**Tell us about your main interest and activities in your free time.**

**The word limit is 300, please help shorten this essay.**

One of my many weekends in Jakarta was a unique one. Instead of a regular wine-and-dine night, I spent the evening indulging in edible lipstick and cigarette sticks made up of marshmallows and popcorn. Paving way for the local gastronomical dining scene, I applaud the team for bringing up two inseparable symbols of a typical Batavian date night in an innovative fashion.

I have always had passion for discovering new cuisines and planning out culinary trips across the Indonesian archipelago and beyond. Somehow, unlocking one flavor profile after another has enabled me to learn more about different cultures. And it is the connection and perspectives with local communities that excite me most.

A trip to a farm-to-table restaurant in Niagara Falls was one such example. Having booked the chef table’s seats, me and my colleagues had the chance to share the afternoon with a few other experiential dining enthusiasts as we witnessed the head chef’s magic – turning raw ingredients into stellar, earthy samplers under the magnificent backdrop of the gushing falls. Yet what sealed the moment into a memorable one was my heartwarming conversation with an elderly couple from Toronto – foodie veterans who inspired us to cherish every encounter along our culinary journey even more.

While in the bakery capital of the world, Paris, a morning stroll is unlike any other as the smell of golden butter would fill every corner round the street. What struck me most that time, however, was their rum-infused yeast cake or the so-called baba au rhum – a constant reminder of how the community could beautifully infuse bitter content to create just the right amount of natural sweetness. My culinary adventure has indeed broadened my perspectives, transcending language barriers and connecting me to the many different cultures out there; an adventure to last for life.