



Princess Bio

Name: Melyssa Okazaki

School: Central Catholic High School

Birthplace: Bangkok, Thailand

Parents/Guardians: Victoria Okazaki and Christopher Okazaki

Siblings: Amanda, Mitchell, and Maxwell

Year in school: Senior

Future education & career plans:

Melyssa plans to attend UC Sand Diego in the fall with a focus on English and Creative minors in Studio Art and Computer Science. She hopes to become an editor for a major publishing company.

High School Activities & Honors:

Melyssa has been on Academic Honor Roll every semester of her high school career. She is a member of the National Honor Society, a peer tutor, a Rambassador, Team Captain of her Varsity Golf team and founder of the Girls Who Code club. Melyssa additionally works with the Women's Coalition and the Art Club.

Hobbies and special interest:

In her spare time, Melyssa regularly volunteers at the Oregon Food Bank and takes golf lessons every other weekend. She loves to read and see live music in and around Portland.

What is your favorite place to visit in Portland and why?

"My favorite place to visit in Portland is Powell's City of Books, the Portland-based bookstore. In my opinion, there is nowhere more inspiring and comforting than being surrounded by words, literature, and a supportive and welcoming community, and Portland's very own Powell's is the epitome of that."

What are you most proud of during your high school career?

"I am most proud of my contributions to the Girls Who Code club at my school. I am always encouraging other women to become involved in coding, and I hope that my contributions to this club and my love for coding will inspire other women at my school to develop their love for coding as well."

What is your favorite Rose Festival event and why?

"My favorite Rose Festival event is their partnership with the Winco Foods Portland Open because it benefits two things that I am extremely passionate about - golf and giving back to the community. This event gives back to the city of Portland, as 100% of ticket sales go towards local charities and youth organizations. Witnessing these golfers who have worked so hard to perfect their skills and achieve their dreams is truly an experience that I will never forget."

Unitus Community Credit Union Mentor: Heather Bianchini