

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this recommendation letter to support Mr. Cagan Oflazoglu's college application.

When Mr. Oflazoglu asked me whether I would consider writing a recommendation letter for him, I gladly accepted as I strongly believe that he is a brilliant young man, who possesses great leadership qualities. I should also add that this is the first and only recommendation letter that I have accepted to write for a student this year.

I met Cagan Oflazoglu two years ago while he was the CFO of a student organization called Junior Achievement, which unites high school students with business leaders and entrepreneurs by organizing conferences.

In order to seek support for his organization, Mr. Oflazoglu contacted Harvard Innovation Labs (HIL), where many start-ups lead by Harvard students were originated. As I am the President of Harvard Club of Turkey, HIL suggested him to get in touch with me to reach out to Harvard Alumni with strong business and entrepreneurial experiences.

As we talked on the phone for the first time, not only I noticed his passion and determination but also even though he was only 16 years old, I was impressed by his overall maturity and intellectuality at this young age. As I had expected, with some limited guidance from our club, he was able to find sponsors, host prominent speakers and organize the conference, where hundreds of students all over Turkey participated.

During this period, I noticed that Mr. Oflazoglu's leadership capabilities were very visible. In addition to not shying away from sharing his opinion, Cagan is very open to learning, ready for new ideas and eager to investigate alternatives. Moreover, besides having his own voice, he collaborated well in a team environment with his colleagues. At the same time, I believe that he is a pleasant and fun person to be friend and work with.

Since our first conversation on the phone, over the last two years we had many long and nourishing conversations. We talked about his interests, ambitions and future plans. He has regularly contacted me to seek my advice and hear my guidance on numerous issues. After hearing his interest in areas such as economy, finance, business and engineering, I recommended him to read the autobiography of Husnu Ozyegin, a Turkish businessman who graduated from the same high school as Mr. Oflazoglu is currently attending. I believe that Cagan was inspired by the book and drew many similarities with his life. I think that this inspiration motivates him to dream even bigger. Because Cagan is not afraid of getting out of his comfort zone and taking risks, I believe that he will realize his dreams and achieve his goals in life.

In conclusion, I am very confident that Cagan will not only grow as a person in college, but also contribute to his fellow classmates' intellectual development and the college community in general. I strongly recommend Mr. Cagan Oflazoglu to your admission committee.

Sincerely yours,

Erol Adayilmaz

President, Harvard Club of Turkey