Topic Proposal

The topic of study I intend to pursue for this year is located in the field of Computer Science. After having explored many of the fields within computer science I decided to focus my efforts on the field of Virtual Reality as I want to build my own worlds in a field that is rapidly developing. My end goal is to try to make my own video game in virtual reality as I want to continue building on my skills in game development.

I still have vivid memories of seeing Tony Stark in his suit flying around, fighting hoards of military drones, sparks flying everywhere. I was only 5 years old when I saw the 2nd Iron Man movie, but I was already hooked. I had wild fantasies of creating my own super suit and fighting evildoers while also being a cocky, rich playboy. I dreamed of being able to create my own super suit and these fantasies led me to fall in love with STEM. But over time my child-like delusions came to an end, and I slowly started to realize that becoming Tony Stark just wasn't feasible. However, my fascination with Iron Man showed me the power of technology and I realized I could still follow in Iron Man's footsteps by becoming a master of technology.

My first experience with the power of technology came when I learned about the world of game development. I have been an avid gamer for all my life but when I learned how to actually make these games I was blown away. It felt like I unlocked a whole new world where I could create whatever I wanted whenever I wanted. Day in and out I was always on my computer, dreaming up fantastical universes and showing them off to my friends. It felt like creativity was my only limitation and I felt empowered to continue pushing my limits, leading me to delve even deeper into the world of Computer Science and expand my arsenal for creation. To meet this desire I recently conducted research at the University of Texas at Dallas in their Multimodal Interactions Lab where I helped develop an In-Air keyboard that can be used in VR environments.

I love the power that Computer Science gives me to bring my own ideas to life. Being able to make people's lives easier or providing them with entertainment to distract them from the burdens of everyday life makes me feel like I am playing my part in making the world a better place. The satisfaction of facing new challenges every day and problem-solving to overcome them makes me excited to program and continue enriching my mind.