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Describe your personal goals, challenges or commitments and how you will draw on what you've learned about Michael Rothberg's legacy to inspire your own.

Please submit your essay with your name clearly marked as a separate file attached to your completed application form.

Like Michael, I too was born and raised in Sharon, attended East Elementary, Sharon Middle School, and SHS. I toured McGill University, but while it was not the right place for me, I saw its allure. The essay I used for my college application tells how I grew from a timid and shy nerd as I entered high school to become an extroverted, shameless, fun nerd. This growth is partially due to my work as a camp counsellor, working on the SHS debate team, and teaching swimming to kids. But it's also due to my learning more about the world.

Debate has helped me dive into topics and to analyze both sides of issues like: whether the US should push Israel to work toward a two-state solution, weighing the benefits of the Internet of Things, comparing the humanitarian needs of refugees over US national interests, or whether the government should provide free tuition to community colleges. It has built up my analytical skills, driven me to work hard and challenged me to see both sides of complex issues.

With this knowledge, my goal is to leave the world a better place than I found it. I am politically active and I believe strongly in listening to both sides of an issue.

I recognize the importance of giving back to the community. At home, I read Torah at our synagogue on the high holy days because there are no longer enough readers. I look forwards to joining Engineers without Borders when I get to Northeastern. More generally, I try to use my skills, patience, and humor to help others to learn and grow wherever I can.

Thank you for your consideration.