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- 1. I have attended have attended five Model United Nations conferences including: Rutgers Model United Nations (2012,2013), Harvard Model United Nations (2013), Seton Hall University Model United Nations (2013), Ivy League Model United Nations (2014)
- as well as Rutgers Model Congress (2014. At these conferences, I have participated in General Assembly bodies, Specialized Agencies, as well as two crisis committees. I am also (as of last year) co-president of my team and have helped co-ordinate my school's attendance of two previous conferences- with three more in the works this year. My co-president and I are also responsible for training younger students to prepare for conferences, along with running mock-committee workshops.
- 2. I believe that the next major global conflict will be related to the environment. Environmental issues seem to be viewed as non-essential in politics. I believe this short-sightedness ignores both the future consequences of environmental abuse and the discrepancy between those who contribute to it. When these consequences become tangible, I believe that scientists will be able to repair the damage. But, that is not to say no damage will be done. Economies, national treasures, and ordinary people's lives are likely to be negatively impacted by the effects of climate change and pollution. Once these effects take place, there will be a need to place the blame on someone (perhaps those nations who have not signed the Kyoto Protocols.) Because of the large amount of military power some of those non-signers possess, it terrifies me to imagine the consequences of such accusations.
- 3. My favorite utopia is the left panel of Hieronymus Bosch's Garden of Earthly Delights. I like the simplicity of the garden with Adam and Eve (ignore the large, strange shaped fountain), especially compared to the insanity of the later panels. Bosch's work was surrealism centuries before surrealism, and I find comfort in thinking that a man working around 1500 has a similar imagination to my one really strange friend who doodles grotesque fish on my math homework. There is comfort too, in a world apart from all of the strangeness and business of our day to day lives.
- 4. My favorite dystopian future is the world of Firefly. The show Firefly follows a rag-tag team of misfits (on the run from their respective pasts) who commit crimes in order to subsist. The universe this show takes place in follows a global takeover from the combined superpowers of China and the United States, the development of interstellar travel & habitation of other planets, and a failed civil war amongst the inhabitants of the occupants of those planets. As things stand when the series take place, the upper-class government of the inner planets imposes their governance upon the people of the outer planets without care of the survival or culture of those people. Despite all of this, a group of runaways and criminals find a family in mutual rebellion. Despite their dismal conditions, they maintain the possibility of fighting back against an unjust system. I like to think that even if the future shows a dim outlook- that humans will maintain their humanity.
- 5. In 2050, I will likely be doing work related to International Relations. I hope to be working in an NGO petitioning for or acting in the preservation of national monuments. If not in an NGO, I wold like to work directly within an organization like UNESCO. It is my personal philosophy that art is the most important thing mankind has to offer. It offers a tangible medium for us to showcase ourselves visually to others, a medium that can last

centuries and connect humans of the future to those who predate them hundreds of years. I hope to add items to UNESCO's list of World Heritage Sites, and ensure the preservation of those already occupying the list.