



Senior Spotlight: Maia T.

I was born in the Cayman Islands. My mom is from Guyana, and my dad is from Spain. I have only ever lived in Grand Cayman, although I hope to travel and live in places like New Zealand until I decide on the place I would like to settle down. This is my fourth year at CIS. I started after finishing Montessori By The Sea, which is the only other school I had attended previously. I consider both my best and worst personality trait to be the fact that I'm a perfectionist. As a perfectionist, I generally try to do everything as best as I can, but I also tend to worry about things that probably are not worth it. I don't think that too many people know that I love to dance, but I've been attending dance classes for about eight years now. I've never been serious about it, in terms of wanting to dance professionally, but it's always been a way for me to decompress and just have fun.

While I have fun dancing, reading is one of my favorite hobbies. My favorite book is *Six of Crows*, by Leigh Bardugo. The book is far more than simply well-written, it constantly surprised me and I loved the story. Aside from hobbies, my family is really important to me. My favorite place on Earth is anywhere with my family because spending time with them makes me happy. When I was little, anytime people would ask me who my hero is, I would always say my brother, and to this day, my answer is still the same, and it always will be. My brother and I are complete opposites in every single way, but without fail, he's always there for me, and that's all that really matters. My favorite family tradition is playing elf on the shelf at Christmas. My mom hides the elf, and my brother and I compete to find it and win whatever the elf has. While I feel that I have had many significant experiences with friends and family, my most rewarding experience revolves around community service, specifically when I provided aid in Nicaragua. It was not just about helping people in Nicaragua, but also the time we got to spend time away from school with classmates and form better relationships.