



# Sophie Arriana M. Bata

I am Sophie Arriana M. Bata, born on the 21<sup>st</sup> of December 2008 in Quezon Province. I am 17 years of age, the oldest among the 5 children, and from Silang, Cavite. My father, Ernesto C. Bata, does not have a permanent job while my mother, Gina M. Bata, is currently working as a factory worker to sustain our family needs. I experienced living in various houses with different fellows such as my own family, relatives, and my neighbors for my parents needed to work hard for us. Being raised by different people, instilled in me the value of discipline, responsibility, adaptability, and perseverance. Growing up as the firstborn taught me to be independent, responsible, example for those who looked up to me, and resilient – qualities that have guided me throughout my academic journey.

My primary years at Bliss Elementary School and Pasong Kawayan II Elementary School were filled by curiosity and enthusiasm. School felt like my introduction to the world beyond my home, and I embraced every opportunity to learn new things. I loved competing in Math quizzes, which challenged my mind to think critically, solve problems efficiently, and push me from my comfort zone freely. I was not always the top student in my class, but I never failed to bring my parents on stage to hand the medals on me through my determination and consistent effort. Curiosity gave me the idea of becoming a detective, as I started to love mysteries and investigations. These experiences encouraged me to ask questions, seek answers and understand that learning extends beyond the pillars of every classroom I entered. These laid the foundations I needed for me to survive the next stages of my life.

It was an opening idea when my parents encouraged me to enter the Sisters of May of Banneux, Inc. for the admission was during the impactful year of COVID-19 pandemic. Staying in the school for Junior High and Senior High might took long but the days were fast. I am nurtured physically, mentally, and above all spiritually. As I went home for Christmas vacation, I realized the effect of being in the school as my family started to become whole again. During my junior high years, I discovered a love for science and eagerly participated in science competitions that challenged me to think scientifically and analytically. I also developed a passion for reading which allowed me to explore the world both the real and the fiction one, open my mind for new perspectives, and feed my brain with lots of ideas. Furthermore, I began learning to play guitar – an experience that taught me persistence,

patience, and self-expression. These years were a time to exploration, growth, and building interests that continue to inspire me today.

Currently, I am a senior high school student, I became more focused on achieving my goal of becoming a surgeon. My ambition is to give hope and healing to people especially the marginalized. I have also taken in leadership responsibilities by joining the Supreme Student Government (SSG), where I actively serve my school's community. Through this experience, I learned the importance of teamwork, accountability, and serving others – additional foundations for my personal growth and motivation for my future aspirations.

Each stage of my life – from curiosity to junior high exploration, and now a senior high leadership has molded me into a determined, disciplined, and motivated individual. I understand that the journey of becoming a surgeon will be full of obstacles and struggles, but my experiences will be my stepping stones with the independence, perseverance, and sense of purpose will help me reach it. I am committed to use education and skills to make a meaningful impact to the lives of my future patients and those who help me achieve it. With determination and dedication, I am ready to embrace those challenges ahead and lessen the impact of our nation's broken system by making a difference.