

## Vidhya Prabhu

*Fast Track co 2025*

### **Where are you from?**

I lived in the Bay Area my whole life! When I was six, I moved to Livermore, California, and I've lived there ever since.

### **What high school are you from?**

I attended Granada High School. There, I led our Astronomy Club, and was actively involved in our Environmental Club. Within my hometown, I was involved in administrative and mentoring work for various classical music organizations.

### **What are your interests?**

In my free time, I enjoy playing the piano, writing short stories, traveling (I love road trips!), listening to music, and going to concerts.

### **Why UCLA?**

One of the reasons I picked UCLA was for its collaborative and more relaxed student atmosphere. I have always viewed, and experienced, academia through people building each other up, not as a competition, and I saw UCLA as the embodiment of that. It holds true to me now, as well—I have made wonderful, and helpful, friends in all my classes. Another reason is UCLA's beautiful campus and location. I love traveling, especially exploring cities, and so far, attending UCLA, I've already visited stadiums, museums, beaches, and great restaurants around here.

### **Why did you decide to study EE?**

In high school, I had a multitude of interests, in and out of STEM. However, I was always very drawn to physics. Towards the end of high school, I took a computer science class that I also immensely enjoyed. I believed that EE was a good combination of the two subjects. Also, I am very interested in space exploration, and believe that majoring in EE is a great way to make an impact in the industry, should I focus on that in my career.

### **How have you been involved in UCLA?**

I am in the micromouse project in IEEE, and I attend workshop sessions for Bruin Women in Business. I'm looking forward to more actively participating in Bruin Women in Business this year.

### **What are your career plans?**

I plan to get my masters in EE or a closely related field, and then an MBA, as I greatly enjoy the management side of projects, and so I want to take on more of those roles in my career. I haven't yet experienced doing any research, but when I do and I find that I am more drawn towards that, I may instead pursue a doctorate.

