**Student Personal Information:**

Applicant’s name: Ty Marking

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**Activities Essay**

I am what the “cool kids” call a nerd, and I love it. I have always been technically minded, from actually liking math to building my own computer, STEM disciplines and activities are what I love. They are my sport so to say. While others are doing drills or practicing a new technique in their sport, I’m trying to make a permutations algorithm as memory efficient as I can. The one area in STEM that I enjoy the most is computer science. There is so much going on behind every screen and in every electronic device that most people never realize. Making complex algorithms and functions out of basic logic is a reward in itself to me. All the intricacies of everything you do on a computer is made of basic logic gates and comparisons. Besides my interest in STEM, I would also consider myself to be a gamer. There is nothing like an encapsulation RPG to relax with after a long day.

**How and Why Essay**

The Mentor Program is one of the very few school programs that I have heard only good things about. My sister despised most everything about school even though she was an A student, but she enjoyed the Mentor Program. To be able to go out into a real working environment in most whatever field or career you want is an incredibly unique, and I expect rewarding, experiment. That is why I’m doing the Mentor Program, to get real experience with a real world job. So much of school is said to be preparing you for the real world, like when you graduate you are magically whisked away to a new land where everything is different. The Mentor Program bridges that gap, and is a bridge I’ve been looking for. As for making time, I don’t imagine I’ll have a problem. It will be high on my priorities so even if I have to sacrifice something else I will find time for the Mentor Program.

**Personal Reflection Paragraph**

Looking into the immediate future, I hope to start focusing more on STEM education. While yes I will still have to take English and History my junior and senior year to graduate high school, I plan on taking extra math and science courses (as much as Newport Harbor will allow me to). Outside of school, I have applied to a summer course in AI at Stanford and hope to be accepted. While I feel pretty strongly that my career will heavily involve computer science, there is still a broad range of careers to choose from. By taking many different maths and sciences, I hope to discover if I really enjoy a certain topic or field that involves computer science at the high levels. This is also part of what I hope to get out of the Mentor Program. Getting exposure to a career will help me find if there is something that I really want or don’t want to do. I really love learning about computer science, math, and STEM in general, as in things like how neural nets can create dream like pictures or how you can make any rational number out of four fours is what I look into on my free time. The more of a nerd and math/CS lover a possible mentor is the better.

**Three Career Interest Choices**

**First Choice: Computer Software engineer**

My experience in computer science has mostly remained in the realm of small scale projects and algorithms. What I am interested to see is how all those small pieces come together into a fully worked piece of software and all the steps that takes that I don’t realize. I’m sure I don’t know nearly as much about real world software development, so I hope to get the opportunity to discover the customs and proper practices that come with software engineering.

**Second Choice: Computer Software Business Development**

As I have made clear, I really enjoy Computer Science. Something I haven’t had the opportunity to experience as of yet is how complex and extensive software is developed in a workplace by multiple people. The group dynamic of a business piece of code is something I am very interested in getting a chance to experience and learn from.

**Third Choice: IT Programmer**

I have always been the family and friends IT man. Seriously how hard is it to shut something off than turn it back on again people? What I lack experience in is the more upscale and professional matinees of a network, servers, and a business environment. Without this maintenance by IT, every business relying on the internet or computers (so practically all of them) would slowly break down and eventually grind to a halt as one by one systems fail. IT are the unsung heroes of the modern age.

Ty Marking

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**OBJECTIVE**

Experience in real world Computer Science Careers

**EDUCATION**

Current Enrollment in Newport Harbor High School

Current GPA of 4.6

NHHS Student of the Semester, Fall 2015

NHHS Academic Excellence, Fall 2015, Spring 2016, Fall 2016

California Scholarship Federation 2015, 2016, 2017

Global Connect @ UCI Symposium Project Finalist, 2nd place, May 2016

Ensign Faculty Award, 2014-2015

Middle School Academic Honor Roll 2014, 2015

Middle School Golden Seabee, 2015

**WORK EXPERIENCE**

Private tutor, 2016 to Present

* Focused on Math but also general scholarship and keeping up with homework.
* Tailored to student’s specific learning style.
* Focus on helping students obtain a mathematical way of thinking and ability to excel in higher levels without the need of a tutor.

**VOLUNTEER & COMMUNITY**

Summer Engineering Academy – 32 hours summer of 2016

Aid at previous elementary school – 2 hours weekly during 2013-2014 school year

**INTERESTS AND SKILLS**

Independent Computer Science–Proficient in Java and C, semi-proficient in Python, basics of HTML

Computer hardware and construction – Built my own computer

Proficient with Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, family IT needs