

With a lunch box, green Legos, a t-shirt, and a few chairs, I could create a universe. To an outside observer, my childhood interests might not have seemed to follow any coherent themes. No trains, trucks, princesses, dinosaurs, or farm animals. I preferred to cobble together unrelated objects and use them to construct a miniature city, build an art installation, or invent a new sport. I was lucky. The adults in my life (at least most of them) didn't view my behavior as unfocused. They saw a quirky creativity, and they nurtured it. To this day, I engage with the world, and find purpose in my pursuits, by discovering ways to connect seemingly disparate parts.

At Hamilton College, I discovered philosophy, a discipline that attempts to integrate separate concepts like ethics, language, logic, and culture to form one cohesive whole. I explored how institutions reveal a society's shared values. I learned to think critically. I recontextualized non-traditional works such as Nirvana's album "Nevermind" as a work of philosophical critique, expanding the boundaries of our modern philosophical canon by finding themes in Nietzsche's works (such as subversion, humanist advocacy, and self-affirmation) that had unexpected relevance in modern rock music.

At the same time, I dove into theatre. I learned to craft compelling narratives, to embody another's story, and to refine my ability to lead in both big and small ways. In my thesis project, I adapted Chekhov's "The Proposal" and tapped into every creative avenue I could. Instead of green legos and a lunch box, I used a stage, wrote a script, directed the show, composed the music, designed the playbills, devised the lighting and costumes, and led my actors. In both theatre and philosophy, I gravitated towards multifaceted disciplines in which a complex network of disparate components must work together towards a shared goal.

When I entered the workforce, I wanted to use those same skills to effect positive change. I joined Congressman Rob Menendez's campaign as a Creative Communications Consultant. I

relished the diverse aspects of the job – writing, collaborating, and constantly revising – and thrived when I could connect it all to create a cohesive story. In the fall of 2023, the Congressman found himself in a predicament not of his own making, but which represented a referendum on his career. His father, Senator Bob Menendez, was indicted. Seeing this as an opportunity, a strong primary challenger emerged. Suddenly, my role expanded dramatically.

My new responsibilities presented a major challenge for me. I was providing direct counsel on political strategy. I needed to establish a proactive rhythm, so I drew from my strengths and began connecting the disparate parts. I stitched our media strategy to our political calendar, culminating on the Primary Election Day. The Congressman and I visited every municipality in the district that day, all while I coordinated a news blitz and shared updates in real time. Rather than doing community-specific fundraisers, I expanded our support by running events under broader categories, which built an extensive network of interconnected voters. I strengthened our core messaging by creating comprehensive protocols for each campaign moment, and fused different forms of media to create content which consistently set new standards for our reach. Together, our team navigated uncertain terrain and emerged victorious.

My academic journey and professional experience clarified the ways in which I want to develop my skills to serve others – as a lawyer. I am deeply proud to share that I will be pursuing my J.D. at Boston University School of Law starting this fall.

The legal discipline requires synthesizing diverse principles, precedents, and facts to craft coherent arguments and solutions. I believe law school will develop my ability to bridge gaps between theory and practice, shape compelling narratives, and provide advice so that I can help others as a steady guide and deliver the best outcome possible. I am entering this next chapter with the same drive that brought me to politics – to build solutions and to fight for justice – and as a

pathway to serve others. My commitment to these goals has never been theoretical. I've pursued them with intentional, concrete action. In my academic work, I consistently pushed beyond conventional boundaries. In the professional world, I placed myself in a high-pressure, high-impact environment where success required resolve, adaptability, and a sense of purpose. As an attorney, my long-term goal is to help shape precedents and policies that improve quality of life and equity in legal outcomes – through either impact litigation, or through strategic advising on legislation and governance.