

My name is Suhani Nagarajan and I am a freshman at Linn-Mar High School in Marion, Iowa. I am a student leader with strong interests in STEM, arts, and community service. My other passions include baking, painting, sports and sketching.

Some activities I have been involved in include 4-H, which I have been in since preschool and have earned numerous county and state awards for static projects and visual arts, including multiple Iowa State Fair Excellence Awards. I was selected as a 2025 Linn County Youth Council Member as well. 4-H Communications has been a significant part of my development as a communicator. In communications, I have received awards for extemporaneous speaking and educational presentations at the state level.

In 2021, I represented Iowa as a finalist at the international level in the Invention Convention in Dearborn, Michigan. My project, Hydro-Cleaner, automatically cleans up water pollution and increases awareness of the effects of pollution on our biomarine environment.

In 2025, I served as the team lead for Iowa's top team in the Future City program. My team received two of the three core awards for best essay and presentation at the state level. We then represented Iowa at internationals in Washington, D.C., where we received the Best Nuclear Science Special Award.

Music is a central part of my life. I have been formally trained in Carnatic violin and vocal and in Western violin, flute, piano, and vocal performance. I regularly perform in concerts as both a main artist and an accompanist and have participated in music competitions and festivals across the country, including the Cleveland Thyagaraja Aradhana (Ohio), Papanasam Sivan Music Festival (Chicago), and events in Iowa, Florida, and California. I have participated in honor orchestras, bands, and choirs at the regional and state levels, qualified as a NATS state and regional finalist multiple times, and earned four qualifications for nationals. I also enjoy teaching and currently serve as a violin lesson teacher.

As for volunteering, I am the co-founder and part of the mentor team of United Harmonies for Humanity, a nonprofit focused on healing and connection through music. I also volunteer as a Wayfinder and musician with UnityPoint Health. Alongside my academic and artistic pursuits, I stay active by playing tennis, doing gymnastics, and running competitively. I played tennis on the middle school varsity team and have continued to hold leadership positions on the high school freshman team. I also compete in long-distance running races and have placed in my age group on several instances.

All in all, through leadership, creativity, and service, I strive to make a positive impact in my community!