

Newton 9-11 Memorial: Allison Wu

My experience visiting the Newton 9-11 Memorial was unexpectedly emotional, and even though I went into it expecting it to be sentimental, I didn't expect it to touch my heart as much as it did. I had heard about it for a while and had seen it in passing a number of times, but had never taken the time to visit it in a meaningful way. However, while studying for my finals, I realized that I should take a break from studying, enjoy the good weather, and check out the memorial. Needless to say, it was a great decision and I enjoyed the memorial greatly. The part that really connected with me was seeing the real time events written out on the steps of the memorial. Seeing the hours that led up to the event made the entire experience more intense and made seeing the names of victims even more devastating. I didn't expect to feel so strongly, especially since I am generally an unsentimental person, but I really connected with it and appreciated the thought and effort put into the memorial. It was clear to me as a visitor that I was visiting a memorial that was clearly thought out and made to move the people who stopped by. I was also struck by the symbolism used in this piece. The use of height in the memorial, the roman numerals used to mirror the twin towers, and the pentagon imaging helped to bring the message home. It gave the already touching memorial an even deeper meaning, and made the experience better by prompting reflection about the event and its impact. I believe that the City of Newton's response was appropriate, especially since the event is tied so closely to home, and this memorial is a good way to honor the victims of the attack. Regarding the victims, all of them stood out in their own unique way, and they were all equally devastating to learn about. Personally, this was a good opportunity for me to reflect, and remind myself that these victims were all people who had their lives wrongfully taken from them. All of the people who boarded those flights had families who cared deeply about them, had life events that they were looking forward to, and had been wrongfully killed in the incident. To me, it is a reminder to treasure the life that we have, to live in a way that will be meaningful and impactful, and to appreciate our loved ones while they are still around. I am glad that I took the time to visit this memorial, and I hope that it will continue to move others like it did with me.

NEWTON 9-11 MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

DATE OF BIRTH: _____

HOME PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

HIGH SCHOOL: _____

I certify that the submitted information is true and complete. I understand that withholding information requested or giving false information will disqualify me from receiving this scholarship.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Print Name: _____