Swarthmore is known for its intellectual vibrance, collaborative spirit, and commitment to civic and social responsibility. Please elaborate on one of these aspects and what it means to you, using examples from your own life in an essay that is between 150 and 250 words. You should also address how you anticipate your experience at Swarthmore to be different from your current institution or circumstance.

Back in several months ago, I was at a boulevard in downtown Seoul carrying a small candle. There were thousands of people marching and chanting president’s ousting. I was a just citizen who hoped the society becomes fairer and justice, and I believed and hoped my small participation can change the arrogant and impudent leader and the corrupted power. There were many other people who thought like me and we all gathered and spoke out our voice. At the end, the South Korean president got impeached.

I was not the first person who rush out for the first time of the rally. In fact, I was the person who doubts the power of collaborative spirit. Although I hoped the society that gives equal opportunities, I thought that just coming together one place cannot change the society. However, after witnessing impeachment of the president, I changed my mind and realized the power of the solidarity.

And, therefore, I reminded myself with somewhat cliché-like saying: “Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.”  Whenever we face the wall, we accept the wall as the wall. But we should never give up, think it will take a long time, band together and collaborate, and eventually overcome the wall.

I was passive in terms of civic engagement rather than active on this subject. Now I want to change myself. I hope I can be more involved in civic engagement through connecting my academic interest, and I believe Swarthmore’s Lang center’s program can fulfill my need.