

College Essay UC Prompt

The future is a very bright and exciting prospect for me. They say your past shapes you and turns you into the person you become but I also think it all has to do with your mind set and being the person you want to be. My names is Marilyn Christopher Frost Austin and my two middle names are just the beginning of my quirky self being. I was born the second child in the state of North Carolina to be born under water. My mother is a natural person whose only love is the sea and this is reflected through her decision to give birth to me naturally and in a pool of water. Shortly after my entrance into life my family and I comprising of me my parents and older brother moved to California which is my parents home and moved in with my Grandfather. My recollection of life begins just after we moved to our own house in El Cajon, California and my journey begins there.

Like all people my family has shaped and affected me in every way. I am so blessed with a large loving family and have in turn became a very family oriented person. While half of my family lives in California the other half lives in the North East Coast in mostly Massachusetts and Maine. I spent countless summers and winters experiencing the east coast way of life with my moms side of the family, swimming,sailing,sledding,and living simply. Meanwhile on the other side of the country in California I spend a lot of time with my dads side spending every holiday, birthday and countless other days together. Despite how amazing my family is to me

there was also times of duress as expected i life which taught me valuable lessons and helped my grow as a person. Throughout my life family members and friends have moved into my house in their time of need whether it was my cousin Zach for being shot during a drug deal or my cousin Timmy who lived with us because his mother couldn't these experiences changed my perspective of life as well as caused me to appreciate my parents amazing trait of welcoming and accepting everyone. Along the same lines the past year has changed my life immensely. My brother moved out to live in Ohio where he goes to school at Ohio State, someone very close to me and my family died, and my parents got divorced. One would think this was a terrible year for me but in fact I have remained happy and optimistic all these events have taught me not only that life is not easy but that you control your own happiness and to enjoy everything in life no matter what

An aspect that also makes me the person I am is my involvement in extracurricular activities. From a very young age I have been independent and outgoing and this can be demonstrated in my participation in many different organizations. At school I am a member of ASB and have been in multiple clubs as well as varsity gymnastics all four years and varsity cheer my freshmen and senior year. OUtside of school I did all star cheer for the California Allstars as well as many other sports throughout my life including horseback riding, tennis, softball, soccer, gymnastics, and water polo. I am a member of a group called assembly that focuses on bringing kids from across San Diego together but my main time consuming activity is Sprites. Sprites is a non profit philanthropic organization that provides community service to a variety

of organizations throughout San Diego. My mother and I and the other girls in the group volunteer to work at places like Noah Homes, St. Vincent De Paul, Meals on Wheels, St. Madeline and Sophie Center, The Boys and Girls Club as well as many other community service organizations. My life outside school has shaped me into an outgoing friendly person as well as someone who takes joy in helping others. These activities have had a great role in shaping the person I have become and taught me about the person I aim to be.

One's background often is responsible for the person they become, the way they were raised and the environment they grew up all have substantial roles in shaping a person. Despite this known fact I do believe a person has the power to be anyone they want to be and that their life and happiness and life is their complete responsibility. Therefore I am so blessed with all the good fortune I have received in my life and spread this gratitude in every way I can to others but at the end of the day the I am the person I am because this is the type of person I want to be.