
Fast Track Student of the Month

Michelle Du

Interviewed by Julian Mendel and Adam Belhouchat



Born in: Singapore

Went to school at: Evergreen High School, San Jose, CA

Interests outside of school: Digital art, creative writing, piano, video games, cats

Siblings: 16-year-old sister named Vivian



When did you realize you wanted to be an EE?

For most of high school, I was torn between computer science and EE. Then, during the summer before my senior year of high school, I attended UCSD COSMOS and worked on a signal processing project that involved pitch/onset-offset detection and sound synthesis to transform the timbre of different instruments. It was an immensely rewarding experience, and it helped me realize that I wanted to pursue something that involves a more physical understanding of how electronics work.

Why did you choose the UCLA EE program?

I chose UCLA EE because it is one of the most prestigious programs in the nation. The beautiful campus combined with the robust scientific community makes UCLA the perfect place to foster intellectual development. The diverse and talented student body also provides a challenging and engaging classroom environment.



Who has influenced you the most in choosing EE?

My father, an electrical engineer himself, greatly influenced my decision to choose EE. Throughout my life, I've seen my father work in industry and contribute to the technology that we use today, which is truly inspiring. Despite his busy workday, he also regularly takes the time out of his day to teach me programming or soldering, and for that I am truly grateful.





How's it been being on a big campus?

I've been greatly enjoying my time here. Even though college life may be overwhelming at times, I've met many supportive and friendly people, and there is no shortage of campus resources that I can turn to. The sheer number of students means that there's always something to be involved in, and it is easy to build a sense of community.

What are you interested in as a career?

I am still very inexperienced, so as of right now, I don't have a particular career in mind. I am open to both entering industry to do software or hardware development or remaining in academia.

