## **Pursuing My Passion**

## VEX Robotics Essay Online Challenge

## Team 5023 Knights Houston, Texas

What makes me smile is doing things I love while having fun. I love hanging out with friends and challenging them, whether it is in gaming, playing chess, having basketball competitions, or tinkering with robots.

I am passionate about math; I love solving problems. Joining VEX team 5023; I have been able to do both. This is my first year on a VEX team and I think about our robot for VEX toss up challenge all the time, my thoughts often visit my dreams. It is a good thing most of the time except when I should be studying. I am learning RobotC and I am always amazed at the thing robots can do with sensors.

My participation on the VEX team has been awesome. I really enjoy working on a team and collaborating. Sometimes it is difficult because we plan the design and we write the code. It seems like everything is all set and it just doesn't work. So it's back to the drawing board again and again. I hope to get really good at programming for our team so that I can mentor younger teams. I plan to pursue some volunteer opportunities and maybe internships that will allow me to really figure out my likes and dislikes. I visualize myself as programmer, mathematician, or engineer.

My participation on the VEX team has made me certain that I want a career in STEM.

Because of my personal interest in pursuing careers in technology I plan to pursue an advanced degree such as a masters or doctorate degree. I want to be one of those persons who stay on the cutting edge of technology; this will require me to advance my educational studies and research work.

There are several universities that I would like to visit that have great math and science programs including Harvard, MIT, Stanford, Yale, Cal Tech, Princeton, University of Texas and Texas A & M. I hope to take advanced courses in math, science, computer programming, engineering, and analysis. While attending a university I plan to seek out internship opportunities. I would love to work in a research lab or programming environment while observing actual scientists and programmers.

What I know currently about myself is that I really like math and I really like learning about technology. I pursue my math assignments as challenges. I also like working with technology and staying up to date with the latest technologies. As I set my goals and pursue my dreams, I know technology is important and it will reshape the world. I hope to become a great contributor to society. I plan to give back in a positive way to my community, maybe even change the world.