“Curiosity killed the cat” is a proverb that I abide by when something intrigues me to the point of crossing my boundaries. While this proverb is well-known to most, some may not know that it is only half the proverb. “Curiosity killed the cat; satisfaction brought him back.” is the whole saying. For the first half, it means to be wary of being too curious while the second half means embracing that curiosity is worth the risk. This is one of those times. This is me taking a risk, my shot, a chance to do something remarkable. I am William Wai Phyo Ordoyo Oo, an international student currently attending Skyline College, where I am majoring in Biology. I then plan to attend a four-year university to major in Food Science and Technology, attend culinary school, and become a Food Scientist. I am vying for the position of Phi Theta Kappa’s Nevada/California Regional President.

As a child, I moved around a lot due to my father’s work, having to pick up my life and uproot it, starting anew every time. In retrospect, it helped me become the person I am today. The constant move could have either broken me or improved me. Well, I chose the latter. Whenever I moved to a different country, I always felt out of place and would have the urge to overcome that feeling of isolation. I go out and explore, hit the books, mingle with the locals, immerse myself in the culture. It helped me to quickly assimilate, and I was able to gain insightful knowledge from different cultures wherever I moved. Being the new kid on the block, I needed to think of ways how to make connections so I chose to plant seeds wherever I would go, making friends, building relationships, and gaining a lifelong family forged not by blood but from love.

Throughout high school, I've actively showcased my leadership skills, notably serving as the secretary for our student council. I took great pride in spearheading numerous successful fundraisers, notably raising 500,000 MMK for the Yangon Children's Hospital. I also played a pivotal role in organizing engaging bake sales, enabling the council to finance vibrant school events like dances, movie nights, International Day, etc.

At the end of my first college semester, I applied to be a student ambassador to be a more active student on campus and to help ease some of my family's financial burden. As a student ambassador, I play a vital part in assisting current and prospective international students. I answer phone calls and emails, give campus tours to prospective students, and get in touch with current students to ensure they're staying on course. I guarantee that tasks assigned to me are done to the best of my abilities by making any necessary clarifications. Often demonstrating enthusiasm and initiative by volunteering first for tasks or being willing to step up whatever the team needs.

Despite tackling a demanding semester load, I've remained deeply engaged in various clubs, each contributing uniquely to my personal and academic growth. As a passionate International Student Club (ISC) member, I thrive on fostering connections and cultural exchange. My aspiration? To vie for a coveted spot on the executive board next semester to amplify our impact further. Within the Biology and Chemistry Scholars (BCS) Learning Community, an accelerated STEM platform, I've found a niche among like-minded peers. Engaging in socials, workshops, and research symposiums has enriched my network and deepened my insights, nurturing a solid foundation for my future career pursuits. My membership in the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society is more than just a title. Regularly attend meetings and workshops, observe the work of my

chapter’s beloved officers, and receive guidance and wisdom from our advisors. In the hopes of this coming year, I will take on a more active role, supporting events and running for chapter officer. It's about actively participating and making a tangible difference in the community.

Overall, these experiences have honed my leadership, networking, and teamwork skills, laying a robust groundwork for my academic and personal development. I'm eager to continue pushing boundaries, learning, and making meaningful contributions to both my college and the community at large.