



## Princess Bio

**Name:** Melyssa Okazaki

**School:** Central Catholic High School

**Birthplace:** Bangkok, Thailand

**Parents/Guardians:** Victoria Okazaki and Christopher Okazaki

**Siblings:** Amanda, Mitchell, and Maxwell

**Year in school:** Senior

### **Future education & career plans:**

Melyssa plans to attend UC Sand Diego in the fall with a focus on English and Creative minors in Studio Art and Computer Science. She hopes to become an editor for a major publishing company.

### **High School Activities & Honors:**

Melyssa has been on Academic Honor Roll every semester of her high school career. She is a member of the National Honor Society, a peer tutor, a Rambassador, Team Captain of her Varsity Golf team and founder of the Girls Who Code club. Melyssa additionally works with the Women's Coalition and the Art Club.

### **Hobbies and special interest:**

In her spare time, Melyssa regularly volunteers at the Oregon Food Bank and takes golf lessons every other weekend. She loves to read and see live music in and around Portland.

### **What is your favorite place to visit in Portland and why?**

"My favorite place to visit in Portland is Powell's City of Books, the Portland-based bookstore. In my opinion, there is nowhere more inspiring and comforting than being surrounded by words, literature, and a supportive and welcoming community, and Portland's very own Powell's is the epitome of that."

### **What are you most proud of during your high school career?**

"I am most proud of my contributions to the Girls Who Code club at my school. I am always encouraging other women to become involved in coding, and I hope that my contributions to this club and my love for coding will inspire other women at my school to develop their love for coding as well."

### **What is your favorite Rose Festival event and why?**

"My favorite Rose Festival event is their partnership with the Winco Foods Portland Open because it benefits two things that I am extremely passionate about - golf and giving back to the community. This event gives back to the city of Portland, as 100% of ticket sales go towards local charities and youth organizations. Witnessing these golfers who have worked so hard to perfect their skills and achieve their dreams is truly an experience that I will never forget."

**Unitus Community Credit Union Mentor: Heather Bianchini**