1. **Have you become aware of significant needs in your family, school, and/or community? Please explain how you have worked toward meeting those needs. (1500 characters)**

A lot of underprivileged children in Indonesia had to quit school when the pandemic started due to the lack of electronic devices and cellular data. I knew I couldn’t help the entire population of underprivileged children but I could still help contribute to providing proper access to education for some of the children’s lives by organizing a school-based fundraising event, Walkathon. I gathered donations from participants (students /teachers /staff) encouraging their family and friends to pledge a fixed amount of money for each kilometer the student walk. The 2 weeks of promoting the event were a hassle and full of trial and error as we continuously improvised on our strategy to encourage students and teachers to participate. In the beginning, we distributed the digital posters through our school communication platform, but there weren’t as many participants interested in joining as we initially expected. Then after countless back-to-back meetings, we decided to create an innovative promotional video that explains the primary purpose of our cause and the entire process rundown of Walkathon. I believe that the promotional video was a key point in encouraging people to join because there is a clear purpose stated as part of our cause for the Walkathon. Slowly, more people started pledging, and within 2 weeks, we had around 100 participants joining. At the end of the event, we collected the donations based on the pledge agreement and we were able to raise a total fund of $9,200 which was donated to a non-profit organization called Hoshizora. Through these funds, it helped 8 underprivileged Indonesian receive proper access to education. It was the biggest student-organized fundraiser at my school, in which the board of directors decided to make Walkathon an official yearly event. It was nice to hear how something small can end up being a huge event especially if the event can provide a significant change in people’s lives.

1. **Briefly describe a time that your efforts have fallen short, a goal was not accomplished, or aspiration was not achieved. (500 characters) What steps did you take to recover from this defeat? What resources did you use? How and why are you different today? (1500 characters)**

It was a pleasant Friday afternoon despite it being gloomy all week. After all, when else can we get a sunshine break during Indonesia's rainy season? Everything was all set, all my members knew what had to be done, and there were no complaints from the teachers whatsoever. A subtle vibration suddenly disrupts the very tranquility of my room. A text message read "Cat, I need to talk about the competition." It was a day away from the event, and I thought I had prepared everything that was needed. All was good, or so I thought, and now I'm back to square one. I straight away worked on it and came up with a new rubric and plan that night. I immediately emailed/called my teacher to have the rubric checked, to make sure the end-of-year event would and could still be done as planned. Thankfully, the teacher accepted it and the EOY event went well, but I spent the days and weeks after that event reflecting and questioning how could've I missed that.

I realized I wasn’t a good leader because I didn’t always involve all my members in the event planning. I tend to have my own thoughts in my mind that I unconsciously executed on my own without communicating them to my members. As I wanted to improve and prove to myself that I could do better, it compelled me to run for president in my new school. I organized a few events and one of them includes a Halloween event for the school. Starting from the beginning, I made sure that I wanted to organize the event differently than I did before. I began with distributing the tasks based on the willingness and skill set of each member, especially coordinating them to ensure that each task was explained thoroughly. I also paid extra attention to the teachers and head of school’s opinions towards the event proposal to avoid any kind of miscommunication by consulting with them every time there is progress or changes on the proposal and planning. The role and support of each of the members contributed to the productivity and success of the event with effective work distribution and no last-minute changes like the End-of-Year event. I felt that it empowered my members to acquire and develop skills like collaboration, communication, and time management. I could see a greater efficiency as none of my members were left out which was a huge improvement from how I used to lead in my previous school. Therefore, an important lesson I learned is that everything takes experience and it includes learning to become a leader who respects, listens, delegates, and communicates well with their members.

1. **We strive to create a rich and varied educational environment by admitting students with a wide range of: (1500 characters)**
   * **Goals**
   * **Interests**
   * **Skills and talents**
   * **Life experiences**
   * **Perspectives**
   * **Cultures**

**Tell us your story. What will you contribute to our university community? Be specific**

I have always been very community-oriented. The school I grew up in has taught me that we all have a role in making the lives of those around us better. I was a Student Council President twice, for 2 different schools. The first time was in Grade 10 and the second time was at a different school in Grade 12. I believe my experience in leadership positions equipped me with  communication, decision making, and collaboration skills that can be contributed to the school’s community through clubs, student-led initiatives, student advisory council, etc. Furthermore, I’m a part of an organization called Edubeyond that primarily helps tutor underprivileged children. I’ve been a tutor for 3 years now and I’ve taught English, Mathematics, Science, History, etc. I believe that my experience in teaching different people from different backgrounds illustrates my strong adaptability and lesson-planning skills which can be useful when joining the school’s clubs.

I have a keen eye for detail which correlates to my strong event-planning skills. I believe that these skills can be contributed to the school’s event clubs like Fight Malnutrition, Y Fiction, Delta Alpha Pi, BYU Chinese Club, etc. As an individual who likes to interact and engage with other people, it makes it easier for me to communicate with the suppliers and vendors for the different events that the school is running. I’m a people person and it makes it easier for me to feel sympathy and relate with other people which is helpful when building trust and strengthening relationships. Being an experienced event planner, there were moments when I had to handle a certain area in that I have little to no experience. After having to handle a few events, I would consider myself a reliable and adaptable individual because I could master operating systems like sound systems and lightning operators within half an hour. My skills in adapting to various aspects can venture out to application platforms as well. For example, in one of the fundraising events that I organized, I had to master how to use Mail Merge in order to save time and energy from sending emails one by one. Within a few hours of continuously researching and watching YouTube, I can easily grasp the important components of the platform. I believe my strong adaptability, tech savviness, and flexibility skills can be contributed to the school clubs because I can be a reliable member of the team and I can pitch out many ideas and concepts from my experience being the Student Council President twice.

1. **A BYU education will be spiritually strengthening. BYU students have a unique opportunity to seek learning by study and by faith. Describe how you would explain to a friend or family member the reasons you want to learn in an environment like this. (1500 characters)**

I came from Tzu Chi School which is known to work in the missions of charity, medicine, education, and humanitarian with the spirit of learning, sincerity, integrity, trust, and honesty. They believed in the equality of beings and the Buddha-nature latent in every person. Hence, I grew up understanding the importance of these values and I’ve been applying them in my daily life by organizing various fundraising events and contributing to charity work in orphanages. Researching about the culture of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints resulted in my discovery of similar moral standards which include personal honesty, integrity, obedience to the law, and dedication to the acquisition of knowledge. I’ve always studied in an environment that holds strong values and I believe that BYU holds a spiritually strengthening environment that can complement well with how I conduct my learning in high school. When I first entered Tzu Chi in Grade 1, it was solely because I was interested in learning in an environment like BYU. My friends and family have always supported my decision especially when I want to learn in a school like BYU that offers a unique opportunity to seek learning through faith. I believe my explanation about my interests in BYU will be given full support by everyone around me.