

Autobiographical Statement

Dominique Kim, age 14

I feel blessed to have my music and my family. My parents have been taking me to operas and ballets since as long as I can remember. My dad even gave up his golf game at first to buy us opera tickets, and later, to pay for my music lessons. I'm really grateful for that, especially because I know golf has been his passion since he was my age.

I am also grateful that I have two completely different types of instruments to learn and play. I love both piano and flute equally. Currently, I study piano with Professor George Katz, and flute with Ms. Jane Masur. I also study chamber music with Ms. Rebekah Yoon. I would also like to acknowledge Dana Burnett, September Payne, Tatiana Stignev, Claude Monteux, Demarre McGill, Timothy Day, Amy Porter, Jerome Lowenthal, Robert Gilson, and Jeff Edmons, for I would be a lot lesser person and musician had I not met them. I should also thank the following groups for featuring me on their programs – San Diego Young Artist Symphony, San Diego Civic Youth Orchestra, University of San Diego Symphony Orchestra, Cox-Media/Channel 4, La Jolla Music Society, and of course, the San Diego Symphony Orchestra. I would then go on to note all the honors and recognitions I have received, but I guess that would be a bit boastful.

But I am most grateful that I have a chance to be one of those music-playing, cloud-riding, fluffy angels that I dreamt of when I was little. I even have a little statuette of one of those flute-playing angels on my bookshelf. Now, thanks to my parents and teachers, I get to live my dream. Sometimes, when I'm performing on stage with my sister, I give her a glance and smile, just because. I'm glad the music has the power to turn sadness into hope, madness into joy, and even bratty little sisters into cherubs, at least for a little while...

Oh, my little sister, I feel a special kind of love between her and me. I think anyone who has performed music in ensemble with family members knows that special feeling. I hope that we can play music together for many years to come. Even after we are adults, and maybe live worlds apart, and pursuing completely different careers, our music will always bring us together. I just know it will.

