

What?

Selecting one singular passion about which to write has certainly been a task - I can list so many that are important to me that no one really rises above the other. At the top of the list sit passions like learning about culture, design interaction, and helping others. For this paper, I have elected to write about my passion of taking care of others, because its breadth allows me to explore other passions within it.

For me, the concept of "taking care of others" refers to many aspects: respect, appreciation, and service. To take care of others can simply mean giving someone the respect he or she deserves. Alternately, it can refer to volunteering for a cause or even reaching out and helping someone in a physical manner. As a Graphic Design student, I constantly ask myself how my design can be in service to others: does it help direct attention to something important? Am I addressing a quality of society? Am I making a job easier for someone else? While I do design to have fun, I also design to improve the quality of life of others - a task that can really be applied to any activity in any career.

So What?

So what? Why does helping people matter so much to me? For some, the golden rule is interpreted such that they are only kind if someone else displays kindness first. For me, the reverse is true - respect, service, and kindness to everyone at all times is the path to a happier life. Serving others is a way I have found happiness throughout my entire life, and I hope to carry that with me for the rest of it, too. It captivates my interest because it can apply to so many circumstances that no matter what career I fall into, I can find an outlet to be of service. This allows me to explore other passions, like design, social justice, travel, and culture.

Now What?

With hundreds of opportunities at my fingertips at all times, college is the place to explore passions. With service as the most important of mine, I can explore my other passions with helping others at the forefront of my decision. As an example, I hope to explore my interest of travel in conjunction with service to take a trip overseas for animal conservation or human rights. I have also joined programs like Design for America and DAAP Tribunal that allow me to combine design and culture, allowing me to practice the art of using design to reach people. I sincerely hope that my passion for taking care of others will allow me to take many adventures, and that others can benefit from my interests as well.