My name is Jonathan Cooper. I am a student-athlete senior at the Drew Charter Senior Academy. After graduation, I plan on enrolling at Georgia Gwinnett College to pursue a Bachelor of Science degree in Information Technology. After undergraduate school, I look forward to launching my career as a software developer or multimedia designer. One morning, while in fifth grade, my teacher introduced me to code.org. I typed my first line of code on this website. I have been invested in computer science since that moment. Not only did I enjoy creating code, I was really good at it. I competed in the Annual Atlanta Public Schools District Technology & Innovation Competition. The project I presented allowed me to combine my love of art and computer science. This was one of the most memorable moments that led to my love of technology. Since then, I have attended Georgia Tech's Bridge to Tech; a software and app development camp. There, I designed a video game using javascript. Using javascript requires memorization and advanced mathematical knowledge such as AP calculus and Algebra 1 and 2. I continued following my passion by completing my high school's computer science pathway, which required a series of computer and mathematical courses. All of these experiences have helped to build a foundation to pursue my college and career aspirations.

The COVID-19 pandemic definitely had an impact on my college and career aspirations. During Covid many people experienced job loss. However, the field of information technology expanded and career opportunities increased. When COVID-19 initially hit, some businesses closed their doors due to Center For Disease Control protocols. This forced many companies to be innovative and shift to operating virtually. Consequently, many of them had to improve their virtual infrastructure, rethink marketing, update websites, transition to training staff using learning management systems, and other technological tools. Online advertising increased by over 14.9%. The skills and knowledge that I will acquire while pursuing my degree in information technology, will equip me to be able to meet many of these demands . In the fall I will be majoring in Information Technology, with a focus in Digital Media. Due to the pandemic, there is an even higher demand for experts in my field of study. I now feel even more confident that my college and career path will lead to a successful career as a multimedia designer. According to PewResearch, " 20% of people worked from home before the coronavirus outbreak, 71% are currently working from home…" Many employers are now offering more options for working remotely, especially in the field of technology. This increase in flexibility and demand for digital media content producers has solidified my decision to pursue a degree and career in digital media production. I have been intentional in ensuring that my passions and career aspirations align, and taking steps to grow in these areas. I would like the Eta Omega Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity to know that investing in me is investing a brighter tomorrow.