Teacher Evaluations

This application includes two Teacher Evaluation forms. After completing your portion of the forms, you should give them to teachers in *different academic subjects* who know you well and preferably have taught you during your final two years of school. As a courtesy to your teachers, you might provide them with stamped envelopes addressed to Harvard Admissions.

To help us check for completeness of your application, please list your teachers' names.

Teacher Evaluation 1	Teacher Evaluation 2
Mark Adams	Trisha Nagawa

Class Rank

Ranked Top 10% in a total graduating class numbering 900.

(If precise rank is not available, please estimate, as "top tenth," "top quarter," etc. Even if your school does not rank, please indicate the size of your total graduating class.)

Summer Activities

Activity (camp, travel, summer school)	Approximate dates of participation	Number of hours spent per week (if applicable)
Microchip Design/Learning Elec. Eng	Jul 2009 - Sep 2009	20
Web Devel./Hiring other students	Jun 2005 - present	10
Indep. Study of CS/Graphics	2005 - present	15
Surfing	2003 - present	5

OPTIONAL

We do not expect or require applicants to submit supplementary materials or additional essays. We simply want to be certain that you have every opportunity to tell us about yourself.

Supplementary Materials

The required components of the application to Harvard provide an ample basis to make our admission decisions. However, students with exceptional talents or achievements may send music recordings, slides of artwork or selected samples of academic work (e.g., creative writing) for us to consider as part of their application files. At the discretion of the Admissions Committee, submissions may be evaluated by faculty. Supplementary materials are not required or expected—and should be sent only if the applicant's work is unusually advanced. Because we cannot return such materials, applicants should send only duplicates. For more information, please visit our website: www.admissions.college.harvard.edu/apply/application_process/supplements.html.

Check here if you are planning to send supplementary materials to be evaluated as part of your application. Please send all supplementary materials to the Admissions Office so that they can be properly labeled and included in your file. DO NOT submit materials directly to academic departments. If you are submitting research materials for review, please include a short statement putting the research project into the context of your academic interests and future plans.

○ Music tape or CD*
Instrument _____

○ Slides of artwork
Media _____

☑ Other
(Explain) **Intel STS Research Paper**

**Please note that CD format is preferred, but tapes will still be evaluated. Do not send video recordings of musical performances or recitals.*

Additional Essays

Occasionally, students feel that college application forms do not provide a sufficient opportunity to convey important information about themselves or their accomplishments. If you wish to include an additional essay, you may do so.

Possible Topics:

- Unusual circumstances in your life
- Travel or living experiences in other countries
- Books that have affected you the most
- An academic experience (course, project, paper or research topic) that has meant the most to you
- A list of books you have read during the past twelve months

FOR STUDENTS APPLYING FROM SCHOOLS OUTSIDE THE U.S. AND CANADA (Regardless of Citizenship)

What leaving or qualifying examination, if any, do you expect to take before completing secondary school?

Examination — When will your record on this be available to Harvard?

What specific plan do you have, if any, for using the education you hope to receive?

Have you had or have you scheduled an admissions interview?

○ Yes
When? Where? With Whom?

○ No, but I plan to do so.
When? Where? With Whom?

○ No
Please state reason

Please see our website to determine whether an interview is possible in your home country: www.admissions.college.harvard.edu/apply/international/interviews.html.

Additional Information

Spent 2009 Summer:
Learning to program FPGA microchip for Intel Science Talent Search project. By reading online courseware & experimenting, learned Verilog hardware description language and nuances of programmable logic design; successfully implemented algorithm and microarchitecture I developed.

Working as Chief Technical Officer of It's a Beauty! Inc. Optimized database performance, loaded content, created new look and feel. Website www.itsabeauty.com

Traveling to Palomar State Forest carrying a tape recorder to gain inspiration for Live Poets Society of New Jersey National High School Poetry competition.

Intel Science Talent Search Paper Available At: http://jacobsstuff.tpclubs.com/intelsts/

PLEASE NOTE

Students admitted under an Early Decision program at another college must withdraw any pending application to Harvard College and are not eligible for admission.

If you have attended more than one high school in the last two years, you should have an additional School Report from the Common Application/Universal College Application submitted by your former counselor(s).

I certify that the information presented in my application is accurate, complete and honestly presented. I also certify that, to the best of my knowledge, any information submitted on my behalf, including letters of recommendation, is authentic. I understand and agree that any intentionally inaccurate information, misleading information or omission will, if discovered at a later date, be cause for recision of any offer of admission, or for discipline, including termination of my status as a student and revocation of course credit, course grades and degree.

SIGNATURE

Name Date

"Place yourself in the middle of the stream of power and wisdom which animates all whom it floats, and you are without effort impelled to truth, to right and a perfect contentment." ~Ralph Waldo Emerson, Spiritual Laws

As a transcendentalist, Emerson found inspiration in places where "the stream of power and wisdom flow" – where the truth is not sought but omnipresent – like his woodland cabin at Walden Pond. As a surfer, I find my own form of "truth" and "contentment" amidst the swells and fog…

It is my belief that paddling out into the lineup through a bank of heavy mist and suddenly finding yourself unable to see the shore is among the most surreal and inspiring experiences a person can have. Emerging from the thickest part of the onshore fog and into the realm of brighter sunlight outside is like crossing the border into a parallel world utterly isolated from our daily, land-lubberish lives. The feeling must be akin to that which drove the ancient Polynesians to their outrigger canoes, Shackleton to the Antarctic, Emerson to his leaps of insight in the face of rugged beauty. It is the euphoria and mystery that greet those who dare to leap where no one has ever looked, who realize that there is no emotion truer than that which comes from floating adrift in a flimsy, tiny capsule through a chaotic universe unimaginably larger than they. It is only when we are lost that we finally find ourselves.

When surfing in the fog I am directly prompted to think philosophically. I inevitably ponder the counterintuitive truism in quantum mechanics stating that all that is unseen could be - and in fact is - anything and everything it can be. As fellow wave riders - strangers and friends - wink out of my sphere of sight and consciousness, as the steadfast constructs of society become transient and melt into the muffling grayness, all standards for comparison and preconceptions of perspective vanish and my thoughts branch out unfettered. As I ride (or duck beneath) the waves that silently materialize before me, concepts that have long eluded me suddenly coalesce. The parallel pathfinding algorithm underlying my project for the Intel STS came to me not in a laboratory or classroom but as I watched the branching rivulets of water find their way down my surfboard as I emerged from underneath a wave (I saw how signals splitting and rejoining as they propagate through a network can simulate the shortest path problem in computer science). Often, I find it more productive to open my mind to the vast ocean's meditative lull than to study.

Sitting at peace in the stillness between the hollow waves is but one tributary of the vast "stream of power and wisdom" that animates me, the great river of physical and spiritual truth that emanates from nature. Running my hand along the ice-glazed needles of the fallen pine, inhaling the green-diffracted God-thought-breath of the morning forest, laughing as I hold wide my windbreaker and lean euphorically into the rushing torrents of the rain: this timeless rapture is my inspiration, this intricate, organic splendor a sanctified model for my thoughts. This is why I paddle out, never knowing exactly where I'll return to shore.