

IMMIGRANT STORY INSPIRES YASH KSHIRSAGAR

By Thomas Chen, Staff Writer

In the late 1990s, when the internet was just starting to grow, Yash Kshirsagar's parents traveled across the world from their home country of India to America. His dad immigrated for a master's degree in America for business, and they both felt that America would provide a higher standard of living for themselves and the not-yet-born Yash.

His parents' struggles remind Yash how much he cherishes them.

"I know how much effort they had put into sending me to SPA, driving me to soccer when I was younger, and always being extremely supportive in any activity that I do," he said, "so I feel that making them happy is the least I can do to repay them for all they have done."

But his family also values minor gestures such as conversations and hugs, so Yash tries his best to do these things for his parents to show how grateful he is for them.

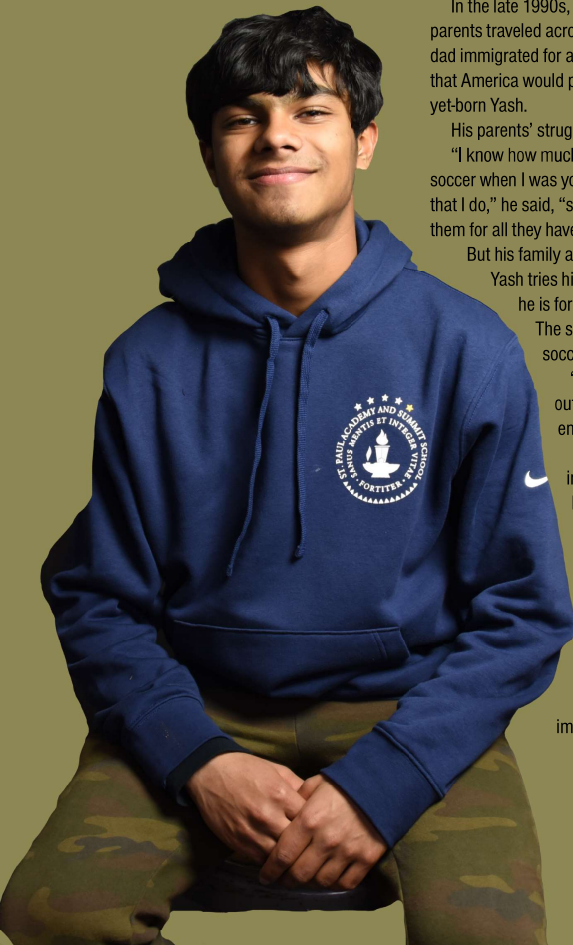
The support of his parents pushes Yash to try his best in school and soccer.

"They really motivate me to push my boundaries and step outside of my comfort zone to force me to excel in a different environment," he said.

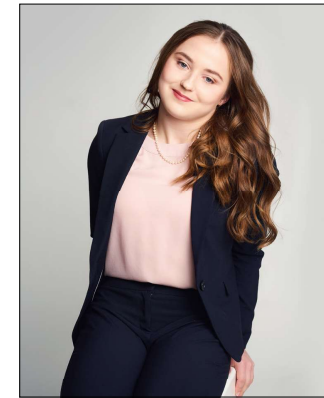
His parents put a strong emphasis on grades and doing well in school. They set clear expectations for Yash and ensure he lives up to them. In India, students typically study 15-16 hours a day for exams.

"The expectations that my parents put on me from their experiences in India have pushed me to study a lot for all of my classes," Yash said.

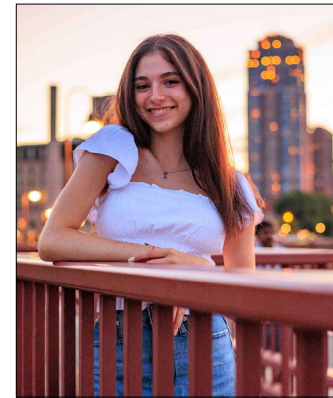
Traveling halfway around the world to a new country and a new life certainly wasn't easy. But Yash's parents did it so he could have more opportunities to pursue his interests in STEM, play soccer, meet many diverse people, and, most importantly, live a good life.



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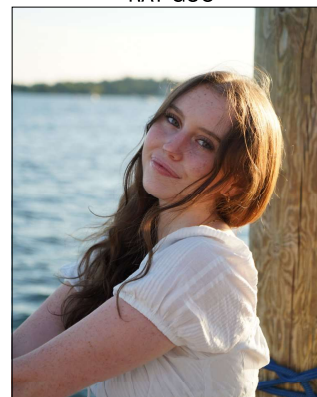
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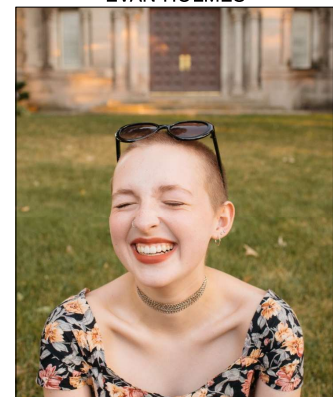
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