



## Applicant Information

Applicant's Name Yangchicheng Shen Charlie  
First Middle Last Prefers to be called

Grade applied for 9

## Application Questions

Please answer one of the following questions.

### 1. What are your goals for high school?

I have always been a top student in my class. I want to continue to excel academically and go to a top college after high school. My favorite subject is physics. I want to be a physicist and discover the secrets of the universe in the future, just like my idol Stephen Hawking. For extracurricular activities, I would love to continue to improve my piano playing if I have the opportunity to play piano in high school. I would pick up another instrument if that is impossible. I would also love to continue to play tennis. My other interests include model UN and debate. I would keep my options open for anything interesting. Lastly, I want to make friends. As the old Chinese saying goes, "People rely on parents at home. People rely on friends outside the home". It is very important to always have a lot of good friends.

### 2. What is the first thing that comes to mind when you think about your future?

It is the Internet. I once saw a cartoon with 2 dogs talking to each other over the Internet. One says, No one knows you are dog on the net. The other replies, they don't know where we are either. If there is one thing that can determine our future, it is the Internet. Internet is making education more accessible and our world more equal.. It connects the whole world and give everyone an equal share of opportunities, even if you are a dog. I spent a lot of time with my grandmother at an impoverished fishing village outside the city limit. The countryside lacks good education. A community network would help kids there learn about their hometown and the world outside and receive an equal opportunity for an education. I want to be an Internet entrepreneur in the future. I will create a social network to help millions of kids to receive good education no matter where they live.

3. Tell us about a time when you had to make a difficult choice.

I faced a difficult choice when I rose to the middle school. The school work load became much heavier in the middle school. Since I want to study abroad, I started to take extra English class outside school. The English classes competed with piano and music for my time. At one point my parents told me it was OK if I wished to stop studying piano. However, I had been studying piano since 5. Music had become an indispensable part of my life. I decided to continue to study piano with better time management. For the last 2 and half years, I was not only able to continue to study piano. I even participated in more activities like math Olympics training, model UN, and tennis Club. The piano playing did not affect my study. Instead it taught me an important time management skill.

4. What is the most significant problem facing the world? How would you solve it?

It is undoubtedly the environmental protection problem. American author Henry David Thoreau once wrote "What's the use of a fine house if you haven't got a tolerable planet to put it on?" I grow up in a beautiful island city in the southeast China. It was named the 4th most livable city in China. Yet it is not escape from environmental problems. The problem facing the city is the disappearance of the mangrove forest along the coast. Without their protection the storms brought by the typhoons have destroyed many beautiful beaches we have been so proud of. More recently, we were also hit by the severe smog problem that has plagued most of China. The PM 2.5 reading has been as high as 1500. It takes all of us to raise awareness to the problem and protect the planet we live.