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Year in School: 12
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The great sacrifices of those before me and my passion for STEM are what drive me.

I have been given many opportunities that my life has afforded me thus far due to the great sacrifices of people who came before me. Those before me did things like battle cancer while being the mother of two toddlers. Some Faced racial bias and discrimination in a new country to build a better life for their family. One grew up as a peasant in Peru and immigrated to a new country to build a new life, and two of them lost a parent at a young age. Through their hard work, sacrifice, and perseverance through these challenges, they achieved great things. They also gave me the gift of the life I am living right now. Taking full advantage of this life and their sacrifices is one of the things that drives me, I don't want to just do the bare minimum or merely set myself up for a comfortable life. I want to excel in all the things I do, I want to achieve great things, I want to improve this world for others. I want to push myself and experience discomfort if it means accomplishing things that will better honor the discomfort of those before me. I will continue to live my life of excellence in part to honor the sacrifices of the people who gave me my life.

I am also working towards a fulfilling career that I love, and because of my passion for STEM that career will hopefully be in engineering. My excitement about STEM has driven me to take all the advanced science and math courses that I have already taken. Alongside my goal of a career in engineering, my love of STEM will give me the drive to continue to take these classes in college. I also want to be able to share STEM with others and one day mentor other girls considering STEM. Being able to share my passion and support this passion in others also drives and motivates me to succeed in all the things I do. Succeeding and mentoring others in STEM is also a way for me to honor the sacrifices and fight that women have been fighting in the industry for years. And I hope to continue that legacy and fight for an increased representation in STEM.

Honoring the sacrifices of those who came before me drives me to continue to live a life of excellence. And my love of STEM drives me to build a life as an engineer, share this passion with others, and continue the fight for a greater representation of women in STEM.