

I am writing in support of the application of Anastasiia Kutakh for the MIT Transfer Admission and I can offer only the highest recommendation. I am teaching physics in Kharkiv Physics and Mathematics Lyceum No. 27 and conduct a special course on training grade 11 students for the International Physics Olympiads. Anastasiia was among them last year. She became one out of three best students of our Lyceum, who gained a victory on the international level. Moreover, Anastasiia is the only girl among several dozens of winners of the International Physics Olympiads throughout the history of the Lyceum. In 2019 she entered the number of the best students who got an invitation to a personal meeting with the President of Ukraine. Anastasiia is an extremely motivated and dedicated student with high intellectual abilities.

I know Anastasiia since she was in grade six when she won first place on the physics olympiad for grade seven students. First victory motivated her to keep learning physics, and since grade eight, she started winning at the National Olympiads. In addition to IPHO and IOAA, she has five victories on Ukrainian physics and astronomical Olympiads, three victories in national physics Olympiads "Internet Olympiad", the national physics Olympiad "Richelieu Regatta" and the Ukrainian student Olympiad on astronomy and astrophysics. All these achievements would not be possible without her persistence and drive to overcome any difficulties, while continuously working on refining her natural abilities for science through regular practice.

Anastasiia always excelled at tasks of increased complexity on special courses, usually being the first one to arrive at the correct answer. Her approach to the most complex tasks demonstrates both her excitement and genuine interest. Anastasiia was also the most active student during analysis of non-trivial tasks. She always asked relevant questions, shedding light on fundamental nuances and at times catching lapses in reasoning. Anastasiia is a very curious student with well-developed critical thinking skills. She arrived to every class with a number of questions which indicated her independent problem-solving when tackling course material, as well as course material ahead of the curriculum. She was very enthusiastic in solving homework tasks on physics, often fulfilling more than was required as well as touching-on advanced topics.

Her original way of thinking always proved to be a positive characteristic within her cognitive capabilities. An example of her mentality was a case that occurred at the physics Olympiad. The participants of the Olympiad were asked to come up with electrical circuit that would meet certain conditions. However, there was a mistake in the task that resulted in significant complication and made the solution of the task impossible within the given time frame. When jury members concluded that this task should be removed, to the great surprise, it turned out that one student regionwide managed to find a solution. This student was Anastasiia.

Physics and mathematics are not the only field where Anastasiia is succeeding. Being a responsible person with excellent memory, she quickly and easily caught up with materials she had missed due to trips to Olympiads, giving other teachers reason to refer to her as one of the best students.

An interesting fact is that, originally, Anastasiia showed ability not only in the technical but also in philological subjects. The teacher in Ukrainian language and literature saw Anastasia as a future philologist and tried to get her involved in linguistic olympiads. However, Anastasiia preferred physics over any other subjects. Nevertheless, as time permitted, she became a winner of regional Olympiads on mathematics and chemistry as well as showed the best results among students in literature and language.

Anastasiia started to participate in Young Physicist Tournaments in grade nine, but her ability to conduct discussions unfolded in fifth grade, at a training version of the tournament for young students. Experienced tournament players were surprised by her professionalism despite being a child. Later, she became one of the key players of the team and was noticed by jury members of both regional and national stages. The team took second place twice and first place once, while Anastasiia was rewarded as the best reviewer of Ukraine.

Alongside the aforementioned, Anastasiia is considered always honest with herself and with others. Being the determined individual, she is always ready to take responsibility for her actions and never ignores opportunities, regardless of the possible risks for her. However, she will never do anything for her own good if it can harm someone. Anastasiia also exhibits leadership qualities.

Anastasiia is also exceptionally talented at drawing. Even though she gave preference to physics, she continues to do art as one of her forms of self-expression, combining a creative worldview and mathematical way of thinking.

I enthusiastically recommend Anastasiia Kutakh. I can say with confidence that she is a person who reaches her goal under any circumstances. Besides a talent for science and dedication, she possesses a very rare combination of characteristics which will inevitably lead to success. Anastasia is always seeking new knowledge and opportunities to realize her potential as a researcher. Her high ambitions and habit of reaching her set goals are what sets her apart from more experienced students in her surroundings. I am confident that the opportunities that MIT will provide for her will act as the foundation for a future successful scientist.