



when I began my high school education at Beverly Hills Girls High School. I experienced a severe culture shock, leaving the Greek community and entering a society where I would first meet a person from another culture; such as an Asian, Lebanese or Torres Strait Islander girl. My experience at a Greek college allowed me to share my cultural heritage amongst people from other backgrounds, yet it also suppressed my knowledge of what society is really like and how multicultural it is.

I was able to continue my studies of the Greek language at Beverly Hills Girls High, continuously having the support of my language teachers and having the opportunity to take a study tour trip to Greece in 2007. The trip lasted for 3 weeks as we travelled to Kos, Turkey for a day (to visit the ruins of Ephesus), Patmos, Spetses, Hydra, Nafplion and Athens. It was the trip of a lifetime which intensified my understanding of the Greek culture, the quality of my Greek speaking skills and the wonderful opportunity to meet my family.

My intense passion for the study of languages allowed me to achieve early success, as I was accelerated to study Year 11 Modern Greek Continuers in Year 10. In 2008 I was able to complete my Modern Greek Continuers HSC whilst I was in Year 11- achieving a Band 6, a mark of 90 and being in the top 20 of the state to study this course. Accelerating in Modern Greek Continuers has now allowed me to focus on Modern Greek Extension this year.

In high school, my ambitious and intuitive attitude has led to my involvement in many areas of the school and community. My involvement in the Student Representative Council has opened windows of opportunity, allow-

ing me to lead the Multicultural committee and participate in community affairs. In my final year of schooling I hold the position of 'Senior Executive Officer- Personnel' within the SRC, as I am in charge of the welfare of 54 students, which demands a great deal of responsibility and devotion to make a difference. Through the SRC I have had the opportunity to work alongside Campsie Library, the Red Cross and numerous fundraising organisations. My ambition is derived from the fact that I relish in the thought that I'm contributing to society, making a difference to someone or something. I believe that if one could have a positive input in society by implementing their knowledge and/or experiences it would work toward something beneficial.

I constantly try to involve myself in all aspects of schooling, including sport. I have represented my school at Zone Cross Country, in the NSW Soc-



cer Gala Day Competition, twice in the CHS Knockout Soccer Competition and have had the opportunity to play for the St George Regional Soccer Team. In 2008, I was chosen to be a part of the 'Step to the Future' Student Organising Committee- a youth forum that runs nation wide, aiming to inspire students to aim high. It was my duty, along with three other girls from my school, to organise and host the Senior Sydney Forum in collaboration with students from St. Andrews College, St. George Girls High School and Punchbowl Boys High.

This year, I was also elected to run for the ZONTA Women's International Award along with the NSW Ministers Award for excellence in student achievement. I have been given many opportunities that I'm very thankful for.

The subjects I'm studying this year are Ancient History, Modern History, Community and Family Studies, Society and Culture, Advanced English and Modern Greek Extension. I initially hoped to attend the University of New South Wales to be able to continue my study of the Greek language, yet to my dismay the Greek Department will no longer exist as of next year. I hope that this obstacle won't tarnish my continuation in studying Greek. Now my main goal is to attain a Bachelor of International Studies or study European Relations at the University of New South Wales, yet I'm aware that if I don't achieve this goal, there are many other avenues for me to explore. My ambition is to travel and to live in Greece for a period of time, and my ultimate dream job would be to work for the Australian Embassy in Athens or the United Nations. I believe in order to achieve big, you need to dream big.

Some Awards/Achievements

Active Participant in SASSY (Successful Aspiring Students Supporting You) Peer Tutoring program 2009- A program where we tutor fellow peers and students from the IEC (Intensive English Centre- youth who have recently migrated to Australia and don't know the language)

Red Cross Youth Challenge Team Member, 2009- the SRC is extending their support to the wider community through their "adopt a grandparent program"

2009 Multicultural Day Student Leader

Fundraisers- Cake Day, 2009 Greece Study Tour Trip, Pancake Day, Victorian Bushfire Appeal

2008 Talent Quest Committee Member

Speaker at Year 11 Subject Selection Night 2008

Participation in Community Clean up Australia day 2009

2009 Harmony Day Team Member

2009 ANZAC Day Speaker at Kingsgrove RSL Club

2009 CHS Knockout Soccer Team Member

2008 CHS Knockout Soccer Team Member

2006 Year 6-7 Orientation Day Student Usher

2007 Elected Peer Support Leader and Adviser

2008 ZONTA International, Young Women In Public Affairs

Elected Applicant

2008 Premier's Sporting Challenge Participant

2007 Multicultural Committee Member

Member of St. George Regional Soccer Team 2008

2006 Drama Night Performer

2007 CAPA Day Performer

2007 Junior Public Speaking and Debating Champion

Accelerant HSC Student, Modern Greek Continuers

2007 Zone Cross Country Participant

2008 Step To The Future Student Organising Committee Member

2006 Excellence in Modern Greek

2005 Excellence in History

2005 Excellence in PDHPE

Dionysios Solomos Award Recipient 2009, Excellence in HSC Modern Greek Continuers top 20

UNSW Athena Awards 2009, Excellence in HSC Modern Greek Continuers

