Game Plan Draft v1.0 - Ananyaa Srivastava

This is a copy for Jenny and Aditi's independent review and additions.

julih@stanford.edu please review this v3.0 version first as it has ECs and Awards section too..

NEW !! V3.0 – FINAL VERSION FOR JULI'S ASSESSMENT

Part 1 - Ananyaa's Stanford Standout Strengths

1. Proficiency and Leadership in Computer Science

Ananyaa has shown a remarkable interest and skill in computer science. She has delved into programming through self-directed study in various languages like HTML, Javascript, Java, and frameworks such as React.js and Next.js. Her participation in the USA Computing Olympiad (USACO) highlights her drive to challenge herself and improve her problem-solving skills. Furthermore, her involvement in the competitive programming club, where she created programming problems, demonstrates both her proficiency and leadership within the field.

2. Strong Academic Performance and Diverse Course Load

Academically, Ananyaa is exceptionally well-rounded. She maintains a 4.0 GPA while managing a challenging course load that includes:
- French 3
- AP Computer Science Applications
- AP World History
- Honors English
- AP Physics 1
- Calculus AB
- Honors Chemistry

Her self-studying for the AP Physics test and achieving a score of 4 showcases her commitment to academic excellence. Ananyaa's intellectual curiosity is reflected in her diverse interests, spanning from sciences to the humanities.

3. Engagement in Extracurricular Activities and Clubs

Ananyaa is actively involved in various clubs and extracurricular activities. She participates in the Computer Science club where she engages with advanced topics like AI, and she also contributes articles for the school website via her journalism club. Her involvement in Model United Nations from middle school highlights her ability to understand and actively engage in global issues, showcasing her well-rounded academic and extracurricular pursuits.

4. Community Involvement and Tutoring

Ananyaa has demonstrated a strong commitment to her community. She has helped her friend's son with reading comprehension, embodying a spirit of giving back and fostering growth in others. This tutoring role has allowed her to provide educational support, demonstrating her dedication to community betterment and education.

5. Passion for Chess and Problem-Solving

Ananyaa's passion for chess indicates her strong logical and strategic thinking skills. Having participated in several tournaments and taken classes independently, she has developed a keen intellectual pursuit. Chess not only engages her mentally but also underscores her capacity for planning and forethought, abilities highly valued in academic and professional settings.

6. Interest in Climate Solutions and Practical Application

Through her contributions to a climate solutions company, Ananyaa has demonstrated a commitment to applying her skills to real-world challenges. This experience in website page design for a company that tackles environmental issues shows her initiative and capacity to merge technical skills with civic responsibility, an important quality for making a tangible impact on society.

7. Initiative and Drive for Self-Improvement

Ananyaa's initiative is evident in her proactive approach to learning and problem-solving. Despite initial challenges with frameworks like React.js and Next.js, she continues to strive for improvement, demonstrating resilience and a persistent desire to master complex concepts. Her engagement in self-directed studies alongside her coursework and extracurricular activities indicates a high level of intellectual vitality and curiosity.

8. Cultural and Emotional Intelligence

Ananyaa's depth of empathy and cultural awareness is clear from her reflections on mental health and her creative endeavors. Her writings on complex geopolitical issues, such as the Palestine-Israel conflict, highlight her emotional intelligence and ability to consider diverse perspectives. These qualities are integral to her ability to connect with a wide range of people and foster a supportive community.

9. Enthusiasm for Science and Technology

Ananyaa's passion for chemistry, demonstrated through her participation in the "You Be the Chemist" competition, where she performed exceptionally well, underscores her enthusiasm for science. Her continuous pursuit of knowledge in this field aligns with her potential future academic endeavors in technology or science.

10. Hobbies and Personal Interests

Outside academics, Ananyaa enjoys hiking, gardening (especially roses), and exploring new cuisines. These activities provide a well-rounded perspective to her profile, showcasing her ability to balance rigorous academic work with personal interests, contributing to her overall intellectual vitality and personal development.

By harnessing these diverse strengths, Ananyaa will undoubtedly align with Stanford University's emphasis on intellectual vitality, leadership, and community engagement, making her a standout candidate for admission.

Part 2 - Top Weak Spots Identified for Ananyaa Srivastava

Ananyaa possesses a robust academic foundation, demonstrated through her impressive coursework and grades. However, to increase her competitiveness for top schools, there are several key areas she should focus on. Enhancing these areas will present her as a more holistic and exemplary applicant. Ananyaa should specifically work on diversifying extracurricular activities, developing a clear narrative, improving teacher relationships, and deepening community engagement.

[Weak Spot 1] Diversifying Extracurricular Activities:

Ananyaa's extracurricular activities currently revolve around a few key interests such as computer science-related pursuits and contributing to her school's computer science club. While she has shown dedication in areas like competitive programming and website design for a climate solutions company, incorporating a wider array of activities could be beneficial. Engaging in extracurriculars related to her other interests, such as chemistry, robotics, or interdisciplinary clubs that bridge her love for technology and the environment, would highlight her versatility and depth.

[Weak Spot 2] Developing a Clear Narrative:

Ananyaa has a variety of interests ranging from computer science to chemistry and from dance to chess. However, her story lacks cohesion. Admissions committees will benefit from a clear, compelling narrative that connects her various passions. For example, Ananyaa could articulate how her programming skills are being applied to climate science solutions, or how her analytical abilities in chess enhance her problem-solving skills in computer science. A well-crafted narrative will help present Ananyaa's diverse interests as interconnected rather than disparate.

[Weak Spot 3] Improving Teacher Relationships:

Ananyaa has indicated that she tends to be more reserved and introspective, which has resulted in limited teacher interactions. This reticence may impact the strength of her Letters of Recommendation (LOR) and overall presence within the academic community. By actively participating in class discussions and seeking mentorship opportunities, Ananyaa can build meaningful relationships with her teachers. This approach would not only strengthen her LORs but also exhibit her engagement and proactive stance in the learning environment.

[Weak Spot 4] Deepening Community Engagement:

While Ananyaa has been involved in tutoring her friend's son in reading comprehension and has participated in some volunteer work, these activities lack significant impact and long-term commitment. She could work on developing and executing community projects that integrate her interests in science, education, and technology. For instance, organizing a coding camp for young students or leading a science outreach program could emphasize her leadership skills and community impact. Focusing on a cause that deeply resonates with her and seeing it through over a longer period would considerably strengthen this aspect of her application. Make sure to apply to NHS (national honor society) through your school's local chapter so your volunteer hours are approved and have merit to them. NHS usually requires 30 hrs/yr so its not too tricky. Usually people start NHS in 10th grade

By addressing these areas, Ananyaa can ensure a more well-rounded and compelling application that highlights both her academic prowess and personal growth, making her a strong candidate for Stanford.

Part 3 - Tailored 3-Year Strategies with Specific Action Plan to Address Ananyaa's Weak Spots:

Based on an in-depth assessment of Ananyaa's current profile and my experience in guiding students toward admission to top-tier universities, I propose the following strategies to enhance her application. By focusing on these areas, Ananyaa can showcase a well-rounded, compelling profile that aligns with Stanford's expectations.

[Strategy 1] Diversifying Extracurricular Activities:

Objective:
To broaden Ananyaa's extracurricular involvement, highlighting versatility and depth.

How:
Encourage Ananyaa to explore activities outside her core interests, particularly integrating other fields of fascination such as chemistry and robotics.

Why:
Diversifying her extracurriculars will paint a picture of a multifaceted individual capable of excelling in various domains.

Specific Plan:
- **Engage in Interdisciplinary Clubs:** Suggest Ananyaa join clubs that bridge technology with other interests, such as an environmental science club that focuses on tech-driven solutions.
- **Participate in Competitions:** Encourage her to enter chemistry or robotics competitions, complementing her existing computer science strengths.
- **Balance & Integration:** Ensure these new activities complement rather than overshadow her existing commitments, showcasing a well-rounded yet focused profile.

Aditi:
Task: Join a robotics team.
- To counter the "too many guys on the team" perspective: consider asking 1-2 of your friends to join you on the team, so you have a buddy motivation system to attend meetings.

Objective:

- Build leadership roles
- Build technical skills
- Network

Award:

- Robotics (FRC) teams from Ananyaa's area tend to do well in competitions.
- Most awards presented to teams (eg. Autonomous award, quality award, finalist/winner alliance)
- Can qualify for individual awards (eg. Dean's list)

Why:

- Mentors are a) a great LOR source and b) wonderful for networking.
- Robotics teaches loads of interdisciplinary skills, and always has open spots for leadership opportunities.

Plan:

- Join on Software team & develop understanding of code
- Figure out what part of the software team needs to be semi-separately developed (vision? Rewriting team's libraries?)
- Branch off and form a mini-leadership role for your new subteam

Jenny:

Rose Garden Volunteering: https://www.seattlerosesociety.com/

Objective: To foster a connection with the environment while building leadership and community service experience.

How: Encourage Ananyaa to volunteer at a local rose garden, assisting with garden upkeep, education, or community events.

Why: Volunteering in a garden environment highlights commitment to sustainability and offers a meaningful way to demonstrate community engagement. It also reflects patience, care, and attention to detail—qualities that can stand out in college applications.

Specific Plan:

- **Lead or Organize Events:** Suggest that Ananyaa take on a leadership role in organizing community workshops or educational tours about rose care.
- **Develop a Skill Set:** Ananyaa can document her learning about horticulture, plant biology, and sustainability through the volunteering experience, potentially integrating her chemistry interest in studying the environmental benefits of roses.

Community Garden:

Objective: To demonstrate initiative in community-building through hands-on work and project management.

How: Encourage Ananyaa to participate in or even help start a community garden in her neighborhood or school.

Why: Working in a community garden reflects teamwork, responsibility, and social impact. This is a great opportunity to highlight leadership and collaboration skills, while making tangible contributions to the local community.

Specific Plan:

- **Plan and Execute a Project:** Ananyaa could spearhead a special project, such as installing composting systems or sustainable irrigation, showcasing her initiative and problem-solving skills.
- **Incorporate Robotics/Tech:** She could create a project that integrates technology, such as automated watering systems, bringing in her interest in robotics and presenting a unique angle to this activity.

Rose/Gardening Blog:

Objective: To build an online presence and demonstrate creativity, communication, and consistency.

How: Encourage Ananyaa to start a blog about rose gardening or her experiences in community gardens, tying her extracurricular activities together.

Why: A blog serves as a platform to showcase her writing skills, personal reflections, and long-term commitment to her hobbies. It can also highlight her ability to educate and engage with a broader audience—traits that colleges find appealing.

Specific Plan:

- **Interdisciplinary Approach:** Ananyaa could write blog posts that integrate chemistry and plant science, offering insights on how different elements affect plant growth.
- **Collaboration:** She could invite guest posts from peers or local experts in gardening, which could show her teamwork and outreach abilities.

[Strategy 2] Developing a Clear Narrative:

Objective:
To craft a cohesive story that interlinks Ananyaa's diverse interests, presenting a unified theme in her personal statements and interviews.

How:
Assist Ananyaa in identifying and articulating the connections between her passions for computer science, chemistry, dance, and chess.

Why:

A compelling narrative helps admissions committees understand how her varied experiences contribute to her overall aspirations and readiness for their program.

Specific Plan:
- **Reflective Exercises:** Conduct brainstorming sessions to map out how each interest contributes to her personal and academic growth.
- **Essay Drafts:** Work on drafting and refining personal statements that seamlessly weave these themes together, like how programming aids her climate science activities or the strategic thinking in chess translates to problem-solving in tech.
- **Fine-Tuning:** Continuously refine her narrative to ensure clarity and impact, aligning her essays with her application's overarching theme.

[Strategy 3] Improving Teacher Relationships:

Objective:
To build stronger, more personalized relationships with teachers, resulting in robust Letters of Recommendation (LOR).

How:
Encourage Ananyaa to actively engage with her teachers, participate in discussions, and seek mentorship.

Why:
Personalized and impactful LORs that highlight Ananyaa's engagement, character, and academic contributions can significantly bolster her application.

Specific Plan:
- **Regular Teacher Meetings:** Schedule consistent one-on-one sessions during office hours to discuss projects and seek feedback.
- **Active Participation:** Increase participation in class and group discussions to leave a positive impression.
- **Mentorship Opportunities:** Pursue opportunities where teachers can mentor her, such as assisting in research projects or leading school initiatives. I think this is the most achievable and impactful strategy. Also consider asking teachers about their academic background and where they've worked before (esp for stem teachers) during passing periods / when you stay back after school

[Strategy 4] Deepening Community Engagement:

Objective:
To enhance Ananyaa's community involvement by creating sustained and impactful projects that align with her interests.

How:
Guide Ananyaa in identifying community service opportunities that integrate her skills in science, technology, and education.

Why:
Long-term, significant community projects demonstrate her leadership, commitment, and willingness to apply her knowledge for societal benefit.

Specific Plan:
- **Initiate Projects:** Propose initiatives like leading a coding workshop for young students or developing a science outreach program for local schools.
- **Long-Term Commitments:** Focus on sustainability and depth in these projects, ensuring long-term involvement and significant impact.
- **Leverage Interests:** Encourage the use of her tech skills to innovate and improve community projects, such as developing educational apps or organizing tech-driven environmental campaigns. Also, leveraging Ananyaa's interests in gardening can add depth and nuance to her profile to help her stand out.

By addressing these areas, Ananyaa can showcase a holistic and exceptional profile that emphasizes both her academic talents and personal growth, positioning her as a strong candidate for Stanford.

Part 4 - Ananyaa's Target Ideal Extracurricular Profile (Activities List)

Ananyaa's ideal profile highlights her proficiency and leadership in computer science, exceptional academic performance, involvement in various clubs and activities, community engagement, passion for chess and problem-solving, interest in climate solutions, and her well-rounded personal interests. Her drive for self-improvement and her aptitude for cultural and emotional intelligence make her a compelling candidate.

1. #### Proficiency and Leadership in Computer Science:

- **Continued Involvement and Mastery:**
  Keep honing her skills in HTML, Java, JavaScript, React.js, and Next.js by undertaking progressively challenging projects.

- **USACO and Competitive Programming:**
  Increase her participation in the USA Computing Olympiad (USACO) and other competitive programming contests to sharpen her problem-solving skills.

- **Leadership in the Programming Club:**
  Play a leading role in the organization of the Competitive Programming Club, possibly by mentoring newcomers and creating complex programming problems.

- **Passion Projects:**
  Initiate tech projects that address real-world issues, such as developing apps or algorithms that could support social causes or educational initiatives.

Ananyaa should initiate new projects related to her passion for gardening and rose horticulture. This could include volunteering with the Seattle Rose Society, starting a community garden, or creating her own blog.

2. #### Academic Excellence and Diverse Interests:

- **Maintain Strong Academic Performance:**
  Sustain her high GPA while managing a diverse and challenging course load, continuing to excel in subjects such as AP Physics, AP Computer Science, Calculus AB, and AP World History.

- **Advanced Studies and Research:**
  Engage in independent research projects and seek opportunities to publish her work, particularly exploring interdisciplinary connections.

- **Academic Clubs:**
  Participate in relevant academic clubs such as the Math Club or Science Olympiad to further her intellectual pursuits and form connections with like-minded peers.

3. #### Engagement in Extracurricular Activities:

- **Participation in Clubs:**
  Take on more active roles in clubs like Model UN and the journalism club, contributing to school discussions on global issues and writing articles on tech and science for the school website.

- **Tech Competitions and Hackathons:**
  Engage in tech-related competitions and hackathons, pushing boundaries in AI and machine learning projects.

4. #### Community Involvement and Leadership:

- **Tutoring and Mentorship:**
  Continue providing tutoring support, potentially expanding to more students to foster a broader impact on her community.

- **Community Workshops:**
  Organize and lead workshops that utilize her tech skills to help others, such as coding bootcamps for younger students or community members.

5. #### Passion for Chess and Problem-Solving:

- **Chess Competitions:**
  Participate in more chess tournaments, improving her strategic thinking and showcasing her analytical capabilities.

- **Chess Club Leadership:**
  Consider starting or leading a chess club at school, mentoring peers and organizing events.

6. #### Interest in Climate Solutions:

- **Tech for Sustainability:**
  Develop software or algorithms for climate data analysis or other environment-focused applications.

- **Internships/Volunteer Work:**
  Seek internships or volunteer positions at organizations focused on environmental issues.

7. #### Initiative and Drive for Self-Improvement:

- **Self-Directed Learning:**
  Continue self-learning in advanced technologies and frameworks such as React.js, Next.js, AI, and machine learning.

- **Coding Challenges:**
  Regularly participate in online coding challenges and competitions to stay sharp and updated in tech trends.

Aditi:

Task: participate in local hackathons
Objective:

- Build projects and technical skills
- Network with others

Award:

- submit project to business competitions (5min video) (eg. blue ocean, diamond challenge, conrad challenge)
- Potentially branch hackathon project into a science fair project (unlikely with cs project; more likely if there's a foundational science behind it or a new AI trained)

Why:

- Projects are always great to have on your portfolio: can help you get other internship/research opportunities
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Plan:

- Sign up for hackathons in your area
- Use projects to submit to various other competitions (besides the hackathon itself)

8. #### Cultural and Emotional Intelligence:

- **Writing and Awareness:**
  Write articles or blog posts reflecting on current global issues, possibly for school publications or wider audiences, demonstrating her depth of empathy and global awareness.

- **Multicultural Engagement:**
  Participate in cultural and humanitarian events that promote understanding and support for various cultural issues and causes.

Aditi:
Task: Write about a new topic/type of perspective in your future journalistic endeavors.
Objective:

- Leadership position
- Write about what you are passionate about
- Ideally: tie in your article topic types with your interest in gardening and cs

Award:

- Leadership opportunities and the potential to leave a legacy on your school's journalism
- If your school has journalism awards / submits to them, then you can win larger awards

Why:

- Leadership / taking initiative: Can create a new position in your school journalism/publication team

Plan:

- For example, forge a position called "global issues lead" and begin to take on all articles related to global issues - whether you write or proofread them. And encourage multiple perspectives, manage who gets to take on which article, etc.

9. #### Science and Technology Enthusiasm:

- **Chemistry Competitions:**
  Continue participating in and organizing for chemistry and science-related competitions like "You Be the Chemist."

- **STEM Clubs:**
  Engage deeply in STEM clubs, taking on leadership roles and contributing to club projects.

NVIDIA Robotics Lab:

Objective: To gain hands-on experience in cutting-edge robotics research.

How: Encourage Ananyaa to explore opportunities to work with NVIDIA's Robotics Lab through internships, summer programs, or even outreach to professors and professionals in the field.

Why: Being involved in a high-profile lab like NVIDIA's will add prestige to her profile while exposing her to advanced technologies in artificial intelligence and robotics. It will also align well with her interest in bridging technology with her other academic interests.

Specific Plan:

- **Research Assistant:** Ananyaa could apply for an assistantship or internship to contribute to ongoing projects in the lab, gaining invaluable practical skills while making connections in the tech industry.
- **Collaboration Opportunities:** She can use this opportunity to develop interdisciplinary projects combining her knowledge in chemistry and robotics, perhaps focusing on robots for chemical research or lab automation.

UW Seattle Robotics Lab:

Objective: To explore academic and research opportunities in a prestigious robotics lab.

How: Encourage Ananyaa to look into research programs or summer internships at the University of Washington’s Robotics Lab, which offers opportunities to work with leading faculty on groundbreaking projects.

Why: Gaining hands-on research experience at a university lab will add significant depth to her profile, demonstrating her commitment to innovation and practical application of robotics in real-world problems.

Specific Plan:

- **Research Proposal:** Ananyaa could develop a proposal for a project related to environmental robotics or chemical robotics, which would be an excellent way to tie her interests together.
- **Networking:** By building relationships with faculty at UW Seattle, Ananyaa can secure mentorship, recommendation letters, and possibly future academic opportunities

10. #### Hobbies and Personal Interests:

- **Exploring New Hobbies:**
  Balance her rigorous academic and extracurricular commitments with hobbies like hiking, gardening, and exploring new cuisines, ensuring well-rounded personal growth.

11. #### Special Passion Project

- **Climate and Tech Integration:**
  Develop a tech project aimed at climate solutions, such as a digital platform that educates students about environmental science with interactive modules.

- **Collaboration with Organizations:**
  Partner with local environmental organizations to implement her projects, ensuring a significant community impact.

By leveraging these strengths and engagements, Ananyaa will align closely with Stanford University's values of intellectual vitality, leadership, and community service, making her a distinctive and qualified candidate for admission.

##Part 5 - Ananyaa's Ideal Awards Profile

Ananyaa’s ideal awards should showcase her mastery in computer science, academic excellence, leadership qualities, community service, and commitment to climate solutions.

1. Computer Science Awards

USA Computing Olympiad (USACO):

- Participate in this competition to demonstrate her programming skills and problem-solving abilities. High performance in USACO can propel her recognition in the computer science community.

NCWIT Aspirations in Computing Award:
- This award recognizes young women with aspirations in computing and can highlight Ananyaa's achievements in programming and technology innovation.

Google Code-In:
- Engage in this competition if she is under 18, to work on open-source projects and win prizes, which would emphasize her practical experience and dedication to the tech community.

2. Academic Excellence Awards

National Merit Scholar:
- Securing this recognition will highlight her academic prowess and high standardized test scores.

U.S. Presidential Scholars Program:
- Acknowledging her all-around academic excellence, this prestigious award reinforces her intellectual capabilities.

3. Leadership and Community Service Awards

National Presidential Service Award (Gold):
- Achieve this top-tier award by volunteering a significant number of hours in community service, demonstrating her commitment to societal betterment.

Prudential Spirit of Community Award:
- Showcasing her engagement in impactful community projects and volunteerism can elevate her profile.

MIT THINK Scholars Program:
- This involves submitting her independent research or innovative ideas, which can highlight her leadership in problem-solving and community engagement through technology.

4. Climate Solutions and Innovations Awards

Google Science Fair:

- Participate with a project on climate solutions or environmental technology, which aligns perfectly with her interest and commitment to this field.

Davidson Fellows Scholarship:
- Recognize her extraordinary achievements in technology and climate solutions, emphasizing her impactful innovations.

Aditi:
Task: Build IOT-type devices/tools (eg. for early fire detection systems for forests) which can a) connect to Ananyaa's interest in software and b) tie into Ananyaa's passion for climate.
Objective:
- Win awards
- Build a complex technical project
- Gain skills

Award:
- Science fairs: These types of projects, if tested (aka, can make a graph out of it), can also be submitted to science fairs (local ISEF-affiliated fair; JSHS).
    - Science fairs are tiered: you can place at district, state, and international levels. Ideally Ananyaa at least qualifies for state this year, and international next year. District level fairs start in November so it is important that Ananyaa starts on a project right away
- Business comps: We can also send a business-version of this project to business competitions like the conrad challenge, blue ocean, diamond challenge, etc. which just require a 5min video submission

Why:
- Build awards profile
- Build projects that tie to nature/gardening/forests with cs and tech
- Ananyaa's interest in robotics can also tie to interest in IOT and building physical devices

Plan:
- Follow passion project steps
    - Brainstorm issue / gain community feedback
    - Build device
    - Test device
    - Present findings

American Horticulture Awards (many)
- Seek national recognition for horticulture passion project! https://ahsgardening.org/gardening-programs/national-awards/great-american-gardeners/
- Cultivate a community garden or similar project

Scholarship award for the National Children and Youth Gardening Symposium
- https://ahsgardening.org/gardening-programs/youth-gardening/ncygs/ncygs-2024/2024-ncygs-scholarships/

- Attend national conference for free and seek recognition for gardening passion and project

Washington State Department of Health Washington Tracking Network Youth Science Competition

- https://doh.wa.gov/data-and-statistical-reports/washington-tracking-network-wtn/youth-science-contest
- 3 tracks: science communication, health science, program and policy communication
- Intersection of passion for technology, healthcare, and robotics
- State level recognition

5. Scholarships for Multi-talented Individuals

Coca-Cola Scholars Program:
- This scholarship acknowledges students for their leadership, academic achievements, and community service, all of which align with Ananyaa's strengths. Only apply in 12th grade

Regeneron Science Talent Search:
- Enter this competition with her research in climate solutions or innovative applications of computer science, highlighting her scientific elite status. Only apply in 12th grade

Additional Steps for Ananyaa:
- **Engage More with Clubs and Extracurricular Activities:** Take on additional leadership roles or start a tech-focused club at school to enhance leadership skills and community impact. This can include leadership in journalism

- **Competitions and Science Fairs:** Develop a new project that applies AI to real-world problems, potentially targeting tools for environmental solutions or community assistance. This could later be submitted to competitions like ISEF (International Science and Engineering Fair) or the Conrad Challenge.

- **Online Competitions:** Since these competitions often require video submissions and self-directed communication, they can substantially mitigate potential shyness issues while providing substantial networking opportunities. As mentioned above with the business comps

- **Science and Technology Fairs:** Apply to regional and national science fairs with innovative AI or environmental projects to gain broader recognition and further validate her research prowess.

By strategically pursuing these awards and recognitions, Ananyaa can craft a robust profile that underscores her diverse talents, leadership, and commitment to both technological innovation and community betterment, aligning perfectly with Stanford University's values.

More info on competitions mentioned above

Business comps:

- BlueOcean (deadline: Feb 16 2025) (submit: video) (groups: small team). Completely online/asynchronous. Tiered prizes: top 100, 30, and 10
- Diamond Challenge (initial deadline: Jan 2025) (submit: video). Asynchronous for the first level; if called to the next round, live presentation. Awards: some special awards according to topics & grand prizes
- Conrad Challenge (initial deadline: Nov 2024). Multiple rounds - prizes are tiered; Need to participate in a small team
- Online competitions means shyness shouldn't be an issue. But there are still chances to network!

Science fairs:

- Applying to science fairs:
  - Look for an ISEF-affiliated fair (usually through your school. Ask your science teacher). This is a poster-session type presentation format.
  - Is Ananyaa good at presentations to larger audiences? (if not, it's still a good skill to develop!) JSHS is good to apply to. Note: need a submittable paper by December

Volunteering:

- Submit hours to prestigious prize organizations (eg. President's award for volunteering) to (a) quantify and (b) add to your awards list