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University of Wisconsin–Madison

Office of Undergraduate Admissions

Admissions Committee

Dear Members of the Admissions Committee,

I am submitting the enclosed essay as part of my application to the University of Wisconsin–Madison. I am including this letter to offer brief context for the essay and to explain how it reflects my academic interests as I prepare for undergraduate study.

The essay examines how community spaces influence personal identity, focusing on the role of public libraries in shaping learning habits during adolescence. Rather than approaching the topic broadly, I chose to write from a single local example, combining observation with research. This allowed me to explore the subject thoughtfully while learning how evidence and reflection work together in academic writing.

This essay represents an important stage in my development as a student. It grew out of coursework in English and social studies, where I became increasingly interested in how everyday environments shape behavior and opportunity. Writing this piece challenged me to revise more carefully, ask better questions, and think beyond assignment requirements. These are skills I hope to continue developing as I transition from high school to university-level study.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my application and supporting materials. I appreciate the opportunity to share my work.

Sincerely,

Emily Carter

