Technology has always seemed to be my calling. As many software engineers most likely started out, I was the go-to person in my household for all matters digital. No matter how simple or difficult, the thrill of not knowing to figuring out a technological matter put a smile on my face. This hunger for tech followed me my whole life and when it was time for me to get my first job, I knew it had to be in tech. I started out as an entry-level Audio-Visual Technician and worked my way up to manager in just a year and a half. But something was missing. I loved going out into the field day after day and helping people that did not see the digital word as I did. The smiles I received when a customer realized a task is not as complicated as they though it out to be warmed my heart, but it was not enough for me; I wanted more. Thus, my immersion into software engineering began. Through research, I was in awe of how simple commands put though a computer interface can create such beautiful websites and applications. Front-end. Back-end. I wanted more. I needed more. Coming from a single parent, low-income household I always knew the odds were stacked against me. I knew that the path of education was one of the ways to improve my situation and provide for future generations. With a loving mother that worked overtime every day to provide for my four siblings and I, the idea of hard work is etched into my personality. Through the daily struggles I witnessed my mother go though I knew that hard work will only get me so far, what I needed to do was work smarter. Realizing this I knew that if I stayed in my same situation, I would either get lost in the constant shuffle of the public school system or life. So I clawed out. I worked not only harder but smarter and without my mother’s knowledge, I started to apply to boarding schools to somehow get out of that cycle of poverty. Through my hard work I was accepted to the Peddie School with a full scholarship and the dreams of a lifetime. To this day I know the amount of work I have to put in to achieve my dreams and, with this opportunity I will take another step towards that yearning for technological knowledge and drive to help others.