**Explain your interest in Architecture in 200 words or less. Please be sure to upload ONLY the Final draft of your essay here (PDF preferred).**

“The water waves shone in aqua, the light pours down through the traditional-style railings…” It was a model we built with recycled materials for a complex on our campus. The waves were tailored from discarded Sprite bottles, and the buildings were made of used cardboard.

The complex was designed by a disciple of Ieoh Ming Pei. Inspiration coming from classical Chinese gardens, it not only reserves the slanting roofs and enclosed courtyards but also what I call “mooring in space.”

During my childhood, I liked to wander around Suzhou’s historic gardens. There’s one with a pond and a bridge at one end. While viewed from a certain angle, the pond extends beyond the bridge and into the bamboo forest. Everything then builds upon one another visually. When I look through a floral window or walk along an ambulatory, it gives a sense of infinity for the path winding into jungles.

I’d liken these multi-dimensional garden architectures to the polytopes I learned in mathematics - objects travel in four-dimension. Each part of the garden seems to be distinct and separate, but when viewed from the right angle, they become such a vibrant entirety. The parts travel, tangle, and scatter around. They interact in such a way that even the most advanced mathematical theory could hardly interpret. This architectural art goes far beyond the logic, turning mathematics from the rational to the perceptual, from the regular to the non-linear.

[word counts: 237]

**What do you hope to accomplish during the program? What do you hope to gain from this experience? [Please do not exceed 100 words]**

With the support of Penn’s faculty in architectural design, I’m confident in sharpening my creativity and finessing my aesthetic sense. By exploring hand drawings, digital models and photographs of physical models during studio session, I’ll develop my own portfolio. Through this program, I can also explore future career options and opportunities related to architect while experimenting with different techniques and design tools and profoundly studying my favorite post-modernist style.

Professional mentoring on design thinking, practical studio experience, creativity-sparking activities, and my own work exhibition at Penn’s art gallery are all on the list that I can’t wait to tick.

[word counts: 99]

**List any extracurricular activities (sports, arts, community service, after-school classes, workshops, school newspaper, yearbook):**

**Architecture Design**, *Core Member* (Changshu, China), time

* Built architecture models based on mechanical principles with recycled materials (foam, cardboard, plastic bottle, etc.), exhibited all works on the topic of sustainability at the end of the term;
* Constructed 3D models on computer and used 3D printing and laser-cutting technique to make all components for physical models;
* Organized periodic workshops and invited famous architects to talk about the concept and different schools of architectural design.

**List any academic, community, or athletic honors or awards:**

Refer to CV.