PROMPT 1

**1. Describe an example of your leadership experience in which you have positively influenced others, helped resolve disputes or contributed to group efforts over time.**

Since my freshman year, I have been a part of the backstage team, the tech team, and the set and design team creating much of the props and sets. This year, I became the leader of the set and design team.

My background experiences have helped me as a leader to provide effective insight to my teammates to solve problems and create ideas from tech to design to set movements during the performance. I utilized my past experiences to extrapolate ideas while contextualizing them to the present situations.  For example, I helped the tech team decide which color lighting to use for different scenes based on my prior knowledge of how the lights will affect the ambiance and the look of the set and costumes. Furthermore, I also helped the set and prop teams figure out which materials they could use and provided some suggestions such as which materials, tools, and colors they should use as well as how they could approach creating it.

As a leader, I also leveraged my past setbacks to become more adept in anticipating potential problems and resolving conflicts that arise. For instance, there were some minor conflicts between the costume and set team as there were miscommunications between members. I gathered both teams together to listen to the chronology from both sides and to understand their thought process. When mediating the discussion, I helped clarify ideas and intentions that each team had come up with and pointed out several aspects where they diverged. I then reminded both teams about the vision of the project to set the framework of our priorities; I used the framework as a reference point to discuss their disagreements. Together, we discussed how we could better combine costumes, lighting, and set together in a way that works harmoniously. With these discussions, both teams had a clearer direction.

As a leader, I have been able to resolve disputes between members by improving communication and contributing to group efforts by providing direction and vision, sharing input and advice, and assisting my team in the creation process of all the sets and props needed for the production.

PROMPT 8

**8. Beyond what has already been shared in your application, what do you believe makes you a strong candidate for admissions to the University of California?**

In my community, I am known as an intelligent girl who is resilient and capable of communicating well. However, this is not how they would have described me in the past. Most people in the past would have described me as a quiet and cold girl.

During highschool, I took many outside-of-school courses offered by universities. These courses all included one thing in common: discussion and critique sessions. I was timid and quiet, especially when it came to big group discussions. However, determined to overcome my struggle to speak confidently, I pushed myself to speak up. During each session, I listened, watched, and participated attentively to every lesson and discussion session to ensure that I was expanding my knowledge and improving my lacking capabilities. After carefully observing and participating, not only had I developed various art skills, but I had also come head-on with my weakness – communication –  and found a confident voice, both in my art and in every aspect of my life.

It was an unimaginable butterfly effect arising from one summer camp that turned me, a timid girl, into a girl able to share her thoughts and converse comfortably and confidently. Ultimately, after much persistence and pushing, I was able to speak comfortably even in unfamiliar situations and big crowds, even becoming a leader of multiple extracurriculars. For instance, I use my abilities to provide effective critiques during yearbook/journalism classes or drama classes to help my fellow classmates perfect their creations from layout/page designs to sets and props. I also provide suggestions on how they can improve their creations whether it be composition, color, or even sizing.

These experiences showed me the power of communication that can mobilize and influence change in the individual and in group efforts in positive ways. I hope to work alongside my peers to use my communicative skill to establish a community of artists that encourages creative expression and constructive critiques to ensure a well-designed product that creates an impact to our community.