## Lucas Miller

## Personal Statement

Ever since I first laid hands on a computer, I've been enamored with the intricate dance of logic and creativity that coding represents. My mother, a software developer, imbued in me a fascination for technology and a respect for the way it shapes our world. As I delved into lines of Python and JavaScript, I discovered a sandbox for innovation—a space where logic meets limitless potential.

This passion led me to spearhead the Coding Symposium at my high school, an annual event where professionals and students alike gather to exchange ideas and learn about the ever-evolving tech landscape. Organizing this symposium has been a Herculean effort; I've had to coordinate speakers, manage logistics, and lead marketing efforts to get the word out. The joy and intellectual fervor I've seen in the eyes of participants, however, make every late-night planning session worth it.

In the realm of 64 squares, I've found a similar mix of logic and creativity as president of the Chess Club. I consider chess a microcosm of life's challenges; it requires strategic thinking, risk assessment, and continuous self-improvement. I've striven to instill these principles in the club members by organizing weekly practice sessions and tournaments. We've grown from a handful of enthusiasts to a team that competes at the state level, capturing not just trophies but a shared sense of accomplishment.

Though I have a keen interest in technology and strategy, I find balance on my surfboard, riding the waves off the coast. Surfing is both a challenge and a meditation, an opportunity to disconnect from the constant buzz of the digital world and reconnect with the elemental forces of nature. It's a reminder that while logic and innovation are crucial, so are adaptability and presence of mind.

As someone who values self-improvement, I see college as the next grand stage in my personal and intellectual growth. I aim to contribute to a culture of curiosity and ingenuity, and I am excited about the prospect of collaborating with peers who share my enthusiasm for technology and strategy. Given the opportunity, I am committed to leveraging my skills and interests to make a meaningful impact in the academic community and beyond.

I look forward to bringing my strategic mindset, entrepreneurial spirit, and open-mindedness to new challenges and opportunities.