

Arts and Music: After

Music has the ability to harness creativity through sound, yet it also has the power to affect other senses -- like making the listener see beauty, or feel exaltation. I can capture this magic through my cello, a simple instrument of four strings tuned in perfect fifths. My childhood was dedicated to the mastery of the cello, which is found naturally in anything from chamber music ensembles to full musical orchestras.

My passion for perfection won me several awards including a Second Place at the National Music Competition of the R.O.C. and Third Place in the International Austria Graz Music Contest. By seventh grade, I had already embarked on a personal journey of musical performances and activities - including school orchestras and concerts. However, I was truly inspired in 2008, when I attended Professor *****'s cello lecture at the ***** Academy, which enhanced my perspective of music.

However, my vision of my cello as an instrument was transformed when I began listening to the music of *****. His work showed me to master this instrument I needed more than to practice perfection -- his artistic creativity expanded my horizons since he used the cello to transition to other musical styles including jazz and ethnomusicology. For me, this expanded my art. Instead of perfection, I now focused on the endless possibilities of invention and exploration. *****'s pioneering musical style helped redefine my creative goals, and gave direction to my musical aspirations.

Since attending college, I have incorporated technology and multi-media into my musical performances. I was even inspired to complete a few commercial-music related courses including "Digital Music Production" and "Computer Programming Language" to develop strategies for combining classical cello music with modern-day technology. I even utilized some music software to compose a pop song as a demo for my classmates, and worked as a composer for ***** Technology Corporation for soundtracks to digital games. While working there, I discovered the interrelationship between engineers and musicians, and even had opportunities to supervise a few music concerts, music recording sessions and post production. I especially enjoyed the opportunity to dub a picture book and stage a dramatic event -- just to explore my musical boundaries.

Although music is an essential part of my life, in college I took advantage of extracurricular activities to develop my leadership skills by planning musical events. When I was a sophomore, I was elected as the deputy chief for an orientation camp responsible for arranging performances and activities. I also founded an ensemble, which I directed while

promoting musical events. In my spare time, I also worked in a music studio teaching young cello pupils about basic music knowledge. More recently, I organized a music camp for elementary students, which had impressive attendance and was well praised by parents.

Like many professionals in my field, I lament the decline of interest in classical music. My goal is to change this trend by using the latest technology, and combining music with creative arts to interest mainstream society. I am passionate about this work, and eagerly hope to develop my own unique performing style that features a vivid and contemporary translation of classical music. My ultimate goal is to eventually bestow a new interpretation of classical cello music to future generations. Somewhat similar to *****, I want to be more than a cello virtuoso --- my ideal career goal is to become a cello promoter, either producing ground-breaking music or teaching new music techniques and styles in schools.

The prestigious program at the University of ***** will help me realize this ambition. I am especially excited to work with Professor ***** who is known for his international reputation for commercial music, postproduction and music administration. I plan to pursue a minor degree or even dual degrees in cello and commercial music, which I am confident will help me broaden both my knowledge of music and my experience with software applications. Through the ***** program, I will become more than just a cello player – I will be an ambassador for classical music in the modern world.

