

College Personal Statement

When I was a little child, I was obsessed with coloring pictures with color pencils and painting sticks and art class was always my favorite. When I grew up a bit and could read Chinese characters, I started to spend most of my time in the book store downstairs, reading clothes and fashion magazines. Though understanding nothing, I was deeply attracted because in a little girl's eyes the clothes on those magazines were so colorful just like beautiful and colorful pictures. At that time, it was my dream to wear the same beautiful clothes when I grew up. Rei Kawakubo, the famous Japanese designer, started to catch my attention. "If I like it, nothing is not OK", which is her designing slogan, has been influencing me till now. Later on, I started to design clothes for my Barbie dolls with napkins sued up by needles. This memory filled up my remaining childhood.

In high school, I was chosen to participate in a oil painting exhibition. My teacher instructed me patiently, trying to inspire my thoughts. He told me that there is no boundary in art and just explore your thoughts and imaginations bravely and do whatever you want to do. I was encouraged and indulged in my own thoughts to create an art work of my own style. What he said triggered me to think about what I would like to do in the future. The love I have towards painting, the untrained thinking process during painting as well as my childhood love towards colorful clothes have made my choice so clear: I want to be a fashion designer.

I started my own designing album immediately after I made this decision. Originally, I thought every piece of clothes I drew could be called "a design", but very soon, I realized that most of my "designs" were actually imitation of others' work, at least to some extent. Therefore, I began to think actively what could be called a "design" and have changed my way of designing. Whenever I get an inspiration, I try to ask myself some key question, such as "what should be the style?", "what kind of material I should use?", "what I try to present with it?" "Is it novel and beautiful enough?". During this process, I could correct my faults, get experience and generate better ideas. When I feel clueless, I always go to gallery to enjoy paintings and pictures, which is an abundant source for my inspirations.

I was very honored to have the chance to work for Shanghai Fashion Week 2016, which provided me with some insight on my knowledge of the general picture of the industry, the work process behind the stage and opened my mind with new thoughts and ideas greatly. I even got the opportunities to talk with some famous designers, who are very low-key but full of personality. I got to know that "style" is a forever key word to pursue as fashion industry is dynamic and full of life. Working in the fashion week has re-formed my understanding of fashion designing that it is a combination of the society and the designer's personal characteristics. Fashion designing does not only reflect culture, art, philosophy and psychology of a certain society at a certain stage of development but also demonstrate the requirements and the value of a designer. Have good painting skills and knowledge is just one element to become a good designer, which also requires a passion for fashion, a sensitive attitude towards trend, a sharp observation and an unconfined and brave mind. After working for the fashion week, I am more than sure that fashion industry is my dream and I want to be designer, and a top one. I dream that one day the models walking on stage of the world's most important fashion show will wear the clothes design by me and I will work constantly to make this dream come true.

I have chosen the UK for my future study because of its abundant culture and the prosperous fashion industry. Your university attracts me for its good education reputation worldwide. When I graduate, I want to start my career in designing companies to get sufficient designing experience and sense of fashion industry. Then I will make constant efforts to establish my own brand and realize my dream to become a top designer. I am certain that your esteemed university program will provide me with the advanced knowledge and skills I need for my future career. I sincerely hope I can be a qualified candidate for your university. Thank you for your consideration.

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