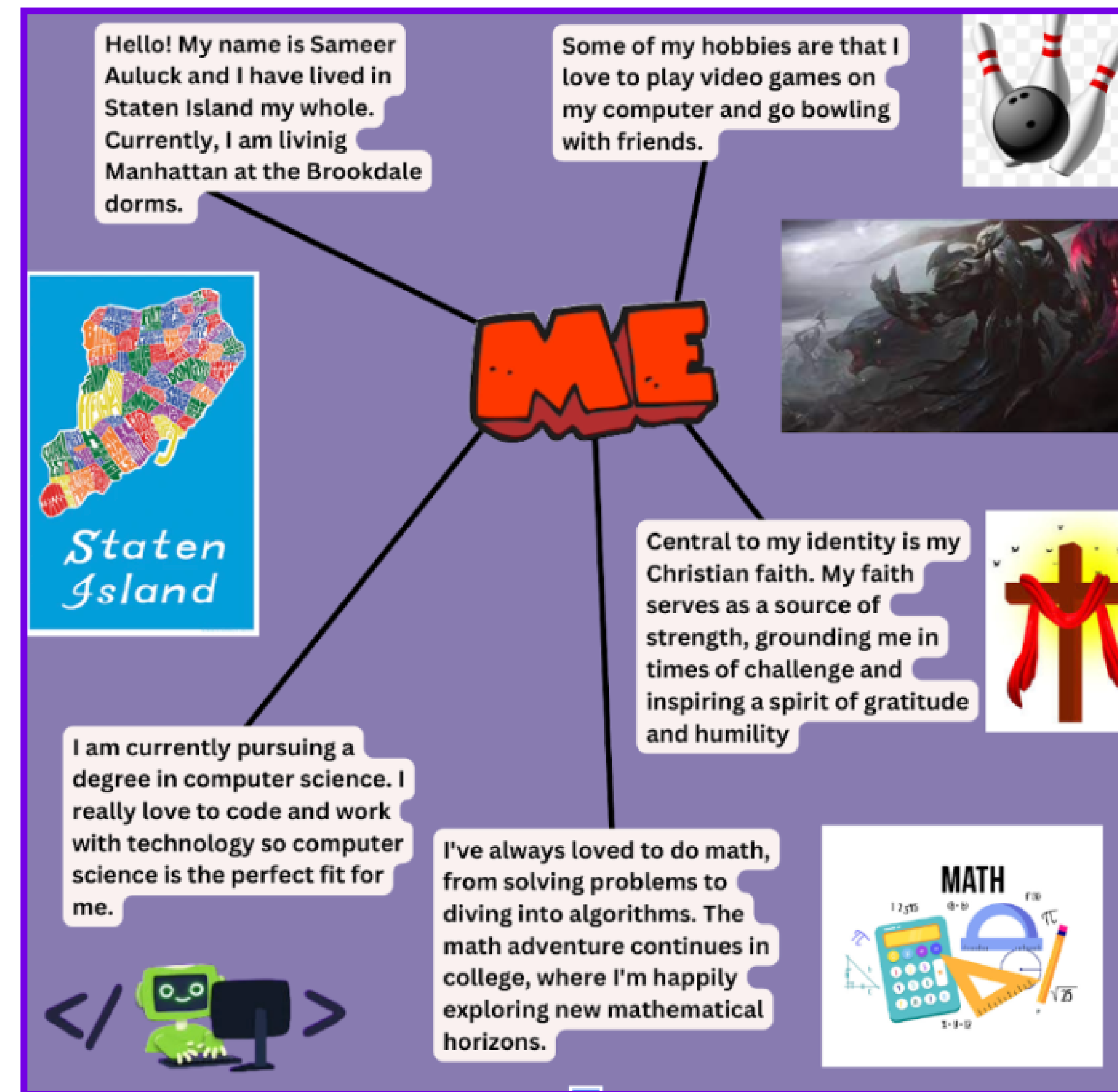


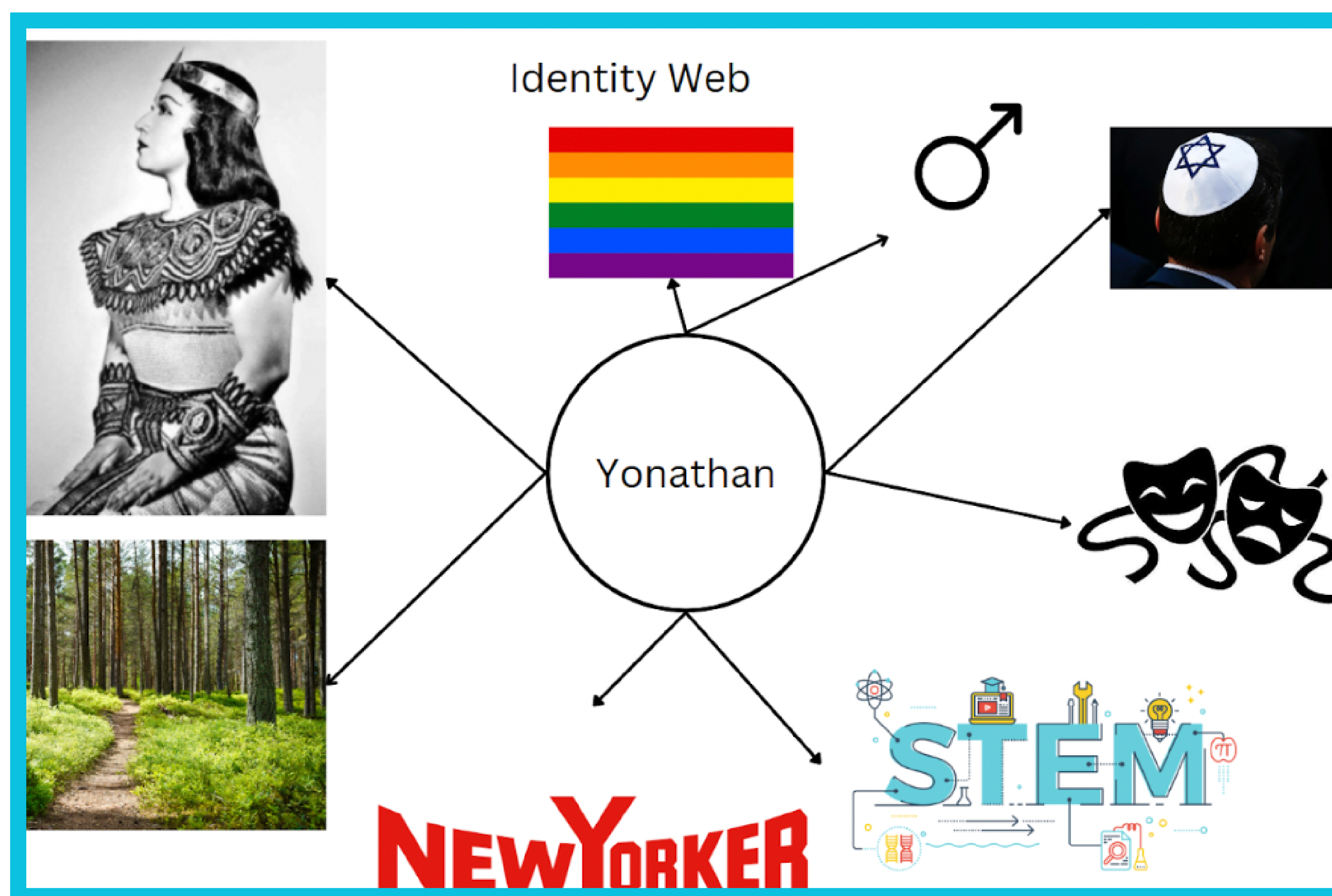
Alexa Lee
 "That Funny Feeling": The first time I heard this song by Phoebe Bridgers, I was in a painting rut and honestly felt really discouraged artistically. But after I read the lyrics of the song, I was filled with "that funny feeling" of reminiscing on my childhood. Willow trees, the view from my window, awkward birthdays, my dog, Alice in Wonderland, Molly From The Big Comfy Couch, feeling like an imposter, glamorizing the mouse in my wall, my town, and my body image have all been defining parts of my childhood. These "things" make me feel a comforting, familiar breeze and remind me of what makes me who I am. I think these images show who I am.



Hey there! I'm Sameer Auluck, a Staten Islander now living in Manhattan at the Brookdale dorms. I'm currently diving into the world of computer science, and I thrive on coding and tech exploration. Beyond academics, you'll catch me enjoying video games, bowling with friends, and drawing strength from my Christian faith.



This zine tells the story of a college freshman who goes to school in the bustle of New York City.



There are many ways to define a person and their identity. I chose to define myself through what aspects of my identity influence my life. My queerness affects who I like, and sometimes how people treat me. My Jewishness comes from a cultural and ethnic standpoint, but not a religious one. My interest in theater has been a long-lasting aspect of myself; I've been doing it since 5th grade and haven't stopped since then. My interest in STEM is what guides my career choice and what I'm studying. My being a New Yorker affects how and where I live. My love for nature keeps me coming back to hiking often; nature is where I can feel truly tranquil. My love for opera, especially for old-school singers such as the pictured Oralia Dominguez, allows me to experience the height of dramatic expression.

The Stories of US!!

#nostalgia #inner-child #early2000s



My identity is multi-faceted and contains both acquired and inherited traits that individualizes me as a human in society. As a visual learner, I felt that it would be most appropriate to share aspects of my identity through a collage of images all compiled into one space. The inherited parts of my identity would be my ethnic background as an Albanian from Montenegro and how being Albanian in another country influences the particular traditions and words passed down from one generation to the next. I am also a Muslim woman and my family has followed the Islamic faith for many generations since it was introduced to the Balkans by the Ottoman Empire. I am also part of a large family that immigrated here for the "American Dream" and this makes me the first in my family to go to college on both sides of the family. Aspects that I have acquired on my own through life's experiences would be my love for the sea, pink roses, running in nature, baking and my favorite coffee of all time: Starbucks' oat milk shaken espresso. One important acquired trait is my career path of medicine and wanting to give back to the world through this career and I find this to be more of a future goal for myself that takes up a large part of my identity currently.

