**Why I am interested in Interior Design:**

For most of my life, I have always admired art and design, but it wasn’t until my senior year of high school that I chose to pursue it as my lifelong career. I chose this program specifically because I want to paint my identity and use interior design as my canvas, no longer fantasizing about my ideal lifestyle. I hope I can paint for you a clear picture of how my journey through design and architecture began.

When I was younger, I used to view challenges negatively, holding a fixed mindset. But as I matured, I’ve grown to appreciate challenges as steppingstones to success. I would often convince myself to look forward with optimistic views, ignoring the pessimistic voice. Yet at times I would fail and become disappointed with myself for not being “good enough”. From this experience, I learned a crucial lesson: Aim for progression, not perfection. Many times I’ve let success get to my head and failure get to my heart. However, with this new shift in perspective, I’ve become more accepting of mistakes and failures and started viewing them as a means of success. I have come to understand that the pain I receive from failure is far more beneficial as it’s allowed me to be complacent and modest in my personality and work ethic. I now view challenges as obstacles to success and failure as a means of learning.

One of my favourite visual novels, “Blue Period”, by the artist Tsubasa Yamaguchi, played a key role in motivating me to take this path of arts and design and opening more opportunities to learn and challenge myself around the world of creativity. The story is about the protagonist in his final year of high school, who is well-known for excelling in the STEM field. Captivated by a stunning art piece from the Art Club, he gains an interest in art and chooses to pursue a career in the arts despite the expectations for him to enter the STEM field. This story is a rendition of Tsubasa Yamaguchi’s experience at the Tokyo University of Arts. And it has inspired me to follow this path of design instead of detaching myself from the artists and designers that I admire. After reading Blue Period, I also learned the dichotomy between talent and hard work and intend to pursue and build a life that I desire.

Although I’ve long since admired the creative field, I’m still without a doubt new to the environment. I’m ready to embrace the countless challenges and problems I may face in the future, and I hope to learn from them and gain new experiences. A long-term goal of mine is to receive and accumulate experience and carve into the ideal version of myself through design and architecture. With my experience with time management and having a good work ethic, I believe in myself to be able to overcome the obstacles I’ll inevitably receive. I hope to seek greater opportunities for honing my technical skills and creative process in a good learning environment that allows me to grow, both as a person and as a designer.