any cream, I couldn't have any sugar, and if I was gonna drink coffee I had to enjoy it for what it was.

Lindsay: Her passion for coffee grew when she arrived at Anderson University and took a job at the campus coffee shop, Mocha Joe's.

Libby: My sophomore year of college I was hired on as Barista. I was in California for a wedding and couldn't make it to the training day, so I started trading at 7:00 AM the first day of classes.

Once I was done with training, the Head Manager offered me the Personnel Manager position. So, I actually started at Mocha Joe's as the Personnel Manager.

Lindsay: The new job came with a lot of hurdles including a large financial burden Libby was put in charge of to solve.

Libby: It was such a whirlwind, at the end of my first year of Mocha's I was hired on as Head Manager for the following year. Trent Palmer who oversees Mocha's sat me down and briefed me on how our budget was very lean, and how he tend to spend more than we make.

It was a hard thing to look at, like, how do you get students to come in?

Lindsay: With that question in mind Libby got to work, she started researching successful coffee shops across the country, and what they did to bring people in the door.

Libby studied business models, how to brew coffee the correct way, and the impact creating the perfect setting for coffee shop was to keep people coming back.

Libby: I was told the next year would be a trial year, and if it wasn't successful in bringing students in, Mocha Joe's might not be around. That was a lot of pressure for any 20 year old.

Lindsay: When the fall of 2016 hit, Libby had returned to campus for her senior year. She'll be graduating that May of 2017, and had started the job search.

A friend of hers mentioned Libby should apply to the Orr Fellowship, a prestigious network of companies that come together to hire top graduates from universities in Indiana and Ohio.

Only 4% of applicants get hired, the application process is grueling but it's an incredible opportunity for young graduates.

Libby: When I heard about the Orr Fellowship I thought, "I'm gonna apply." At the time I also was going to apply for law school, but there was always something that stopped me because you can go to law school anytime, but you can only get the Orr Fellowship right out of college.

I started the application process and I was shocked that I kept making it through the next round, but I was all in.

Lindsay: And it paid off, Libby was hired as an Orr Fellow and will be working for Federal Home Loan Bank of Indianapolis right after graduation in less than a month. Libby said the reason she was hired was simple: Mocha Joe's.

Libby: Having the experience in Mocha's on my resume was definitely a distinguishing factor between my application and everyone else's. Being able to show the Orr Fellowship and the people interviewing me that not only could I lead others, but I was able to have a huge period of growth was what I really think got me hired.

Lindsay: Mocha Joe's has not only deepened Libby's love of coffee, but also helped her earn one of the most prestigious jobs for recent college graduates in the Indy area. Mocha Joe's has experienced major changes, but has lasted thanks to countless hours of hard work Libby and her staff put in.

The small coffee shop that sits in the heart of Anderson University is changing lives, one cup of coffee at a time. This is Lindsay Stone reporting.