**Describe your favorite academic subject and explain how it has influenced you.**

For as long as I may remember, I have always had a natural affinity for math, more specifically converting numbers into English. Calculus was the first class to truly make me appreciate the accuracy of mathematics as a whole. The whole subject may appear a simple memorization of processes ranging from derivatives to integrals to limits. Yet, calculus appeared to me as the bridge between true mathematics and real life occurrences, in other words, maximization problems. I will never forget the maximization problem that changed my passion and pursuance of mathematics as an integral part in my major. I realized, after calculating the answer, how practical and applicable the problem is in the modern world. Here is that problem: A city is looking to construct a community monument bounded by four highway cross sections and sidewalks. The area described has a length of 200 meters and a width of 165 meters. The construction company has a 50,000 dollars restriction with a cost of $5.50 per square meter of construction. With that, what is the maximum area allowed for the construction of the monument given that you want the largest perimeter. It seemed fairly simple at a glance, but it took me hours before I realized the approach. I computed the problem with respects to perimeter and area; the answer actually made sense. It lit a spark for me: math is very practical in a landscaping setting. That is what eventually ledme to the appreciation of landscape architecture. The problem allowed me to respect the complexity of restrictions within confined construction, especially when you throw in three maximization variables of cost, area and perimeter. Simply, that’s what an architect is about. It’s not just building homes or constructing landscapes for people, but it is constructing buildings for Earth. What’s the maximization variable for construction? Sustainability is the answer. It may not seem like a confounding variable, but it is pivotal to any project. I am fueling my success on my appreciation of calculus. Math is the fuel of my career and I can not get enough of it.