
CHLOE GRACE SVADLENKA

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August 5, 2019

Lewisville Lake Symphony Intern Program

C/O Mrs. Margaret Wells

Re: "How does the study of music help in other areas of my life" essay

Dear Lewisville Lake Symphony Intern Program:

My name is Chloe Svadlenka and I have been studying music since the fifth grade. During the past five years, I have not regretted learning to play the violin. Being a performer has benefitted me by providing me mentorship from my Directors, teaching perseverance in the face of challenges, overcoming stage fright, dealing with pressure, and most importantly giving me refuge from stress and finding healthy friendships.

Being a high schooler can be lonely and challenging. I'm lucky to have found a safe space where I have met my closest friends in Varsity Orchestra. It seems as though orchestra people are "weird" like me. They are accepting and generous. Sure, they give me tough love when practicing a piece, but in the end we find a way to come together and make music.

Playing my violin provides a refuge from stress outside of school as well. I have a happy home life for the most part, but my parents are divorced and sometimes I feel stuck in the middle. I also have to deal with little siblings. When I get overwhelmed, I escape to my room and put all the emotions into the piece I am playing. I soon forget all my problems and find peace.

My stress level from honors high school classwork and keeping up with chores at home decreases because studying music has instilled a strong sense of discipline. Maintaining healthy practice habits, working on attention to detail, and scheduling private music lessons has taught me how to focus and be organized. I use this level of self-discipline to study for

tests and complete projects. I know not to procrastinate to the last minute. It makes it easier to get good grades and therefore lowers my stress, which makes me a happier person.

I see some of my friends who do not have an outlet in orchestra like I do. They seem to struggle and get into trouble. I feel thankful to be part of something bigger than myself. I feel more mature than the students that don't have a sport or music. I plan to keep studying music and performing the violin. I have even toured the University of North Texas music department. I hope to make a career in performance and hopefully someday pass on to others what I have found in music.

Thank you for your consideration to accept me as an intern.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chloe Svadlenka". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Chloe Grace Svadlenka