TELL US ABOUT WHO YOU ARE. HOW WOULD YOUR FAMILY, FRIENDS, AND/OR MEMBERS OF YOUR COMMUNITY DESCRIBE YOU? IF POSSIBLE, PLEASE INCLUDE SOMETHING ABOUT YOURSELF THAT YOU ARE MOST PROUD OF AND WHY. (MAXIMUM 1500 CHARACTERS)

I remember whenever we were kids we would always be asked this question: What do you want to be when you grow up?

Many people cannot say the same answer as what they gave in the past. However, I’ve always wanted to be a scientist.

From an early age I was curious about every single thing about the natural world. My parents would often say that I had too many questions. When my friends complained about having practicals and found it boring, I’d look forward to those days. While my entire family went on an outing, I stayed behind just to study for a biology quiz. It was the little things like this which caused the people around me to notice my passion towards life sciences.

Aside from that, I’m also known for my love of art. Even though I was unable to take arts at school due to certain circumstances, I continued to improve while drawing at home. While I allocated a lot of time on my hobby of drawing, I was also managing to do well academically which made my friends impressed by my time management.

However, even these passions of mine cause me to overthink and stress at times. However, I am most proud of converting this negative pressure on me to develop what I can consider one of my strongest points, which is my discipline and perseverance. Especially since the future will hold only more trials, I believe that this lesson will continue helping me through many tough times where I feel like surrendering.

WHAT IS IMPORTANT TO YOU? WHY? (MAXIMUM 1500 CHARACTERS

“Take advantage of every opportunity”

This quote frequently appeared in my life, yet I always took it at face value. Now though, I see it differently as it presents one important trait: courage.

I remember a girl in my school who was heavily criticized as the leader for the yearbook preparations as the design was underwhelming and unattractive. This experience made me afraid of being a leader due to its heavy responsibilities. However, as the importance of leadership became stressed, I realized I had to face this fear. I did this by volunteering as a PIC for an event in the student council. Being in this position made me experience that even when facing hardships, fear had always over exaggerated everything in my head. This made me understand what it means to have courage. Having courage is allowing yourself to try, to take the first step, because you never know your true potential until you start testing your limits.

My courage has led me to joining all the activities and leadership roles I'm involved in now. Instead of doing things passively without motivation, I started being more outspoken. Instead of limiting my passions because of a temporary dread, bravery pushed me to my limits. I sincerely believe that through these courage-fueled experiences I have become a completely different person. Without this tenacity, I wouldn’t have been able to develop my character, interests, or skills. Hence, I know that this boldness will continue to guide me in improving as an individual.