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10th Grade

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I've always had an interest in engineering. Ever since I was little, I've been building my own solutions to problems I've faced. When I needed to add a piece to my toys, I built it myself. This included anything from constructing homes out of cardboard to sewing dresses for my dolls. When I was allowed to cook in the kitchen, I tweaked different aspects of my recipes each time I made them to find the best possible combinations. Some of the best things I've made didn't use a recipe at all. My interests have grown since then, and I have decided to pursue a degree in environmental engineering and minor in music.

Environmental engineering deals mainly with natural resources, including land, water, and air. Engineers design solutions to ensure the best quality possible and responsibly use the resources. Projects can include methods to minimize pollution, manage waste, and create sustainability. These are important because they affect everyone. When people don't have access to clean water and air, there are dire consequences. Many health conditions, such as asthma, are worsened when air quality suffers. People need access to clean water to live, but if it's contaminated, they can become sick. By focusing my career on these problems, I can help many people live better and healthier lives. To reach my goal, I am taking both concurrent enrollment and classes offered at my school. These include biology, agriculture science, engineering, and computer drafting classes. By the time I finish high school, I plan to have taken chemistry, natural resources, calculus, trigonometry, and engineering principles.

While studying environmental engineering, I also want to minor in music. Music is an

important part of my life and a valuable form of expression. When words fail, music touches and unites everyone. My mom started teaching me piano when I was young, preparing me for learning more instruments. When I was eleven, I learned to play the flute, and my passion for music has taken off since then. I joined band, jazz band, percussion, and my community orchestra. I have also attended honor bands and performed pieces at region solo and ensemble. I learned more instruments through the years and plan to continue to do so in the future. One of my favorite musical productions I have performed is Rob Gardener's Lamb of God. This piece tells the Easter story through orchestra, choir, solos, and narration. It portrays great emotion and is a great example of the power music carries. Studying music after high school would be a great benefit, and I plan to continue playing for the rest of my life and teach others the beautiful art.

Everyone needs something to push them, motivating them to become the best possible version of themselves. For me, it's constantly learning and helping others. Engineering and music are two passions in which I can apply these principles. They drive me forward and help me to reach new heights.