Joseph Delamerced - Summit Country Day School - Summit Country Day School

In my community, I strive to positively affect the lives of others. Here in Cincinnati, I volunteer as a chess mentor and teacher for KIDSforCHESS (kidsforchess.org), a non-profit organization my siblings and I co-founded. Our mission is to empower inner-city youth through the game of chess and its life lessons of hard work and good sportsmanship. It is humbling to hear from these young students that they enjoy playing chess and are curious to learn more. At first it seemed hard to teach these children, but eventually after a few lessons of basic strategy, they always wanted to play this life-changing game. It's always wonderful to see the young students overcome their struggles with chess and begin to have an ignited enthusiasm.

Globally, I also strive to positively affect the lives of others. On mission trips, I've trekked to the mountainous villages in the Philippines. I've gathered clothes and toys and donated them to orphans. In all that I do, I want to serve God by helping out others. The passage Colossians 3:23, "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord," reminds me to strive for my best in all that I do, including being a leader and server, empowering others, and making my life purposeful.

Perhaps the extracurricular activity most dear to me would be iTutelage. I wanted to show my students how a dead language could be reinvigorated through their zealous passion and overflowing enthusiasm. I teach inner-city children about Greek mythology and the Latin language. I wanted to show my students how a dead language could be reinvigorated through their zealous passion and overflowing enthusiasm. With each lesson I teach, I find that this program allows me to strive to be a better teacher, leader, and role model for these students with each passing lesson. Through my classics program, I've taught my students the tales of Odysseus and Aeneas, the declensions of nouns and conjugations of verbs, and the life and conquests of Julius Caesar. I wanted my students to share in my excitement and passion in learning about the Greco-Roman world. I also have an heartfelt desire to serve others. Having partaken in a myriad of service events, I'm deeply filled with joy every time my work elicits a smile from people. My inspiration for the program came from the students I taught from the different schools within my community. My students are consistently eager to learn, and I am always happily enthusiastic to pass down knowledge about the ancient world.

I affect the lives of others at my school positively as well. When Typhoon Haiyan hit my parents' homeland, the Philippines, I prayed to God and felt called to help all those who lost their homes and families in this tragedy. At my grade school, I led my Service Club to start a fund for the country and gave a speech to raise awareness of the plight of the victims. By asking people for spare change to put into tin cans at lunch, we miraculously raised \$300. During lunch period, we talked to people about the tragedy in the Philippines and how they can help with just a few pennies. Along with monetary donations, we provided many canned goods as well. I partnered with Matthew 25 and sent our grade school's donations there. From this eye-opening experience, I learned the importance of service and of giving. I was reminded of the power and support of my school and community as they helped my country through this difficult time.

My allergies prove to become a hindrance to others when I'm at school. Every time food is brought in for any occasion - a birthday, school party, or spontaneous hunger - I, most of the time, cannot eat it. To help fix this quandary, I've informed my

peers about my allergies and raised awareness for it. I've informed my friends about my allergies and how to deal with an allergic attack with the EpiPen, an epinephrine injection.

Additionally, I love writing, so I compose articles for my school newspaper and represent my school through "Power of the Pen" competitions. I enjoy collaborating with my teammates and helping them out if they have "writer's block". At school, I also love English because through this subject, I have been introduced to living and fictional characters that have made a huge impact in my life. For example, through Elie Wiesel, I was introduced to a disheartening universe that called upon others like me to never make the world such a terrible place ever again. I, in turn, want to create characters that compel others to make positive impacts. To me, writing gives me a platform to express myself freely, to touch a reader's life with a story. I try to affect people's lives through my writing.

Moreover, I influence my school positively through the school chess club my siblings and I co-founded. Since I like playing chess, we organized lesson plans (with snacks!), chess games, and tournaments. And one summer I even helped to teach chess to students at a chess camp held at our school. Lastly, I am very devoted to my grade school's Latin Club. I impact other people by fostering enthusiasm in the younger students, especially in the middle school and newcomers. I also play Certamen (a Jeopardy-style quiz bowl game) and represent my school at state competitions. I assist my teammates and hope to inspire in others the value of teamwork and dedication.

At home, as the youngest of three children, I'm known as the "baby" of the family, but my older siblings have told me that they really admire me. My older sister is inspired by my lively personality and how I like making friends with people from all backgrounds. Moreover, my older brother tells me he admires my work ethic and motivation. Whether it's poring through hundreds of words in preparation for spelling bees, or spending a few hours crafting a Latin pop-up book for convention, I put in 100% in all that I do. Lastly, as the child of immigrants, I've inherited my parents' values of diversity and hospitality; they journeyed from the Philippines to America with nothing but a few dollars in their pocket and had to start a life in a foreign place, but they always strove to connect with others from all different cultures and beliefs. Thus, whenever a guest walks through our front doors, we try to make them feel right at home. In all that I do, I strive to help and serve others and make my life purposeful.

Thank you for your consideration.