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**"How I plan to integrate my love of music into my professional career."**

I have put a lot of thought into my future. At points, it seems completely unreal that I might actually be fulfilling my life-long dream of working with music and sound. In fact, it seems strange that a person like myself can actually pave a path to success in doing something they find so extremely rewarding and fun. It is certainly the dream that I share with my peers at San Francisco State University. We are all motivated, pulling from each other the encouragement and excitement needed to prepare ourselves for a world we picture as being ultimately satisfying. I realize in retrospect that my musically saturated childhood has me even further prepared to take a ride down that path.

Growing up in Boise, Idaho, I was fortunate enough to be surrounded by a large group of friends that valued artistic expression over everything else. It was an amazing experience. I spent 14 years of my childhood performing in various bands around town, ranging from punk rock, to electronic industrial, to jazz. I worked with friends at creating original screenplays, only to follow up by video taping the scripts as best we knew how. Then, once I finally made my way into Boise State University's video production facilities, we convened yet again to edit the footage together into a clean and concise finished product. They certainly weren't going to

win awards by any means, but I can safely say I spent my younger years absolutely satisfied with the creative options afforded to me.

Now, living in San Francisco, I have felt an even greater surge of creativity. As I grow older, I begin to realize more and more that my visions of the ideal career are not out of reach. I realize that all I ever needed to do in the first place was follow my heart, and soon enough I might actually find myself surrounded by this wonderful utopia I've built up in my mind. I am finally seeing the light at the end of the tunnel. Working full time, taking twelve credits at San Francisco State University, and interning at a local recording studio for twelve hours per week has me convinced that all of my hard work now will inevitably pay off later.

I am so incredibly excited at the thought of creating a future in the music world. It is this excitement that drives my dedication, and I have reached a point where I will now accept no less than total fulfillment of my goals. That is why this scholarship interests me so much. One facet of the audio industry that captivates me to no end is the world of audio for video.

More specifically, I would love to incorporate my ability to write music by both synthetic as well as organic means with my interest in motion pictures. I would love to be in charge of matching a mood or a feeling with the image on screen, incorporating a piece derived entirely of emotions within myself. This literal translation of emotion into music fitting image seems extremely challenging, but ultimately rewarding in every sense. It seems to be the very essence of everything my musical and visual background has continued to evolve into.

I recently applied for an internship with the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, and was delighted to hear that I was a finalist. The internship would have me scoring soundtrack music for television shows. After speaking with the internship host for a few hours, it was decided that I apply again this next year in

the hopes that I continue to expand my ability to read and write music in a more formal way. He made sure that I understood that securing this Internship usually means hiring immediately following, and that because I will have graduated by then, there is no reason why I wouldn't be accepted for it. This really seems like a golden opportunity to break into the industry from the very beginning. I am doing everything in my power to make this scenario a reality.

One promise I made to myself in the very beginning of my return to a formal education was that I would not place restrictions or limitations on where I might end up. I knew some certain facts would never change. I knew I wanted to create a life engulfed inside music and audio. I knew I needed a career that afforded me the freedom to express my creativity with limited restrictions. Beyond that, there seemed to be so much that I didn't even know existed. This is especially true with the continuing advancements being made with audio technology. I would be a fool to limit myself to one career.

Because of this, I have decided that my ability to actually create music and evaluate sound characteristics will guide me through the next many years of my life. I know for certain that wherever I end up, it will involve my music making abilities. I know that I will not accept anything less than this startling image in my mind of a job that allows me all of the freedoms that I have discussed previously. I realize that it could have been so incredibly easy to cower in fear at the thought that I might not make it in this industry. I see it all around me. But at a certain point, I reassure myself with the realization that in a sea of talented individuals, there are always those that make it and those that don't. Commonly it's those who defeat themselves that end up stuck in a job they hate. I am certain that with my outlook, and my drive to succeed in this industry, I am guaranteed to be one of the lucky ones. That is the greatest feeling in the world.