**Personal Narrative Essay**

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Abstract

Within the past 12 years of my life, I have been in the route to of trying my best to accomplish my dreams and goals to lead me where I am which is to get my college degree. I have always strived to be the best version of myself. I am a goal setter and I set myself with high standards so that I can attain those goals. Having these characteristics that I’ve had; I strongly believe that it has developed me being the best leader that I can be.

Being an Entrepreneurship with owning my very own art businesses has been a dream of mine. I had a dream to own a business, however, I just did not know what business it would be. It all started out when my Aunt Mary in Maryland started resin art and I have always loved beach décor and making crafts in general. I then started to make items and started to create my very own Nautical Resin Art Pictures and Creations. My family and I do similar items however, we all come together as a family and help each other out and create new ideas. We love coming together as a family; however, we still have our separate businesses. I have been I business for a little over 4 years now. I have loved learning new things from my Aunt Mary who started creating resin art to having my very own ideas. Through the years that I have been in business, I have met many amazing people that I call my clients. I have built many relationships that call for a long relationship. A lot of my customers are in the ages from anywhere from 18-70 years old. I am a very young entrepreneur however; I connect to older people more than people of my own age. I have more of an older soul which makes me gravitate to older individuals. I love that I can connect easily with all ages and it helps me strengthen my communication skills in Leadership and Business.

Attending college while having my part time job and being a business owner has been the greatest challenge and addition to my life. There has been ups and downs while maintaining the workload with my part time job and the business while in school. Maintaining school while having a part-time job while owning a business has had many challenges. I have had to manage my workload accordingly. I have been doing good with my school and have been following my goals. However, I believe it has strengthened me to be the better individual for myself to grow within myself. During college, I have seen so many improvements within myself as a person and the reflection of how I attain goals. I have noticed a great difference on how I’ve set myself to attain my goals and get ready to start my career here soon after graduation. I have now started to learn the insides of a Real Estate Career a little bit more during my years of college. Starting in the year of 2022, I worked at Remax in Virginia Beach to learn how to be an Inside Sales Associate. I learned so much and I am in the process of receiving my license. I am very close to reach my goals and I could not be prouder of myself.

Attending Old Dominion University my first year was the best year of my life. I learned a lot and my classes were not too hard. Being a full-time student has been challenging but very rewarding. I have noticed how my first year was a lot slimmer than now for my workload. I have been through a lot of hard classes and a lot of easy classes. This year is my Junior year and I am almost done with taking my major courses. I have learned a lot throughout my college years. I am very excited to experience how my last year is in college. These next 2 ½ semesters are going to be very exciting and very fulfilling towards the end.

My character throughout school has always wanted to do the right thing and take on leadership opportunities within my studies. Ever since I was a little kid, I have always wanted to be on top of my studies and try my best even if I have difficulties in school. Throughout my school years, I have been through many struggles with my academics especially in math and reading. I have had great support within elementary school to now with tutors and having an IEP while in school. My schools have supported me greatly so that I can understand things to make it clearer for me.

During my adventure with my Leadership major, I have experienced very interesting and helpful courses that I have taken at Old Dominion University. I have taken many communicating and business-related courses to help gear me towards my career. The courses that I have taken have been very educational for what I need to learn to get my Leadership degree. During my years of going to Old Dominion, I have been impressed with how they portray their selves. I am very fortunate that I am able to receive the education that I am getting. I am pleased that I have had the chance to learn the ways that I did at Old Dominion so that it can reflect on my future career job.

My most favorite course so far has been, IDS 493 Electronic Portfolio Project. I have had a great time being enrolled in Dr. Phans class. This semester I have enjoyed learning the content that is in our modules. I strongly like how the course has been set up. It is very organized, and I understand how the structure of the course is. Dr Phan’s course is very enlightened to be a part of. She sends out a weekly video to remind us about what is going on during the week. I am very impressed with how the course is set up. I have loved being a part of the course.

Having one more year of college has made me feel ecstatic. I have worked super hard on my studies to get where I am. I have been through a few bumps in the road during college but to see it all come to life has been a dream come true. I have enjoyed learning a lot of new things in college. The college experience that I have had has helped me in life. I strongly feel that I was meant to have college in my life so that I can learn new things to grow more. It has truly been a blessing to learn what I have learned so that I can shine in my future career. I am excited for what’s to come next spring of 2024.